**Cambridge IGCSE Design & Technology (0445)**

**Information for Parents and Pupils**

**General**

In Year 10 the Design Technology curriculum is intended to build essential skills and knowledge essential for the Cambridge IGCSE course. Pupils will be taught technical skills and knowledge through the completion of a series of Design & Make Modules. There are eleven modules planned for Year 10; the order, timings and content of each module are shown in the Planner and Course Overview Documents. To avoid confusion information for each specific module is provided in a separate folder, as the academic year progresses the next module folder will be made available to pupils and parents.

The sequencing and scheduling of each module has been carefully planned to ensure the most effective use of classroom and homework time; therefore, it is essential that all pupils remain up-to-date with their work and if they are absent from a lesson they will be expected to catch-up with the work that they have missed. The rationale for providing detailed information about each lesson for every module is so that all pupils know what is to be done even if they are not present at the lesson.

At the end of Year 10 and the start of Year 11 candidates will undertake the Assessed Task. This is an externally assessed Design and Make Project that is worth 50% of the final IGCSE Grade. To assist students with the workload management of this task there will be a series of internal deadlines that they must meet. The project will be completed by February of 2015.

From March 2015 onwards candidates will focus upon final examination preparation. There are two final examinations. The first will cover general design problems and topics; the second will focus on systems & control.

**Classwork and Homework**

Support information and practical work will be done during lesson times the majority of design and assessment tasks will be done as homework activities. Homework tasks will be set every week and must be handed in for marking at the specified time. Even though there will be a one week period or longer to complete the homework task pupils are advised to do the task as soon as it is set. Thereby, should they experience any problems with the work they will have ample time to seek support to resolve the problem and still hand it in on time.

The course is intended to be fast moving and motivating but should your child have difficulty in keeping pace with the work do not hesitate to contact me. Early intervention will avoid unnecessary stress for both you and your child. Parents should contact me via the Head of Year and pupils can see me at any available break or lunch time.

**Assessment and Marking**

Pupil progress will be formally recorded at the end of every module. Module marks will then be aggregated in order to report on progress and achievement throughout the year. In Year 10 there will mock exams for Design Technology this information will be combined with the module assessments and used to predict final levels of achievement.

Monitoring of progress within a module will be done by marking the homework tasks on a weekly basis and monitoring progress with the practical work against the schedule.

Upon completion of each module every pupil will be given an End of Module Mark. This will be achieved by combining the mark for the Design Folder with the mark for the Artefact. If any work is incomplete or missing the End of Module Mark will reflect this. The marking criterion for each module is stated within each Module Scheme of Work.