

OPTIONS COURSE

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

ACCREDITING AUTHORITY | AQA

QUALIFICATION

GCSE

FACULTY

ART, DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

STAFF CONTACT

Mrs Hayes, Mr Stringer, Mr Gordon

WHAT QUALITIES & SKILLS DO I NEED?

You should be enthusiastic and creative and want to develop your ICT, designing, making and problem solving skills. You need to have a good imagination and enjoy working practically with a range of materials, as well as computer aided design to bring your ideas to life.

COURSE FOLLOWED

[Design & Technology](#)

WHAT WILL I DO ON THE COURSE?

This is a brand new exciting D&T qualification that allows you to draw on design practice, making skills and use of contemporary technologies. You will work in a variety of contexts that develop your understanding and appreciation of the design and manufacture of existing products. This course will also prepare you for the world of work in any field and will develop your awareness as a consumer.

You will develop your thinking and making skills through a design processes that allows you to 'explore, create and evaluate' following practices and strategies used by the creative, engineering and manufacturing industries.

On the course you will design and make products and investigate how they are made in industry. You will be encouraged to incorporate new technologies in the production of your products including computer aided design and computer aided manufacture.

For the non-examined assessment you will specialise in material areas the choices are:

- Resistant materials
- Graphic Design
- Electronics
- Textiles

HOW IS THE COURSE ORGANISED & ASSESSED?

The course is 50% non-examined assessment, 50% exam.

For the non-examined assessment, you will be given a context from the exam board. From this you will devise your own design brief to work on. This will give you flexibility and a choice of materials.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE PROGRESSION ROUTE FOR THE COURSE?

BTEC Level 3 Creative courses; BTEC Level 3 Design, BTEC Level 3 Engineering

DO YOU HAVE TO DO ANY WRITING?

Yes. There is some writing as part of the non-examined assessment, mainly annotation of your ideas and summarising each design sheet. The extended writing will take place in your evaluation.

DO I HAVE TO WORK MUCH OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM?

Yes. There will be research and investigation, as well as practising exam questions.

WHAT WILL I MAKE?

You will make a number of mini-projects in which you will learn skills you can apply to your final non-examined assessment project. You will use a range of materials and then specialise in Year 11. You will learn how to cut and shape materials as well as join different materials together and apply a finish. You will also look at how your ideas would be industrially manufactured, how they would be marketed, their environmental impact and consumer issues.

HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?

You will be continually assessed throughout your mini-projects to assist in the prediction of your final grade. Your Non-examined Assessment is worth 50% of your overall mark and the written exam is worth 50%.

WHAT WILL I HAVE TO DO IN THE EXAM?

The exam will test your knowledge on materials and processes. Questions will also be asked on how products are/can be designed to protect the environment as well as looking at brand new materials and processes which are now available to us.

WHAT IF I'M NOT GOOD AT DRAWING BUT I AM GOOD AT MAKING?

GCSE Design & Technology requires some drawing skills to be applied. However, most of the marks for this subject are applied to how you generate ideas and develop them through creating prototypes. You can always use computer aided design if you are not very good at drawing.

WILL I HAVE AN EXERCISE BOOK OR A FOLDER?

You will use an A3 folder to store your project work.

WILL THERE BE ANY ICT WORK?

Yes, you will work with computers on a regular basis to use the internet as a research tool, 2D and 3D CAD software (including Photoshop, Google Sketch Up and 2D Design), computer aided manufacture (laser cutter CNC machines, 3D printer), word processing for your Non-examined Assessment, transferring digital images to your folder as well as using specialist Technology software to improve your knowledge of materials and processes.

