



At last, a really useful book to move all our thinking forward on the CAD/CAM agenda in school. A review of the new book:

CAD/CAM A Guide for Secondary Schools

Jointly published by TEP and NAAIDT and written by Bob Cater TEP associate and TAW Chief Executive this should prove an absolute must-have publication for all Heads of Department as well as those teachers using or planning to teach CAD/CAM related work.



This book provides timely guidance and is lavishly illustrated with exemplar work from a number of schools and organisations.

The book features full colour illustrations and colour coded sections. With an easy to use index it takes users direct to the relevant sections. Also included is a really useful glossary for readers.

Graphic Design and outcomes feature strongly throughout with the journey starting in 2D and progressing to 3D design examples. Practical, simple and not so simple products from design through to manufacture are explored. This includes a look at Product modelling and 3D manufacturing using STL files. The role of CAD/CAM in electronics design and manufacture is followed as well as how CAD/CAM activity can integrate with other processes including manufacturing moulds for vacuum forming and pewter casting.



Much of the book also concentrates on exploring contexts for CAD/CAM assignments and exemplifying them. A brief look at opportunities at Key stage 2 is covered too. The author also takes time to reflect on pedagogical issues and on the key skills embedded in CAD/CAM experiences and outcomes. Helpful hints on auditing CAD/CAM in school are included as is a commentary on how we judge standards in CAD/CAM work.

There is an extensive section on exciting and unusual textiles work featuring dye sublimation, CAM embroidery techniques and lots of alternative practical outcomes. A number of case studies are followed with products and activities from 2D assemblies, card modelling techniques as well as sophisticated desktop products through to rapid prototyping. Bob even finds space to review some of the key features of different software packages.



In the back-leaf of the book there are photo-copiable audit, assessment and planning matrices included to assist schools evaluate and develop their work in CAD/CAM.

TEP are delighted to support both NAAIDT and Bob Cater with this wonderful new publication and believe it will do much to help us all raise standards in CAD/CAM and seed some great practical ideas for teachers.

➔ Available from NAAIDT Publications at
DATA 16 Wellesbourne House Walton Road, Wellesbourne CV35 9JB
 or from the new TEP Bookshop