



### **ART: TEXTILES**

#### **Why is the study of Textiles important?**

Textiles is a valuable subject for all to study, whether you have a natural talent for designing or sewing, or have never explored textile techniques before. Its place in your education offers significant benefits for your personal and social development, helping you build resilience, self-esteem, and a sense of achievement, as well as shaping the way you view the world.

Textile design encourages you to think critically and creatively, helping you appreciate and explore ideas in new ways. Creativity exists in everyone, and by studying Textiles, you learn to express your own ideas while appreciating the work and traditions of others. It offers an exciting opportunity to discover a range of textile artists and contemporary fashion designers within the world of textiles. Whether designing patterns, experimenting with fabrics and techniques, studying Textiles allows you to build your confidence whilst working independently.

This subject engages both the practical and academic sides of your brain, enhancing your ability to think analytically, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. Whether you pursue textiles for a future career or simply for personal enjoyment, it fosters a lifelong love of creativity and design.

#### **What skills will the study of Textiles teach you?**

Studying Textiles will primarily teach you the skill of creativity, as you develop your ability to use various techniques and processes to communicate your design ideas. You will learn to approach this challenge through a wide range of textile mediums, which may include fabric manipulation, sewing, printing, embroidery, dyeing, or weaving. You will build confidence in applying these skills to projects that encourage your self-expression and personal style.

Participating in Textiles will also enhance your problem-solving skills as you tackle the challenges of creating your own textile pieces. For example, starting with raw materials like fabric and thread and transforming them into a textile artwork requires you to work out the process, while developing focus and link to artists. You will need to remain dedicated and resilient as you work towards creating the final textile piece you envision, even when things don't go as planned.

Your observational skills will also be developed through different drawing skills and workshops as well as studying key fashion designers and textile artists. By analysing their work, you'll draw inspiration and improve your understanding of different techniques and design approaches. You will enhance your analytical skills as you examine the characteristics of professional textiles, identifying key features to inform your own work.

Textiles will teach you to:

- Develop creative ideas using research and experimentation to influence your design approach.
- Apply textile techniques such as sewing, printing, and fabric manipulation to communicate an idea.
- Use your knowledge of key textile artists and designers to inspire your own work
- Analyse the effectiveness of your designs and refine your techniques over time.
- Collaborate with others during group design tasks to express and share ideas.

### **What will you know and understand from your study of Textiles?**

Our Textiles AQA GCSE curriculum is designed to nurture students' creativity, technical skills, and critical appreciation through a comprehensive approach, with a special focus on seafife and marine-themed artists. Pupils will explore their ideas and record their observations in sketchbooks, journals, and other media, using a variety of textile techniques while increasing their proficiency in handling materials like fabric, thread, dye, and embroidery. They will engage in hands-on practice in fabric manipulation, printing, dyeing, and stitching, achieving high standards of craftsmanship.

Students will critically evaluate their own textile designs and those of others, using appropriate terminology to enhance the visual and tactile impact of their creations. They will also study the works of prominent sea life and marine-inspired textile artists, such as Laura Edgar, Julie Shackson, Alexander McQueen, Iris Van Herpen who focuses on coastal nature, and Jane Callender, known for her indigo-dyed sea-themed textiles. Students will draw inspiration from these artists while developing their own sea themed pieces.

In addition to studying sea life artists, students will explore the history and development of textile art and design, learning about styles and techniques from different periods and cultures, from traditional coastal textile crafts to contemporary marine-inspired design. This holistic approach equips students with the knowledge, skills, and appreciation necessary to excel as creative, informed, and reflective textile artists.

### **What will learners know and understand from their study of Textiles?**

- Textile artists typically have an intention behind their work, and there is often a personal, political, or social meaning embedded within the designs.
- There are many different styles of textile art that have evolved over time, from traditional craft techniques to modern, experimental approaches. Seminal textile artists and designers have influenced the field, with some even creating movements due to their impact on the world of textiles.
- Textile design is a process that often develops through research, experimentation, and the exploration of materials and techniques.
- Students will learn the language needed to articulate the aspects of a textile piece they like or dislike, and explain why, using appropriate terminology.

