The link to the specification for AQA A level Product Design is below:

https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/a-level/design-and-technology-7552/specification

During your course, you will learn how to use a wide variety of equipment. From the vacuum former, bandsaw, laser cutter to the 3D printer and sanding machine along with a host of manufacturing techniques working with different materials. You will have the opportunity to be creative and apply your ideas to a realistic scenario.

How will you be assessed:

Written exam:	Paper 1 Technical Principles	• 100 marks • 30% of A level
	Paper 2 Designing and Making Principles	• 100 marks • 20% of A level
Single design and make project:		
	Context decided by student	• 100 marks • 50% of A level

The Design and Make project:

This will be based on a project that you will decide the context to. It must be completed with the resources that the school/ student has access to and within the given timeframe.

Task for this project:

Produce a mind map identifying problem area you have an interest in. For example, this could be within the context of mobility for elderly or disabled people. There could be subtitles such as: Transport, Social, Wellbeing, Environment… In your selected areas, try to identify problems that may arise. This task should reflect a variety of design problems that students may have. At this point, it should only be very short in description.

Extension task for the holidays:

Continue to produce design ideas with analysis comparing it to the specification. You can also produce simple models of your work. Take photographs and analyse why you produced the card models. For example, 'I produced a card model to see how well ergonomically it would fit into an average person's hand' or 'I experimented with different paint finishes to see which materials would give the most aesthetically pleasing finish'.

Once you have finished your designs, you can start to prepare for the manufacture of your product/parts. It would be using Fusion/TinkerCad to produce models and preparing files for 3D printing/laser cutting for your return to school.