

A Level Design and Technology - Product Design



Exam Board: OCR

A-level D&T - Product Design develops the methods students use to problem solve, their ability to analyse existing design and use it to inspire their own ideas, and, whether working individually or collaboratively, help improve their own, and others, design and manufacturing outcomes.

Students develop their creative, practical and entrepreneurial skills to meet the increased rigour and understanding required at A-level, applying this to their A level NEA/coursework involving a client/stakeholder, and the in-depth nature of the A-level exam questions.

A-level Design and Technology perfectly compliments Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology or Art and Design at A-Level, or can be used as a contrasting subject with English, History, Geography or Modern Languages.

The course will provide candidates with the ability to:

- Be open to taking design risks, showing innovation and enterprise whilst considering their role as responsible designers and citizens.
- Develop their capacity to think creatively, innovatively and critically through focused research and the exploration of design opportunities arising from the needs, wants and values of users and clients.
- Develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of materials, components and processes associated with the creation of products that can be tested and evaluated in use.
- Be able to create and analyse a design concept and use a range of skills and knowledge from other subject areas, including Maths and Science, to inform decisions in design and the application or development of technology.
- Work collaboratively and/or independently.
- Have a critical understanding of the wider influences of D&T, including cultural, economic, environmental, historical and social factors.
- Become empathetic and successful designers



WORK HARD, BE KIND, TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

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Assessment:

Product Design

(H406/01/02/03/04)

H406/01 – Principles of Product Design

80 mark exam – 1hr 30mins written paper - 26.7% of total A-level

H406/02 – Problem Solving in Product Design

70 mark exam – 1hr 45mins written paper - 23.3% of total A-level

H406/03 and 04 – Non Examined Assessment (NEA) Interpretation – Product Design

100 marks - Approx 65 hours of NEA – 50% of total A-level

Entry requirements:

Level 9-6 in GCSE Design & Technology, or another creative subject, plus ability in Maths and Science.de 9-4 GCSEs

Other course information:

- Students are expected to buy specialist equipment and materials to assist them in their studies – a full list will be made available.
- Students are expected to cover the main costs of their product manufacture work.
- Students may be offered the opportunity to attend some design related visits and lectures, which will require them to cover the cost of ticket price and travel to the event.

Who is the course for?

Students who are considering following degree, or further education, courses in Design, Product Design, Graphic Design, Furniture Design, 3D Design, Computer Aided Design, Industrial Design, Computer Graphics, Jewellery Design, Animation, and Engineering Disciplines.

Career pathways

This qualification can lead to a variety of different career pathways, including product design, engineering and architecture. It could also form part of your route into university, especially if you wish to pursue a subject like Engineering.

"I've really enjoyed working with a client during the NEA process, as this has broadened my thinking, and really focused my thinking on the problem they want me to solve, as they are key to the design decisions I am making."