- They will discover how to develop creative ideas, using research and influences to shape and evolve their work.
- Additionally, they will learn how to apply their creative skills to a textile piece that expresses a theme or idea, from conception to final design.

### **How does your study of Textiles support your study in other subjects?**

Textiles develops a wide range of skills that are transferable to other subjects. Through studying Textiles, you'll enhance your focus, resilience, self-expression, problem-solving, and communication abilities, all of which will benefit your learning across the curriculum. Textiles also provides a valuable outlet for creativity, which can boost your well-being and make your overall school experience more enjoyable. For some, it may even inspire a lifelong interest or lead to a career in fashion, design, or the textiles industry.

Exploring different cultures through textiles connects well with subjects like Religious Education, Geography, and Citizenship. The emphasis on self-expression also supports skills used in Performing Arts and Music. Additionally, the creative thinking and problem-solving techniques you develop in Textiles are vital for subjects like Engineering, Mathematics, and Science, where innovation and design play key roles.

### **How can you deepen your understanding of Textiles?**

To enhance your work in lessons, there will be opportunities for professional textile artists to visit the academy and deliver workshops. This will deepen your understanding of the textiles industry and introduce you to new techniques and design ideas.

You will also have the chance to expand your knowledge of textiles through extracurricular activities, such as, making clothing for the school production, where you can continue to develop your creative ideas or work on specific textile projects. During enrichment clubs, you'll meet other textile enthusiasts from different year groups, allowing you to share ideas, critique each other's work, and further refine your skills.

There may also be opportunities to participate in trips to textile exhibitions or museums, as well as to showcase your own work within the academy. Occasionally, you could enter national or Trust-wide competitions, gaining recognition and a wider audience for your designs.

### **How are you assessed in Textiles?**

Throughout the 5-year Textiles course, you are assessed using key objectives that ensure you progressively build your understanding of the subject in preparation for GCSE and A-Level study. There are 6 assessment points each year, referred to as Praising Stars©, where we evaluate whether students are on track to meet their end-of-stage targets. These targets are based on aspirational expectations from your KS3 starting points, aligned with the AQA marking criteria.

Our assessments are informed by a holistic understanding of the subject and aligned with the learning goals across the Textiles curriculum.

### **Key Assessment Objectives**

The 4 key assessment objectives in Textiles are:

- **AO1** – Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of textile sources and artists
- **AO2** – Refine work by exploring ideas, experimenting with different fabrics, materials, techniques, and processes
- **AO3** – Record ideas, observations, and insights relevant to your project as it progresses
- **AO4** – Present a personal and meaningful response that realises your intentions and demonstrates understanding of textile design and techniques

### **How can Textiles support your future?**

Studying Textiles at GCSE and beyond offers a valuable foundation for future opportunities, whether you choose to continue with the subject at A Level or not. Textiles teaches you to think creatively and critically, skills that are beneficial in a wide range of fields.

Textiles is a subject offered at many prestigious universities, either as a single honours degree or in combination with other disciplines. The creative thinking and problem-solving skills you develop through Textiles will enhance your applications for colleges, universities, apprenticeships, or employment.

