



GIFTED & TALENTED in TECHNOLOGY at SHSSFC

Overview and Definitions

In the Design and Technology department at Sandbach High School and Sixth Form College we adopt an approach that enables all students to access the curriculum whilst being effectively challenged at all levels. This policy provides guidance on how we meet the needs of the students who we have identified as being gifted and talented across 1 or more areas of Design and Technology, both inside and outside of the classroom. Details of how we monitor the progress of our gifted students will also be detailed, as it is of the utmost importance to us that each student reaches their potential in the subject.

Gifted pupils in Design and Technology:

- demonstrate high levels of technological understanding and application
- display high-quality making and precise practical skills
- have flashes of inspiration and highly original or innovative ideas
- demonstrate different ways of working or different approaches to issues
- be sensitive to aesthetic, social and cultural issues when designing and evaluating
- be capable of rigorous analysis and interpretation of products
- have an individual approach to following the design-and-make process
- work comfortably in contexts beyond their own experience and empathise with users' and clients' needs and wants.

Identification

The identification process in the Design and Technology department involves the following procedure:

- The Gifted and Talented Coordinator for Design and Technology will select a group of top achievers which have been nominated across all material areas in the year group, up to 5% of the year's cohort, based on their most recent attainment data approximately 10 pupils per year, however this number will change when appropriate.
- The Gifted and Talented Coordinator for Design and Technology will contact teachers in the department and invite them to select and comment upon the students who they also believe to be the highest achievers in the year group. Teachers must justify for their nominations of pupils and/or reasons for having them removed from the list, and nominate the area of DT specifically, this may be in numerous areas.

Teachers may identify pupils who are gifted in design and technology by:

- performance at an unusually advanced national curriculum level for their age group
- the outcomes of specific tasks
- evidence of particular aptitudes
- the way pupils respond to questions
- the questions that pupils ask themselves.
- Intermittently during the year advised by the SHS GT coordinator, class teachers are able to nominate additional students to be included on the register.

Monitoring

A register of Gifted and Talented students will be maintained by the Gifted and Talented Coordinator for Design and Technology and will be updated and amended as necessary with teacher input. This can be found in our Departmental documents folder Additional Needs.

The subject teacher will be responsible for the provision and monitoring of students in their class, using the summative and formative assessment data they have access to along with their professional observations.

Co-ordinators of KS3, KS4 and KS5 and the Gifted and Talented Coordinator for Design and Technology will be responsible for the monitoring of gifted students in DT as part of their vulnerable groups and PP. They will monitor and track the progress of individuals and liaise with class teachers as well as the whole-school Gifted and Talented Coordinator if any intervention is thought to be necessary (i.e. if students are identified as making little progress) by filling out a referral form.

The Gifted and Talented Coordinator will monitor changes made by the department teachers to schemes of work for effective extension and challenging activities for students and will ensure that enrichment opportunities are provided for students beyond the classroom.