



Bradford
Grammar
School

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**Wearing a
Sustainable Life:**

**The Woolmen and
Clothworkers' Diploma at BGS**



What is 'Wearing a Sustainable Life?'

'Wearing a Sustainable Life' is a Diploma qualification offered to students in Year 12. It is a collaboration between two of the Livery Companies in the City of London (The Worshipful Company of Woolmen and The Worshipful Company of Clothworkers) and Bradford Grammar School (BGS).

What are the aims of the Diploma?

- to raise awareness of the rich wool heritage of Bradford and the West Riding of Yorkshire;
- to showcase new and innovative products in fashion, design, medicine and manufacturing which use wool;
- to identify ways in which wool is a unique and sustainable product which helps in the fight against climate change;
- to promote the work of the Livery Companies and related industries;
- to deepen the collaboration between the Companies and the School by engaging a number of BGS students with the Companies.



Which BGS students can complete the Diploma?

Students in Year 12 can complete the Diploma. It is based on the completion of an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) with additional elements. The Diploma is open to any Year 12 student with an interest in the work of the Companies and related industries. The Diploma has the backing of the Campaign for Wool, whose patron is HRH The Prince of Wales.

Which students would particularly enjoy completing the Diploma?

The Diploma would appeal to students with an interest in many different academic and vocational fields, for example:

- art and design
- fashion; textiles
- environmental studies; sustainability
- manufacturing; engineering
- science; technology
- history; heritage; literature
- economics; business; international trade.



**THE CLOTHWORKERS'
COMPANY**

The scope of the Diploma is very wide-ranging and students can base the dissertation element of the EPQ on any wool or textiles-related activity.

What are the different elements of the Diploma?

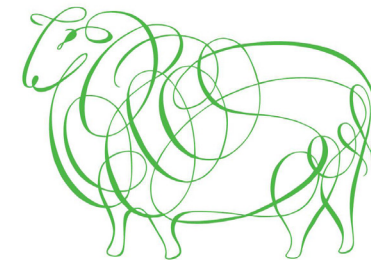
You must:

- You must attend the annual 'Making it in Textiles' industry conference, which will be held either in Bradford or virtually in the autumn of Year 12. Attendance represents an opportunity to gain knowledge for all that follows, including the EPQ, as part of the diploma and also with a view to networking.
- You must successfully complete an Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) in Year 12, with the theme of the dissertation related to any aspect of the wool or textiles industry.
- You must successfully complete one work experience placement with an organisation in the Companies' network before the start of Year 13. The Companies will help you find a suitable placement, which could be in design, fashion, textiles, manufacturing, engineering, business, international trade etc.
- You must present at a whole-school Assembly during Year 12 on the broad theme of wool and textiles, for example to raise awareness among the school community of the rich wool heritage of Bradford or to showcase and celebrate the new and innovative possibilities which abound when working with natural fibres.

What are the different elements of the Diploma?

You should:

- You should participate in the biennial BGS Careers Fair, for example by attending a talk connected with the textiles and fashion industry. Participation in other careers talks as part of the Beyond BGS Careers programme is also encouraged.
- You should work with the BGS Big Green Society or another student-led sustainability project, or lead such a project yourself, for example in the development of a competition to raise awareness of the environmental benefits of wool or the adoption of innovative new textile technologies, or a project celebrating the sustainability of wool.
- You may wish to collaborate with the Handmade Club to promote the use of natural fibres.
- You would also be expected to attend relevant lectures, for example a public lecture hosted by the School in the Price Hall or a Sixth Form Enrichment Lecture.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR WOOL
PATRON: HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES

How is the Diploma assessed?

- You will gain an Extended Project Qualification grade at the end of Year 12, which you can use as part of your UCAS application. Many universities value highly the academic skills which an EPQ develops.
- Your EPQ grade in Year 12 will lead to a grade for the 'Wearing a Sustainable Life Diploma':

Distinction = Grade A* or A in the EPQ

Merit = Grade B in the EPQ

Pass = Grade C in the EPQ

- You will have a viva (oral examination) with a member of one of the Companies to discuss the research that you undertook for the EPQ.
- You will need to complete successfully a range of activities inside or outside of School which promote the Companies' work – see above. You will be required to keep a log and evidence of a set number of hours.



Will there be a Graduation ceremony?

- Yes. Successful Diploma students will be invited to a graduation ceremony at a lunch or dinner in Bradford or London, held in the autumn term of Year 13.
- Successful students will be invited to visit Westminster to enable them to make connections between our nation's wool heritage and history. There is the possibility of combining this visit with the annual London Bridge Sheep Drive.
- Successful students will receive a bespoke Diploma to be presented at the graduation ceremony. The Diploma will be endorsed by the Campaign for Wool.
- On completion of the Diploma, there is the possibility of successful students participating in a visit to the annual Paris Fashion Week.

Register your interest

For more information and to sign-up for the Diploma, please contact Gary Woods:

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