Stour Valley Community School
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Headteacher Mrs Rachel Kelly BA (Hons)

September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Design & Technology 2026-2027

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 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 the contribution to £20.00 which should be made via ParentPay by Friday 18 September. 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 find difficulty in making the payment, please contact the school's finance office to discuss further.

As I am asking for a 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, 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, with this in mind, please could you ensure that you have filled in/updated the EduLink student information for your child.**

A contribution of £20.00 will help with this year's costs. All contributions should be made via ParentPay by Friday 18 September 2026.

I look forward to your support and should you have any enquiries please contact me direct at: acoe@stourvalley.org

Yours faithfully

Mr A Coe



Head of Faculty – Design & Technology

Mrs H Iannone



Subject Leader – Food Preparation & Nutrition