

4th November 2002

FASHION FUTURES - organised by Fashion Awareness Direct in collaboration with the London College of Fashion

Fashion Futures is a series of workshops targeting young members of the community. Its aim is to introduce Fashion as an educational and career path to groups of 25 pre-A level teenagers, with the aim of raising the level of Fashion awareness within the community. Each workshop, led by lecturers from the London College of Fashion, encompasses the philosophy of Fashion as a design process and teaches practical skills, allowing students to produce evidence to be added to their portfolios. This full sensory experience takes them through the design process including the designer's inspiration, story boards, making textiles, constructing a bag from a pattern, working in 3D, developing mood boards for fashion styling, production of a fashion show, and the getting the feel of prediction cycles. The course concludes with completed portfolios reflecting the design process and guidance on how to use these skills when applying to Fashion colleges.

A student who attended the former programme commented: *"Before attending the workshops, I thought I couldn't get into fashion because I couldn't draw. But now having completed these workshops, I've seen all that goes into the fashion design process, and with a little help I can draw. I love it!"*. Helen Sumner, teacher of Design and Technology at Pimlico School, commented how the girls from year 10 who had attended the workshops were noticeably more advanced than their peers, thanks to the motivation and skills gained through the project.