

GCSE Design and Technology

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. You will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors.

Do I need to have certain qualities/skills to do this subject?

Good interpersonal skills, time management, organised, ability to problem solve, and have a creative or artistic nature.

What will I learn?

This GCSE allows you to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. You will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

Topics include:

- New and emerging technologies
- Energy generation and storage
- Developments in new materials
- Systems approach to designing
- Mechanical devices
- Materials and their working properties
- Specialist technical principles
- Stock forms
- The work of others

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Does this lead to a qualification?

Yes, this is a single GCSE qualification accredited by the Examination board AQA.

How is this qualification assessed?

Exam paper

- Core technical principles
- Specialist technical principles
- Designing and making principles

In addition:

- at least 15% of the exam will assess maths
- at least 10% of the exam will assess science.

2 hours • 100 marks • 50% of GCSE

Non-exam assessment (NEA)

Task(s) - substantial design and make task

Assessment criteria:

- Identifying and investigating design possibilities
- Producing a design brief and specification
- Generating design ideas
- Developing design ideas
- Realising design ideas
- Analysing & evaluating
- You will produce a prototype and a portfolio of evidence
- Work will be marked by teachers and moderated by AQA

30–35 hours • 100 marks • 50% of GCSE

Further information available from: Mr Poland

What can I do with this qualification?

Further studies at Sixth Form: A-level Design and Technology: Product Design, A-level Design and Technology: Fashion and Textiles,

Careers: Product designer, architect, manufacturing, graphic designer, fashion designer.

Apprenticeships and Degree Courses are also available in a wide range of similar areas.