



A Level

Specification: Edexcel

ART & DESIGN: Textile Design

What will I study?

Textile Design is a creative and exciting course, which develops students' skills across a wide area and provides an excellent foundation for a career within design. Students must cover one or more of the following disciplines: textiles for interiors, fine art textiles, or fashion textiles.

Initial work explored will develop knowledge, skills and understanding of materials, techniques, and design processes, undertaken around a design theme. Through the two years students will study across a number of practical disciplines which will include some of the following: garments, fashion accessories, sculpture, knitting, weaving, printing, painting, observational drawing, CAD, fabric construction, fashion illustration and textile installations.

Initial short-term skills-building projects in year 12 will develop into a more in-depth body of coursework, set against a personally chosen theme, that runs into year 13. In year 13, the course also includes a written component of a 1000-3000 word essay, exploring artists' and designers' work alongside your own theme and ideas.

How will I be assessed?

60% of the assessment is based on coursework and 40% is on the final examination. The final exam starts in January of year 13 and is an externally set theme, with a 15-hour final practical test in May.

Coursework consists of preparatory studies in the form of sketchbooks or design sheets, plus supporting design experimental pieces and refined, developed outcomes.

The course is taught across four assessment objectives (equal in weighting) that measure success against research, development, experimentation and investigation, refinement and making. All units are internally marked and externally moderated.

How will I learn?

- Personal research, experimentation and development of ideas.
- Coverage of a wide range of techniques and

processes, including 3D and contemporary art forms.

- Art/Design history and theoretical concepts.
- Site visits, exhibitions and museum visits.

What skills will I need?

- Independent learning and self organisation as the course is heavily practical.
- Passion for the textile design scene, independent visits to museums/exhibitions.
- Problem solving skills and resilience to modify and improve.
- Good observational/sketching skills and critical analysis skills.
- A basic understanding of formal elements of Art & Design composition, colour etc. (via an Art/Design GCSE).
- Basic knowledge of a few textile techniques – embroidery, knit etc. Basic skills on a sewing machine are useful, but not essential as they can be quickly learnt.

The course enables students to leave with a wide and transferable skill set above and beyond design to include practical and independent learning, IT skills, critical analysis and problem solving.

Careers & Progression

Every good company realises that creativity and good design are important factors in generating new business. So, your creativity isn't just a way of satisfying your artistic soul, it can open the door to creative career opportunities as well.

After A Level, many students go on to higher education in Design via a foundation course or straight to a BA (Hons) art/design degree. JMF6-Abingdon has a 100% success rate of students gaining places on their chosen Art and Design courses. Textiles students then progress to a range of related careers such as fashion design, fashion retail and business marketing, fashion photography, trend researchers and buyers, fashion and interiors magazine publishing, hair and make-up stylists, interior designers, surface pattern design, knitwear and constructed textile designers, printed textile designers and professional artisans. These are just a few of the careers open to students with a qualification and experience in Art and Design.