

# D&T: Product Design A Level













### Why choose this subject?



Product Design should be chosen if you studied and enjoyed Design Technology at GCSE, are good at practical problem-solving and if you are interested in design or want to follow a career in any form of design or engineering.

The specifications at both GCSE and A Level favour an iterative design process. The traditional boundaries have been removed allowing greater freedom of movement with students able to work in different materials and with different technologies far more easily

#### The nature of the course

**Examination board:** 

Edexcel: Advanced GCE in Design and Technology (Product Design) (9DT0)

#### Course contents:

- Aims to equip students with the ability to recognise design needs and to develop an understanding of how current global issues, including integrating technology, impact on today's world. They will also need to consider the impact on the environment of their designing and making activity and to work towards more sustainable solutions to the problems they are solving.
- Encourages creativity and innovation
- The design challenges in the Lower Sixth will give students the freedom to take design risks and innovate in a situation where it is safe to test and refine ideas. This will give them the confidence at A Level to further develop these skills in their own design brief with a client or user group









Component	Overview of A Level	Assessment
Component 1 50% of qualification	Principles of Design and Technology	Written Exam: 2hrs 30 mins, 120 marks The paper includes calculations, short open and open response questions, as well as extended writing questions.
Component 2 50% of qualification	Independent Design and Make Project	Non-examined assessment 120 marks The Design and Make project, is internally assessed and externally moderated



### What do we expect from candidates?



Students should preferably have studied a design-based course before. The Design Technology GCSE is an ideal starting point. Those choosing to do this subject must be prepared to work hard on the coursework units that start in the first term and which incorporate a significant amount of ICT including CAD/CAM.

Students must apply their understanding and knowledge from other subject areas, with a particular focus on Mathematics, which has 15% content.

An open mind, creativity and flexibility in approach is essential.



#### With which subjects can it be combined?



The majority of students combine Design and Technology with any of the following subjects: Maths, Physics, Art, Computer Science, Theatre Studies or Business Studies.

Other successful combinations have included Biology and Geography.

It is a multidisciplinary subject which lends itself to many combinations.



### Higher Education and Careers?



D&T: Product Design, is suitable and recommended in combination with the subjects mentioned on the previous slide, for courses and careers in Design and Engineering. It also suits Agriculture, Architecture, Business Media and Surveying.

These are just some of the more obvious broad areas that give a hint of the range of opportunities available. It is also a suitable qualification for many other careers.



## **Teaching Staff**





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