

# PRODUCT DESIGN

## Course

A level Product Design

## Exam Board

AQA specification

## Entry requirements

GCSE in D&T Grade 5, or L2 Engineering at Merit level.

## Why study Product Design?

A level Product Design is an exciting and diverse subject that allows individuals to select and work in areas that best suit their strengths. The curriculum develops a broad and comprehensive understanding of materials, processes and design theory. Students will learn a range of modern manufacturing techniques and approaches to design and apply these in innovative ways when manufacturing products. This is a creative and stretching course that develops the whole individual.

## Course content

A level Product Design is assessed under two different areas, externally set examinations and NEA (non-exam assessment). The NEA content is covered through extended coursework design and make projects. There are two exams, both of which will be taken at the end of the Year 13.

During Year 12, students will study theory for the examinations and complete design and make projects to develop their designing and making skills.



## Paper 1

This is a 2.5 hour written paper and worth 30% of the total A level. It includes multiple choice, short answer and extended response questions.

The content has been divided into two sections:

- Core technical principles and designing and making principles
- Additional specialist knowledge

## Paper 2:

This is also a 1.5 hour written paper and is worth 30% of the total A level. There is a mixture of short answer and extended response questions. There are two sections:

- Section A: Product Analysis. Up to 6 short answer questions based on visual stimulus of products
- Section B: Commercial manufacture

## Non-exam assessment: Core designing and making principles.

This is worth 50% of the A level. Assessment is coursework based and is approximately 45 hours. There are a total of 100 marks. The focus is on practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles and specialist knowledge. This is a substantial design-and-make task where knowledge of the AS and A2 subject content is applied to the design and manufacture of candidates' own projects.

## Progression after Sixth Form

Successful completion of the course will prepare students for degree level courses in design. A level Design Technology is also valued by universities offering Engineering and other technical courses.

## Career opportunities

There are many career opportunities in design such as Interior Design, Industrial Design, Product Design and in Teaching. Product Design is also useful for those looking for a career in Engineering.

## For more information contact Head of Department:

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