

Oaklands Catholic School and Sixth Form College

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Edith Stein Catholic Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Registered in England and Wales, Company No 07721932

Headteacher: Matthew Quinn B.Ed (Hons), M.A., NPQH

Our Ref: CG/DMB

5 June 2023

YEAR 8 DESIGN OPTIONS FOR 2023-24

Dear Parent/Carer

Throughout Years 7 and 8 students have experienced the full range of Design subjects. They have studied Food Preparation and Nutrition, Resistant Materials, Electronics and Art based subjects. This has given them the opportunity to develop skills across a range of areas.

For next academic year students will choose 3 Design subjects to study for 3 blocks of approximately 10 weeks each. This equates to 20 lessons as they will have 2 lessons per week. This arrangement will allow each student the opportunity to spend more curriculum time on their chosen Design subject and so give them a better foundation and preparation for choosing that Design subject for further study in Years 10 and 11. Students will be able to select from the full department offer of Design subjects for study at KS4

The options available to students are listed below with a brief description of the corresponding KS4 course, which will be available for students to study when they start KS4 options. In order to ensure a balanced experience, students must choose one Art based option and one D&T or Food Preparation and Nutrition.

In addition to this information, I have uploaded a short presentation to Class Charts. The students have been shown this presentation in lessons.

Attached is a form, which you are asked to fill in and return directly to the school office by the 16th June 2023. Please do not forget to clearly indicate a reserve choice as it may not be possible for every student to get their preferred options due to limits on group size. The form is also available as an e-form by following this link –

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=q510xXSzk6TjW_s7KPIr8M5vEm-KjdDj68QjKhxnyFUNkxSSEhKN00xUthPTE9ZNzRHMFY5U0VBQS4u

If you need further information, please contact me at the school using the e-mail address below. You can also use this e-mail address below to send replies directly to me if that is more convenient for you than using the electronic form.

Mrs C Gildea

Head of Design
c.gildea@oaklandscatholicschool.org

Proposed GCSE Design Options for September 2024

ART: Fine Art – GCSE

(60% Non Examined Assessment + 40% Exam)

GCSE Fine Art enables students to develop a wide range of life long skill sets and techniques throughout the course. These include painting, drawing, ceramics, photography, sculpture and printmaking. The course involves the pupil investigating the work of other artists as well as developing their own artistic style through self-led projects. Students are encouraged to be creative and explore a range of ideas using a wider variety of media. Art is an important course for anybody considering a career in Architecture, Stage Design, Web Design, Fashion, and Illustration to name just a few.

ART: Photography – GCSE

(60% Non Examined Assessment + 40% Exam)

Students will be encouraged to explore a wide range of techniques and processes, which will assist in developing their ideas creatively through investigations, experiments and observations, presenting ideas and final outcomes in an e-portfolio. This GCSE could lead into a number of different fields specialising in photography such as Photo Journalism, Travel Photography, Fine Art Photography, Fashion, Advertising and Marketing, the list is endless...

ART: Textiles Design – GCSE

(50% Non Examined Assessment + 50% Exam)

This course follows a similar format to the Art and Photography courses in that students learn about the various processes and techniques involved in producing Art based textiles work. Students will also have the opportunity to study various aspects of fashion design and the work of other artists. They will be able to develop their technical knowledge and understanding of textiles design through a range of personal investigation projects, which they will develop into final outcomes.

Food Preparation and Nutrition – GCSE

(50% Non Examined Assessment + 50% Exam)

This course is a mixture of theory and practical activities. It will give you the knowledge, understanding and skills required to cook and apply the principles of food science, nutrition and healthy eating. It encourages you to experiment and investigate so that you can make informed decisions about food and nutrition. This GCSE could lead to the study of Level 3 Food, Science and Nutrition, and other food-related courses at either AS or A level. There are a vast range of opportunities for careers in the food industry, from nutritionist type work to careers in hotel and restaurant industry, food production/development and promotion/marketing activities.

***Design and Technology with Resistant Materials - GCSE**

(50% Non Examined Assessment + 50% Exam)

Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise. This GCSE allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will then specialise in working with Resistant Materials (wood, metal and plastics) and have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles related to these in greater depth.

***Design and Technology with Electronics – GCSE**

(50% Non Examined Assessment + 50% Exam)

Like the Resistant Materials qualification, students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise. This GCSE allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will then specialise in Electronics and have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles related to these in greater depth.

NOTES

We advise students against studying more than one Design subject at GCSE due to the substantial amount in non-examined assessment work they would be required to do

* At GCSE level students can only chose to study **one** of the D&T subjects

YEAR 8 DESIGN OPTIONS

JUNE 2023

PLEASE RETURN TO MRS GILDEA BY THE 16 JUNE 2023

Student Name: Form:

Please circle the option your child would like to study in each column – one choice from each please.

Column A choice	Column B choice	Free Choice	Reserve Choice
Fine Art	Food Preparation and Nutrition	Fine Art	Fine Art
Photography	D&T :Electronics	Photography	Photography
Textiles Design	D&T: Resistant Materials	Textiles Design	Textiles Design
		D&T :Electronics	D&T :Electronics
		D&T: Resistant Materials	D&T: Resistant Materials
		Food Preparation and Nutrition	Food Preparation and Nutrition

Parental Signature: Date: