

# Design Technology Product Design

## GCSE

Examination Board: AQA

### What will I study?

Product design is a journey through the design phase which is delivered through a range of different medias. During the course, learners will be set a number of design problems to overcome which will build knowledge on properties of materials, product durability and sustainability.

Throughout the course learners will be researching and evaluating on areas of the design phase to find the best solution for the problem. Lessons will be split between theory and practical work to build and embed knowledge to prepare them for the NEA.

Product design is a demanding course which takes learners through all areas of Design Technology from KS3. Being a stem subject there is a nice cross-curricular link with Science (15% of the exam paper) and Maths (10% of the exam paper) which provides challenge.

### How is the course assessed?

**Component 1:** Non-exam assessment (50% of the qualification)

The design and make task is to produce a substantial folder that includes:

- Identifying and investigating design possibilities
- Producing a design brief and specification
- Generating design ideas
- Developing design ideas
- Realising design ideas
- Analysing & evaluating

The contextual challenge is set by AQA in term 6 of year 10 for learners to explore all areas highlighted above before making a prototype which accompanies their 25 page A3 portfolio.

**Component 2:** Written Examination (50% of the qualification)

The written exam will cover core technical principles, specialist technical principles as well as designing and making principles. A mix of question styles feature in the paper which include extended writing for sustainability (15%) and mathematical solutions (10%).

### How will the course help me in the future?

The course ultimately prepares students for university courses in Design, Engineering and Manufacturing, or apprenticeships such as: Industrial designers, production developers, advanced manufacturing engineers, architects, automotive designers, construction and civil engineers, fashion designers, rapid prototyping engineers.

### Which member of staff should I contact for more information?

Mr Ryan

**NB This course is most appropriate for students studying higher level Maths and Science**