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School: Tideway School	LA: East Sussex
Teacher: Byron Bentley / Jim Fanning	Students: Secondary (Year 10)
Contact: fanningj@tidewayschool.org	
Learning Focus: To develop reflective and collaborative skills within a Design & Technology project process.	
Curriculum Focus: Design & Technology	
Tools used: Forum, Images	

The screenshot shows a forum thread on the 'Tideway School - D.T.' forum. The thread is titled 'My First Design' and is posted by Nicola YOUNG on 14 Nov 2008. The post includes a drawing of a large letter 'N' made of wood, with red stars on the vertical bars. The student explains they will use acrylic for the 'N' and laser-cut the stars. The forum shows a discussion with feedback from other students and the teacher, including suggestions for materials and construction techniques.

How this worked in practice: The students were tasked with creating a sign for the DT department building of the school campus. Students used a range of graphical packages to draft their initial ideas, and label with building processes and materials. The students then shared their designs with their DT peers through the forum that can be seen in the example above. Students were asked to give each other forum feedback on strengths of the designs and recommendations for improvements. Each student then took these aspects of feedback on board and developed their design accordingly, then sharing the results with the group thus repeating itself throughout the design and planning process stage.

By the end of this sequence of work children had developed skills in:
Design & Technology: Planning a design process, Discussing and Improving ideas. Collaborative working.

Next Steps: The students could include their success criteria as key focus points at the beginning of their forum entries and posts to ensure that their developments and improvements focus at all times on improving the quality of their work and outcomes, and facilitate self-assessment and target setting.