

September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Design Technology 2024-2025**

Your child will be studying Design Technology as part of their KS3 Curriculum, which will include Food Technology, Resistant Materials, and Graphics.

A high proportion of the work is practical based and students will be involved in trials and testing, as well as designing and making final products which they can take home - the school provides funding for this, however, we ask for a voluntary contribution towards the cost. We will then provide ingredients/materials for the lesson, meaning that individual students will not be requested to bring in small amounts of flour, sugar, butter, eggs etc, however, on some occasions students are required to supply additional items such as meat or meat alternatives.

This year I have had to take the difficult decision to raise the contribution to £17 (a rise of £2), this is the first rise in the contribution level in over five years, but as you can appreciate the cost of our ingredients/materials has increased significantly. I fully understand that this is an additional cost for families, particularly with households being affected by rising costs. With this in mind, should you wish to take part in the voluntary contribution system, but find difficulty in making the payment, please contact the school's finance office to discuss further.

As I am asking for a voluntary contribution, it is important to highlight that the alternative to a contribution would be providing your child with their own ingredients/materials on a weekly basis, and opting to do so may result in your child not being able to develop practical skills as planned. I feel that the contribution system has worked well in previous years and offers excellent value for money, however, its success relies on a high level of response. Without contributions I will have to follow the system used by other schools where students bring all ingredients every week.

If you would prefer not to make a contribution and supply all of the ingredients/materials yourself each week, please sign the slip attached acknowledging this. If this option is selected, your child will be responsible for collecting a recipe sheet on a weekly basis and any missing ingredients would prevent them from being able to participate in the practical lesson.

I am concerned for students' safety in all areas of Design Technology. Appropriate footwear is vital in practical areas. Shoes need to be flat and cover the top of the foot. A growing number of students have **allergies or intolerances**. Prior knowledge of this enables staff to plan alternatives.

Please complete the attached reply slip accordingly.

**A contribution of £17.00 will help with this year's costs. All contributions should be made via ParentPay by Friday 11 October 2024.**

I look forward to your support and should you have any enquiries please contact me direct at: [aco@stourvalley.org](mailto:aco@stourvalley.org)

Yours faithfully

Mr A Coe



Head of Faculty - Technology and Art

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Stour Valley Community School KS3 Food Technology Reply Slip

Student Name: ..... Tutor Group: .....

*Please tick as applicable:*

My child **does not** have an intolerance/allergy

My child **does** have an intolerance/allergy

My child is intolerant/allergic to (please provide details):

.....  
.....

I have noted the information regarding appropriate footwear

I confirm that I have paid via ParentPay

I confirm that I will **not** make a contribution and prefer to provide all ingredients on a weekly basis

Please return this reply slip **NEXT LESSON** in an envelope with student name, tutor group and KS3 Food Technology written on the envelope.

Parent/Carer Signature: ..... Date: .....

