



## **TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN DEPARTMENT**

The Technology & Design Department has and continues to be an integral part of the curriculum in Thornhill College. The aim of the Technology and Design Department is to provide an enriched learning experience for all our pupils:

- Developing pupils' creative thinking and problem-solving skills, through the areas of design, communication, manufacturing and control, in line with the relevant specifications.
- Enable pupils to enhance and grow their traditional and ICT based communication capabilities (including CAD Modelling).
- Providing pupils with experiential learning opportunities supported and underpinned by the relevant subject theory.
- Deploy a wide range of learning and teaching strategies creating a positive classroom environment which engages and enthuses pupils.
- Supporting individual pupil achievement to ensure all are realising their full potential in an encouraging dynamic learning environment.
- Contribute collaboratively as a team member in the cultivation of a positive learning environment for all Technology and Design pupils.

Technology and Design is studied by all pupils at Key Stage 3. The programme of study has a focus on providing pupils with an engaging curriculum experience that develops their subject specific knowledge and capabilities.

At Key Stage 4 students have the opportunity to study GCSE Technology & Design (Product Design) following the CCEA specification. At Key Stage 5 students have the opportunity to study A Level Design & Technology (Product Design) following the Eduqas specification.

The Technology & Design Department is a well-resourced, welcoming and supportive area of the school. It features two fully equipped workshops and three specialist teaching rooms with pods of networked computers to enhance digital design and practical learning.

The department values its extra-curricular offering as a means of enriching pupils learning experiences, providing pupils with the opportunity to participate in a selection of appropriate and engaging extra-curricular activities. These include: after school TD club, STEPS into Engineering Week Ireland, industrial visits, visiting speakers and participation in a range of STEM related competitions.