



Design and Technology: Product Design

Exam Board: Edexcel

Contact teachers: Mr T Trendell, Mrs T Garland

Why study Design and Technology: Product Design?

Anyone who has enjoyed learning how to design and make products in their GCSE will appreciate the opportunity to explore the subject in much greater depth on this course. In the new A level, there is a greater emphasis on applying mathematics and science to improving designs and in testing and evaluating prototypes prior to producing a final product.

You are encouraged to find clients in the community who have a need or problem for which a product-based solution can be designed and manufactured. Students will study industrial production methods and the way in which manufacturing affects economic, social, employment and environmental issues.

This A level is an excellent stepping stone to a wide range of engaging careers and higher education courses. In choosing their clients and the project tasks, students have the opportunity to tailor the course to their own areas of interest.

Course details

In the first year, you will be learning about the common materials from which everyday products are made and how to form and combine them. As far as possible, this will be through short, hands-on practical projects.

We will also be learning how products are designed in the commercial world, in preparation for an assessed piece of coursework.

You will be working closely with a client to develop ideas, prototypes and a final product.

How is the course taught and assessed?

An end of course exam

2 hours 30 minutes

Testing all aspects of subject knowledge and design skills.

This accounts for 50% of the A level.

Non-exam assessment (NEA)

Students find, or are set up with, a client who requires a product to be designed.

The resulting project accounts for 50% of the A level.

Evidence

Digital design portfolio, prototypes and completed product.

Entry requirements

Anyone intending to take Design and Technology: Product Design at A level will be expected to have achieved normal College criteria, including a grade 4 in any Technology subject.

Further Education and Careers

A wide variety of degree courses including Product Design, Mechanical and Structural Engineering and Architecture.

