Queen Mary's Grammar School
Headmaster: R J Langton, M A

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Dear Parents,

Design & Technology

In our Design & Technology department, pupils are encouraged to take pride in designing and making prototypes. Prototype projects should be taken home, and used where appropriate, when they are finished. We expect pupils to keep the prototypes they produce. However, it should be noted that some projects will result in models and early stage prototypes as the practical outcome. In common with other schools, we have always charged pupils for the cost of the materials they use.

It has been a time consuming process to estimate the value of the materials which each pupil uses and it is difficult to justify the time spent when the value of materials used varies little from item to item. We are, therefore, asking the parents of each pupil in Years 7-13 to make a voluntary contribution of £21 towards the cost of the materials. Payment should be made during September via the ParentMail system; if you experience difficulty with making the payment please contact the Finance Office finance@the.merciantrust.org. The School, of course, remains willing to assist parents in financial difficulties. Any request for financial assistance should be made directly to me.

We have an outstanding Design & Technology Department where pupils are given many opportunities to design and make items of superb quality using the latest technology, including laser cutters and a 3D Printers (Rapid Prototyping machine), CNC milling machines and CNC vinyl cutters. A full range of designing and making skills are being taught. CADCAM has now been introduced throughout all Key Stages. The Design and Technology Bluesky account is updated on a weekly basis and all families are encouraged to view the posts as they are used to promote the good work of the department and celebrate achievement (@qmgsdt.bsky.social).

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of Design & Technology or you have a contact that may be willing to donate off-cuts of wood, plastic or metal to the Department, or offer an industrial visit for examination groups please contact Mr. Hughes at the School.

Please compete the Microsoft form:

Design and Technology Voluntary Contributions – Fill out form

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Richard Langton
Headmaster

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