Careers that the study of Textiles can support include:

- Textile designer
- Fashion designer
- Costume designer
- Textile artist
- Product developer
- Interior designer
- Textile technologist
- Fashion buyer
- Visual merchandiser
- Brand designer
- Fabric technologist
- Accessory designer
- Art director
- Pattern maker
- Sustainable fashion consultant
- Trend forecaster



## TEXTILE CURRICULUM PROGRESSION OVERVIEW

### Outwood Academy Haydock

	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
<b>Term 1</b>	<p><b>The Sea Textiles Project</b></p> <p>In the Sea Textiles project, students will focus on exploring a range of marine forms through observational drawing, research into textile artists and fashion designers, and the experimentation and refinement of formal textile elements. Students will participate in a range of different drawing and textiles workshops to build their skills and techniques, such as, batik, tie-dye, fabric manipulation, machine sewing, felting and marbling. This project will guide students in developing textile pieces with a specific emphasis on creating their own unique outcome inspired by oceanic themes.</p> <p>The curriculum aligns with Assessment Objectives (AOs) 1, 2, 3, and 4, promoting a comprehensive understanding and application of textile skills and knowledge. Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>AO1:</b> Develop ideas through investigations of The Sea forms, demonstrating a critical understanding of sea life artists and their influence on textile design.</li> <li>● <b>AO2:</b> Refine their work by exploring and experimenting with different fabrics, techniques, and processes to create a range of different Textile outcomes.</li> <li>● <b>AO3:</b> Record ideas, observations, and insights related to the sea themes as their designs progress.</li> <li>● <b>AO4:</b> Present a personal and meaningful response that reflects their intentions and demonstrates a strong grasp of visual language in the context of sea-inspired textiles.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Independent Project</b></p> <p>As students transition into Year 11, the Independent Project in Textiles Design AQA GCSE continues to build on the skills and concepts developed in earlier stages. In Year 11, students will further refine their project and textile pieces and complete their project with enhanced depth and detail. They will advance their independent projects by incorporating more complex techniques and exploring new materials. The focus will shift towards perfecting their designs, consolidating their research, and integrating feedback to elevate the quality of their final outcomes. This year emphasises the culmination of their creative journey, allowing students to present a sophisticated and cohesive body of work that reflects their growth and understanding of textile design principles.</p>
<b>Term 2</b>		<p><b>Exam Unit</b></p> <p>For the Textiles AQA GCSE Exam project students will be given themes by the exam board, the research and development process encompasses several key stages: Observation, Recording, Exploration, Refinement, and Presentation. This approach is aligned with Assessment Objectives (AOs) 1, 2, 3, and 4, guiding students through the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>AO1: Observation and Research:</b> Investigate and gather visual and conceptual inspiration from a variety of sources, including primary and secondary research on textiles and related themes.</li> <li>● <b>AO2: Exploration and Experimentation:</b> Experiment with different techniques, materials, and processes to generate and develop innovative textile designs.</li> <li>● <b>AO3: Recording and Reflection:</b> Document ideas, sketches, and insights throughout the project, reflecting on how these contribute to the development of your textile designs.</li> <li>● <b>AO4: Refinement and Presentation:</b> Refine and enhance your designs based on feedback and further experimentation. Present a well-developed, cohesive final outcome that effectively communicates your design intentions</li> </ul>

		and demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of textile design principles.
<p><b>Term 3</b></p>	<p><b>Independent Project:</b></p> <p>The Independent Project in Textiles Design AQA GCSE emphasises the design and refinement of textile techniques chosen by the student. Students will embark on a project of their chosen theme and then embark on an independent project. This project involves thorough research and development, including the study of three different textile artists whose work aligns with their chosen theme.</p> <p>The curriculum integrates Assessment Objectives (AOs) 1, 2, 3, and 4, focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>AO1:</b> Developing ideas through in-depth research and observation of their form and artists.</li> <li>● <b>AO2:</b> Refining textile designs by experimenting with various techniques and materials to create effective experimentation studies.</li> <li>● <b>AO3:</b> Recording and reflecting on ideas, observations, and insights throughout the project.</li> <li>● <b>AO4:</b> Presenting a personal and meaningful textile response that demonstrates a strong understanding of visual language and design principles.</li> </ul> <p>This approach ensures that students build comprehensive skills in observation, research, experimentation, refinement, and presentation.</p>	<p>Final Assessment and Portfolio Presentation</p>