



September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to inform you to changes to the course we are running in Technology this year. You may have heard on the news that the government has turned down the majority of the Technical Awards. This has meant that we have had to abandon this course and select a new one to best meet the needs of our pupils.

This has resulted in some significant changes; these are:

- There is more emphasis on design work and less on practical
- A change from 60% CA tasks, 40% exam to 50% + 50%
- The grading has changed to 1 – 9 from Pass/Merit/Distinction
- There is more design and less practical
- In the Technical Award if you did not achieve the equivalent of an 'E' grade you failed the whole course. Now, the GCSE has the full range of grades for the exam
- All 50% coursework in the new GCSE rests on **one** folder and practical

We as a department will endeavour to provide an inspiring, rigorous course that allows all pupils to excel.

Obviously success is also dependent on the students completing the work to the best possible quality they can manage, and I ask for you continued support in encouraging your child to do their absolute best in this subject.

As part of the new course all students have to investigate the work of others, i.e. designers and companies. All pupils have received a copy of this sheet for extended Year 9/Year 10 homework tasks to enable them to better meet the new project criteria in the New Year.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Mrs Bindon. Our email addresses are: jworsley@huntcliffschool.co.uk or jbindon@huntcliffschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Worsley
Design & Technology Department

GCSE Design & Technology

Independent Investigation Unit – The Work of Others

“Students should *investigate, analyse and evaluate* the work of past and present designers and companies to inform their own designing. Students should investigate the work of a minimum of two of the following designers:”

Taken from P30 of the AQA GCSE Design & Technology Specification



Submission dates –

Designer 1: Friday 20th October.

Designer 2: Friday 1st December

Company 1: Friday 5th January

Company 2: Friday 2nd February



As part of your course you have to produce an investigation into at least two of the following designers and companies.

Designers	Companies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harry Beck • Marcel Breuer • Coco Chanel • Norman Foster • Sir Alec Issigonis • William Morris • Alexander McQueen • Mary Quant • Louis Comfort Tiffany • Raymond Templier • Gerrit Reitveld • Charles Rennie Macintosh • Aldo Rossi • Ettore Sottsass • Philippe Starck • Vivienne Westwood. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alessi • Apple • Braun • Dyson • Gap • Primark • Under Armour • Zara.

Minimum information required for each of the designers/companies:

Designers:

Investigate

- Biography (background of the designers)
- What they are/were famous for designing.

Analyse

- The designers work. (Separate information into components and identify their characteristics i.e what are the key features of their work(s)).
- Where did they get their inspiration from?
- Can you link your chosen designer to the work of another?

Evaluate (PIN)

- What do you like about the designers work? (positives)
- Can you think of any ways to make their designs better? (Improvements).
- Produce a series of designs inspired by your chosen designer.
- What don't you like about the designers work? (negatives)

Companies:

Investigate

- Biography (background of the companies)
- What they are/were famous for designing/making.

Analyse

- The company's products. (Separate information into components and identify their characteristics i.e what are the key features of their work(s)).
- Where did they get their inspiration from?
- Can you link your chosen company to the work of another?

Evaluate (PIN)

- What do you like about the companies work? (positives)
- Can you think of any ways to make their products better? (Improvements). (If they have more than 1 product choose a maximum of 2 to analyse)
- What don't you like about the company's products? (negatives)

Presenting your work for each of the four pieces required.

You may present this work in any way you feel comfortable and according to the resources you have available.

Suggestions are:

- **Power Point**
- **Mounted presentation boards**
- **Your own design sheets.**
- **Booklet**
- **Publisher/Word documents**