



Aylesbury High School | #AHSWalksTall

Developing uniquely talented young adults, who are independent, strong and confident

Dear Parent/Carer,

As students embark on their Textiles GCSE, we thought it would be useful to share an overview of the course.

In Key Stage 4 Textiles:

The examination board for GCSE Textile Art & Design is Edexcel. You can find further information relating to the specification [Edexcel GCSE Art & Design](#)

- Component 1: Personal portfolio 60%
- Component 2: Externally set assignment 40%

We start the course with a mini introduction project, building on skills from Year 9. The two areas we explore are: Natural Forms and Human Forms. Within this students create recordings and then develop these into practical pieces using a range of decorative techniques. From here, students are able to use these pieces to select the best area to focus on for their NEA project, which they complete over Year 10 and Year 11. This project is titled 'Weathered' and students create a sketchbook of work to explore the theme through photographs and recordings, experiment with ideas and processes, media, materials and techniques and develop critical understanding through investigations. In the Year 11 mock examination, students use their 10 hour practical exam to create a final piece for this project.

The Externally Set Assignment is not an exam as such but the culmination of the GCSE course making up 40%. Students will not sit in the exam hall and answer questions related to textiles. They will be given a paper released in January of Year 11 with a set theme similar to how they have approached the NEA. Lesson and homework time will then be spent developing their textiles work, referred to as the preparatory period, this is similar to revising for another subject. They will then make a final piece linking to this prep work over two consecutive days.

Required resources:

- Sketchbook (can be purchased from the Textiles department)
- Embroidery threads, wool etc in any specific colours students may require.
- A range of drawing pencils (B pencils) and coloured pencils.
- White gel pen
- Embroidery hoops
- Specific fabric and components needed for chosen project.
- Needles, pins and fabric scissors.

Homework and assessment:

Homework of 40 minutes duration will be set in Textiles to give the students time to consolidate their understanding of work covered at school and further develop their ideas. We usually set a two or three week homework assignment as we do appreciate that Textiles may take longer than 40 minutes. Homework may take the form of a written or practical piece and feedback is given in line with the school marking policy and exam board assessment criteria. Students are able to use this feedback to

work back into pieces, and continue to make improvements throughout. Assessment marks are subject to change and are based on the last exam season grade boundaries. When practical homework is set the Textiles room is open at lunch times for students to use facilities.

Please find access to the exam board standards booklets (which are used by teaching staff and external moderators when assessing the work) here: [Edexcel standards booklets](#). If your child is struggling with their homework then they should talk to their Textiles teacher about it so that support can be provided.

Revision:

Revision in Textiles looks a little different. With the external set assignment being a practical body of work and outcome - the revision for textiles takes the form of continued development of the creative process across the assessment objectives. Students need to be producing photographs, recordings, research and media work, in order to be prepared for the 10 hour examination.

Top tips to help keep on top of the work:

- The Textiles lunch clubs are a good way of using time to develop this work and having all facilities available for students. Also teacher input and guidance can be accessed during these lunch sessions.
- Using Sublimation printing can be a quick way to transfer a photo or recording into fabric to start working on in media.
- Have a clear design and plan to go into an exam with - this will help students manage their time effectively in the 10 hours.

More information can be found on the [Textiles Subject content](#) page on the school's website.

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Ellie Taylor, Head of Textiles, at etaylor@ahs.bucks.sch.uk