



A Level Design Technology: Product Design

The A Level Design Technology: Product Design course is a creative and thought-provoking qualification which is designed to give students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to solve real world problems through design and manufacture.

Imaginative practical work is at their heart of the qualification. Students will develop intellectual curiosity about the design and manufacture of products. Through continuous, focused learning activities, students will develop their knowledge and understanding of materials, components and manufacturing processes as well as explore, design, create and evaluate innovative solutions in response to realistic design contexts.

We promote resilience and forward thinking. Students are encouraged to take creative design risks, showing innovation and enterprise. The course helps to develop student's perception of the design process in the wider world along with the understanding of how products impact on people's daily lives.

Students will develop the ability to draw on and apply a range of skills and knowledge from other subject areas to inform their decisions in design and the application or development of technology. Cross curricular links are made between aspects of the specification content and other subject areas such as Computer Science, Digital Design, Business Studies, Art and Design, History, Maths and Science.

Students work both independently and collaboratively to develop and refine their ideas, responding to feedback from users, peers and expert practitioners. Research plays a fundamental part of the pupil's investigations and we encourage students to think creatively, innovatively to explore a range of design possibilities arising from the needs, wants and values of users and clients.

Studying A Level Design Technology: Product Design will develop a wide range of transferable employability skills such as communication, ability to work under pressure, problem solving, team working, resilience and creativity. Successful completion of the course can lead to careers in Product Design, Interior Design, Graphic Design, Architecture, Engineering and advertising and marketing.

How students are assessed:

There are two parts to the A Level Product Design course:

Part 1 – External examinations (50% of the Qualification)

Students will sit two external exams.

Details of these examinations can be seen opposite.

Part 2 - Non-exam assessment (NEA) - Coursework (50% of the Qualification)

Students must undertake and complete a small-scale design and make project and produce a final prototype based on a context and design brief developed by themselves.

Non-exam assessment is scored out of 100 marks.

A-level

Paper 1	+	Paper 2
What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical principles • Designing and making principles • Specialist knowledge 		What's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical principles • Designing and making principles • Specialist knowledge
How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam: 2 hours • 100 marks • 25 % of A-level 		How it's assessed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam: 2 hours • 100 marks • 25 % of A-level
Questions Mixture of short answer, multiple choice and extended response questions.		Questions Section A: Product analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40 marks available. • Up to six short answer questions based on visual stimulus of product(s). Section B: Commercial manufacture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 marks. • Two extended response questions worth a total of 30 marks each.