



Oakworth Road, Keighley, BD22 7DU

Tel: 01535 210111

Email: [office@beckfootoakbank.org](mailto:office@beckfootoakbank.org)

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February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

### Year 9 Design Technology subject choices: Year 8 into Year 9

Currently at Beckfoot Oakbank students in Years 7 and 8 study Design Technology on a rotation basis and experience learning in Product Design, Food and Textiles over the course of the year. I am writing to inform you of changes to the Design Technology Key Stage 3 curriculum that effects students who will be in Year 9 from the start of the 2022/23 academic school year.

Our aim is to provide a Year 9 Design Technology curriculum that mirrors our Key Stage 4 curriculum. Students in Year 8 will be able to choose 2 Design Technology subjects from **Engineering Design, Textiles, Hospitality and Catering and Photography** they will then receive 1 hours teaching and learning of each subject per week, in Year 9. We believe this will ensure students are better prepared for KS4 should they choose these subjects as an option.

As your child is currently midway through Year 8 we would like your child to begin to think about what would be their Design Technology subject preferences, as this will allow us to plan our curriculum implementation.

This is an important time for your son/daughter as they start the process of decision making involved in choosing their Design Technology Year 9 preferences and we have planned a programme of advice and guidance for students and their parents.

- Throughout the week beginning **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022** during your son/daughter's Design Technology lesson teachers will explain the options choices that are available to students and have conversations about our Year 9 Design Technology curriculum.
- From **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2022** there will be information posted on the school website which will help students make an informed choice of which Design Technology subjects to specialise their year 9 learning in.
- From **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022** the Design Technology subject preference form will go live on the school website and on My Ed.
- By **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022**, the Design Technology preferences form will need to be completed via the online form on the school website. Forms returned after this date may well result in disappointment over choices.

Confirmation of the Design Technology subjects allocated to each student will be sent to all parents in March

Yours faithfully

Graeme Hill

Faculty Leader for Design Technology and CS

Headteacher: Tina Smith  
CEO, Beckfoot Trust: Shirley Watson  
Chair of Academy Trustees: John Winkley

Beckfoot  
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