

## Textiles - Year 7

In years 7 and 8 we see students for approximately 10 lessons (half a year). We rotate with food.

In KS3 we take a very practical approach in lessons. Some pupils arrive with no knowledge or experience of making or thinking about textiles even though it is all around them. We start by talking about safety and safe working practices. This is very important as it makes the students feel secure and helps build confidence.

All pupils will learn how to use the basic function on the sewing machine and complete a 'driving test' on paper before we move on to using thread, this means they can learn how the machine works in a practical way that they can see and judge accuracy. They then work to create ideas for a personal pennant project (flat 2D project)– this allows them to be creative and individual, they are guided to draw and explain their ideas and to think about problems that might arise when making before making choices. They then learn about making templates that allow them to improve accuracy and shape when making, acting as a quality control.

When ready they learn to use basic equipment, such as needles, pins, shears and through the weeks they are improving fine motor skills, which is really important for many subjects and jobs for example tailoring to medical surgery. Once their work is ready they move back to the sewing machines, learning to use them with thread, using basic stitches and other basic functions, safely.

Alongside this we learn about different fibre and fabrics, how they are produced and made in to a usable textile products. We also introduce, briefly, the effects of these fibres and fabrics have on the environment. They learn about different fibre groups and are able to sort fabrics into these 'families'. There are extension tasks to learn more techniques and to practice their skills.

At the end of Year 7. they will be able to present ideas in a clear way. They will be able to use equipment safely and with some regard for accuracy, they will be improving practical skills. They will have knowledge about natural and synthetic materials. They will have some subject specific vocabulary. They will have also completed one if not two practical projects.