

Design & Technology: Product Design

You will develop intellectual curiosity about the design and manufacture of sustainable products in an ever-changing world. We will explore, design, create and evaluate innovative solutions in response to real-world design contexts. You will develop a knowledge and understanding of the core technical, designing and making principles, as well as an understanding of the environmental challenges and wider issues of design.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

The course is assessed through non-exam assessment (NEA) and written exams in Year 13. 15% of the written exams will also assess maths skills:

Paper 1 – ‘Technical Principles’ worth 30% of A Level

- Written exam: 2½ hours
- On: Materials, Processes, Design issues and CAD-CAM
- As well as short-answer questions, you will be required to work out calculations and complete extended response questions.

Paper 2 – ‘Designing and Making Principles’ worth 20 % of A Level

- Written exam: 1½ hours
- On: Product analysis, Commercial manufacture, National & international standards and Design history and Technological change
- The paper will again contain a mixture of short-answer questions, calculations and extended response questions, often requiring the comparison of two different products.

Non-exam assessment (NEA) worth 50% of A Level

- Project and client identification, Writing a brief and specification, Technical principles, Designing and making skills, Evaluation skills and Effective project management
- Single substantial design and make task, the context of which will be determined by the student.
- Your portfolio will include research, design and modelling work, evidence of making and evaluation.

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT?

Over the two years, you will cover six projects working in woods, metals and polymers, developing your graphics and manufacturing skills as you go. You will work on your CAD skills and examine what it takes to commercially produce a product in a sustainable manner in the modern world. You will be open to taking design risks and showing that you can refine and develop ideas, responding to feedback from clients and design influences. You will be able to show that you can carefully manage your own project by researching materials and techniques.

WHY STUDY IT?

This course will suit a broad range of students, with varying personal skills and abilities. It could complement a wide diversity of subjects, depending on students being more creative or technically minded.

Potential careers lie in: Automotive Design, Product Engineering, Graphical Design, Advertising, Music and Film, Creative Media, Architecture, Interior Design, Fashion Design, etc.

A Level

Board: AQA

2 Year Course

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Our entrance requirements are 6 GCSE/ BTEC passes at Grade 4 (or equivalent) or above. It is also desirable for students to achieve a Grade 5 or above in the subject (or related subjects) that they wish to study at Sixth Form.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT

It is essential that you discuss your subject choices fully with teachers and parents.

The subject page is available to view below.



Contact Mr Howard
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