

Design & Technology

Title of course: Design & Technology

Qualification/level at the end of the course: GCSE

Course description: GCSE Design & Technology offers a unique opportunity for students to develop their knowledge and skills in the production of a high-quality product from start to finish. Students will work in our purpose-built workshops, carrying out practical, investigative and theoretical work. This GCSE is suitable for any student wishing to broaden their knowledge of this area and looking to either progress to further education or enter the world of work.

GCSE Design & Technology covers the following topics:

- Developing and applying design skills
- 'Designing and Making' projects in various materials
- Making, testing and marketing products
- Design influences

Skills required: an interest in design is essential. However, the advanced practical skills required are about 40% of the course. A concise design portfolio is completed involving the ability to write clearly and to be able to analyse other products including their own and those of their peers. The ability to work outside of the classroom is essential as extended learning tasks will be set regularly.

This is not just a woodwork or metalwork course, but an analytical and developmental design course requiring a high level of dedication, organisation and the ability to resource all practical sessions. There will be a cost element to the final product. The school will be as supportive as possible, but students must provide the materials for the final product themselves.

We will be asking for a donation of £10.00 to cover the students' materials and all students will also be expected to purchase a folder in year 11 for their controlled assessment.

Assessment:

Unit 1: (50%) Controlled Assessment, designing and making skills related to resistant materials (wood, metal & plastic). A practical coursework task selected from a bank of interesting and diverse projects. Internally assessed using exam board set criteria and externally moderated.

Unit 2: (50%) Written paper of 2 hours which will be externally set and marked. The paper is worth a total of 120 marks. The paper will contain short-answer, structured and free response questions drawn from the course content.

