Fashion and Textiles (AQA)

"Fashion is very important. It is life–enhancing and like everything that gives pleasure, it is worth doing well." - Vivienne Westwood

The Creative Industries are one of the fastest-growing economic sectors in the UK, responsible for 5.6% of jobs and worth £76bn to the UK economy. The British fashion and textile industry is one of the largest employment areas in the UK. It is a multifaceted industry, where opportunities exist within design, retail, production, buying, merchandising, textiles, public relations, fashion communication and styling. Studying Textile Design at A Level provides students with a wealth of employability skills. It encourages students to make independent decisions, and it requires commitment, hard work and dedication. It teaches students to accept and act upon constructive criticism; it develops team players as well as good communicators; it encourages development of strong organisational skills and broadens dimensions and ideas through problem solving and exploring contextual work.

Academic

Textile Design is an exciting creative course which introduces students to a variety of experiences that explore a range of textiles media, processes and techniques.

Students produce practical and critical contextual work in one or more areas of study: fashion design, textile design, costume design, digital textiles, printed or dyed textiles, interior design, art textiles or textiles installation.

Co-Curricular

Trips for research purposes, such as to the Victoria and Albert Museum, Dior – Designer of Dreams exhibition and Graduate Fashion Week, enable students to explore the work of others and understand progression routes within this field. We often work with live briefs which include competition entries such as Young Fashion Designer UK, Wool 4 Schools and the University of Northampton Arts Prize. Students have the opportunity to support the Drama department with costume design and development for theatre performances, and we invite visiting practitioners into school to deliver a range of workshops.

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