



CURRICULUM INTENT

Design Technology

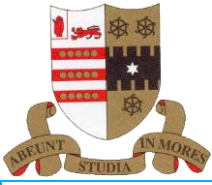
- **Challenge** lies at the heart of our curriculum. It goes beyond what is statutory or typical; students are encouraged to deepen their understanding of the fundamentals of their learning at every opportunity.
- Our curriculum is fully **inclusive**. All students have access to a broad range of experiences for as long as possible, regardless of prior attainment or additional needs.
- Our curriculum is **knowledge rich**, with subject curricula designed to ensure that any 'powerful' knowledge and skills that are critical to future success are regularly re-visited.
- Our curriculum is **expertly planned** and is therefore sequenced to enable students to build their knowledge and skills towards ambitious agreed end points.
- Wherever appropriate our curriculum gives students the opportunity to **personalise** their experience, thereby facilitating enjoyment and success for all.
- The importance of reading and wider **literacy** skills is a key thread that runs through our curriculum. As well as broadening students' vocabulary, all subjects will develop students' subject-specific literacy, so they can speak, read and write as, for example, a Historian, an Artist or a Physicist.
- A carefully considered and inclusive **extra-curricular** programme supports broader and deeper understanding of the taught curriculum, as well as developing the cultural capital our young people need to be global citizens.
- Students' **personal development**, including careers education, is central to our curriculum, through all subject areas, as well as PSHE lessons, tutor time, assemblies and off-timetable activities.
- Homework and summative **assessment** tasks are strategically designed to promote the concepts of regular review and spaced practice, therefore contributing to a long-term retention of knowledge and skills.

The Design Technology (DT) curriculum at Marling School aims to inspire and develop innovative thinkers, creators, and problem solvers. Our goal is to equip students with technical skills, critical thinking, creativity, and resilience, preparing them for future academic and career success. We emphasize a holistic understanding of technology and its real-world applications.

Key elements of our curriculum include:

- **Project Planning:** Students learn to identify problems, research solutions, and develop detailed project outlines, honing essential skills in foresight and organization.
- **Collaborative Environment:** Our classrooms encourage creativity, collaboration, and experimentation, where students feel safe to take risks and learn from mistakes.
- **Teaching Excellence:** Teachers model best practices in design and engineering through demonstrations and guided practice, inspiring students to adopt effective techniques.
- **Challenge and Engagement:** By integrating complex real-world problems, we push students to think critically and creatively. Varied teaching methods such as project-based learning and interactive digital tools keep students actively engaged.
- **Feedback and Growth:** Regular, constructive feedback helps students refine their work, supporting continuous improvement.
- **Skills Progression:** Key concepts are embedded through repeated practice, from Year 7 to A-Level, ensuring a solid foundation that students can apply to new challenges.
- **Reflective Learning:** Continuous review and reflection foster a growth mindset, helping students set goals and assess their progress.

At Key Stage 3, all students explore a broad range of DT subjects, including Food, Product Design, Design Engineering, and Textiles, to build versatile skills. By Key Stage 4, they can specialize in Design Engineering, Product Design, or Food, with further specialization available at A-Level. The curriculum follows the Design, Make, Evaluate process, blending practical and theoretical learning to foster continuous improvement.



Extra-Curricular Offer:

- **Design Clubs:** After-school clubs focus on areas like electronics, engineering, fashion design, and culinary arts.
- **Competitions:** Students participate in local, national, and international design and food competitions, gaining recognition for their talents.
- **Workshops and Guest Speakers:** Industry professionals offer insights and connections, while trips to design studios and manufacturing plants provide firsthand industry exposure.

Through practical experience, specialized learning, and a range of extracurricular activities, Marling's DT curriculum ensures that students are well-prepared for future success, with continuous reflection driving excellence in both their academic and personal growth.

