

Design Technology Qualifications & Pathways



Course Title	GCSE Design and Technology
Exam Board	AQA
GCSE Equivalent	1 x GCSE
Assessment Breakdown	<p>Written exam: 2 hours. 100 marks . 50% of GCSE Questions.</p> <p>Non-exam assessment (NEA): 30–35 hours approx. 100 marks. 50% of GCSE Task(s). Substantial design and make task.</p>
Course Outline	<p>GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.</p> <p>GCSE Design and Technology allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles.</p> <p>The Examination: Paper 1</p> <p>Section A – Core technical principles (20 marks): A mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions assessing a breadth of technical knowledge and understanding.</p> <p>Section B – Specialist technical principles (30 marks): Several short answer questions (2–5 marks) and one extended response to assess a more in depth knowledge of technical principles.</p> <p>Section C – Designing and making principles (50 marks): A mixture of short answer and extended response questions including a 12 mark design question.</p> <p>Non-exam assessment (NEA): Practical application of: Core technical principles, Specialist technical principles, Designing and making principles.</p> <p>Assessment criteria: Investigating, Designing, Making, Analysing and Evaluating. Students will produce a working prototype and a portfolio of evidence (max 20 pages). Work will be marked by teachers and moderated by AQA.</p>
Progression Routes to Further Education/ Training	AS/A2 level(s): Art and Design, Design Technology, Product Design, Graphic Products. Other: Agricultural Engineering or Mechanics, Bench Joinery, Yacht and Boat Building, Construction and the Built Environment, Construction and Engineering, Furniture Crafts, Jewellery, Manufacturing, Carpentry and Joinery, Horology, Motor vehicle engineering, Marine wood and plastics, Welding, Electrician, Plumber, Kitchen Fitter
Progression Routes to Employment	Product Designer, Commercial Designer, Teaching Design & Technology, Building Technician, Biomedical Engineering, Measurement & Control Engineering, Backstage Theatre Work, Armed Services, Carpenter & Joiner, Garage Work, Aircraft Engineering, Cabinet & Furniture Making, Three Dimensional Design, Cabinet Making, Electrician, Plumber, Kitchen Fitter.