



Welcome to A Level Fashion & Textiles

Now that you've decided to study Fashion & Textiles at A Level, you'll need to do a bit of preparation. This pack contains information regarding the course structure, Bridging Work, suggested equipment list and websites to prepare you to start your A level in September.

What do I have to do in A Level Fashion & Textiles?

Studying Fashion & Textiles will enable you to participate successfully and with confidence in an increasingly technological fashion world. You will learn from the wider influences on the subject, including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. You will develop your creative abilities by advancing your practical skills, designing skills and theoretical knowledge whilst enjoying opportunities to put your learning into practice by producing products of your choice in different fabrics.

Choosing Fashion & Textiles at A Level prepares you well for a world of opportunities in higher education and careers.

Some examples include but are not limited to:

Fashion Design, Fashion Marketing, Textiles Design, Pattern Drafting, Fashion Illustrator, Textiles Science, Architecture, Product Design, Costume Design, Contour Fashion, Interior Design, Graphic Design, Engineering (aeronautical, civil, climate, energy conservation, mechanical and robotics), Prosthetics, Designer/Maker/Crafter

Apprenticeships, including:

Tailoring, Pattern Drafting, Dressmaking, Fashion Merchandising, Buyer, Technologist to name a few.

A-Level at a glance

This course is 50% examination (1 x 3 hour written paper) and 50% coursework, following the Eduqas exam board specification. The coursework allows you to design and make a product of your choice, although you will need a client as it will be based on a real-life problem. You will begin this in June of Year 12.

In Year 12 you will study:

Materials and properties, manufacturing processes (workshop and industrial), design related mathematical problems, principles of design, product design and design influences and technological developments. You will also develop your skills in drawing (hand and CAD) and manufacturing.

In Year 13 you will study:

Manufacturing systems, Industrial systems for managing efficiency, environmental design, the law and how it affects designers and consumers including Health & Safety at Work. You will spend a substantial amount of your time completing your chosen coursework task.

We also ask that you equip yourself with the following for sketchbook work with a suggested list below; 16-19 Bursary is available for eligible students for materials, tools and equipment to help you complete this course. Please check to see if you are eligible with both Head of 6th Form and Course Leader, and check to see

- A selection of drawing pencil (2B, 4B etc.)
- General stationery such as biros, rubbers, ruler etc.
- Watercolour palette or tin or pencils
- A selection of paintbrushes - (soft and stiff bristle)
- Soft coloured pencils and a selection of pens - fine liners [optional]



A sewing machine is useful for completing experimental work at home, please check eligibility for the 16-19 Bursary. You will also need a ring binder and files dividers for technical & theory notes

Our best students use the 996 hours rule. These are the hours spent each two-week period for each subject:

- 9 hours in class
- 9 hours of homework
- 6 hours of additional research and personal development

Thinking before you start...

You need to think about the following:

- *What subject/ theme/aspect of design are you most passionate about?*
- *Which Designers inspire me?*
- *Are there any particular styles or techniques that you can explore with?*
- *Are there any current museums, exhibitions or events that could be relevant?*
- *What kind of techniques inspire me and can I collect images or produce samples of them?*

Bridging Work

Over the holiday, you will need to complete 2 of the 4 tasks; this work will take around 8-10 hours **effort** overall, sampling topics covered and **practise** some of the skills needed. You will be assessed and given feedback on this work.

Task 1 – Designer research

Research 3 x designers that inspire you – one must be historical [Chanel, Dior, Quant, Westwood, McQueen, Birtwell, Yves Saint Laurent or Schiaparelli.

Collect and print images of their work and create 3 x A3 mood boards, and annotate aspects of the work which are both **technical** and **inspirational**.

Task 2 – Design development

Using each mood board, use a fashion silhouette and develop some of their iconic or signature designs – again use A3 and fill the page. Work with a 2B pencil, aim to show how existing designs can be moved on...annotate and explain thinking where it is not clear.

Task 3 - Visit a museum, gallery or event

Visit a gallery or exhibition and **document this with 1 x A3** of sketches, photographs and notes about what you saw on your visit, and what inspired you. Some places to visit below....

The Fashion & Textiles Museum – Fashion

83 Bermondsey Street, London SE1 3XF

<https://www.fashiontextilemuseum.org/>

The Brighton Museum – Art, Design, Costume

Pavillion Gardens, Brighton BN1 1FN

<https://brightonmuseums.org.uk/brighton-museum-art-gallery/>

The Victoria and Albert Museum (FREE) – Art and design

Cromwell Rd, London SW7 2RL

<http://www.vam.ac.uk/>

Task 4 – Write a report

Write a report on the main design influences of the 20th century – 300 words, with a few images for each design movement described. Complete in a Word document, all images titled and dated.

Suggested Reading

Wider reading and more:

You should aim to visit one the following London Museums during your two years on this course:

- The Victoria and Albert Museum - Applied arts and design from around the world
- The Design Museum
- The Brighton Museum
- The British Museum - artefacts from around the world
- The Fashion & Textiles Museum, London

Useful Websites and Magazines:

- www.dexigner.com - online magazine
- <https://www.vogue.com/magazine>
- [The Design Museum](http://TheDesignMuseum.com)
- [Design week magazine.](http://DesignWeekMagazine.com)
- core77.com/ online magazine

TED Talks:

<https://www.ted.com/topics/fashion>

https://www.ted.com/talks/john_maeda_how_art_technology_and_design_inform_creative_leaders?language=en

https://www.ted.com/talks/tony_fadell_the_first_secret_of_design_is_noticing?language=en

https://www.ted.com/talks/katleen_gabriels_we_design_technology_technology_designs_us

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/a-brief-history-of-plastic>

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/what-is-metallic-glass-ashwini-bharathula>

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/which-bag-should-you-use-luka-seamus-wright-and-imogen-ellen-napper>

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/can-100-renewable-energy-power-the-world-federico-rosei-and-renzo-rosei>

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/the-life-cycle-of-a-t-shirt-angel-chang>