

Design & Technology

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 will be decided on. It must be completed with the resources that the school/ student has access to within the given timeframe.

Task 1 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, you should only be very short in description.

Extension task for the holidays:

Look around and see if you have any problems related to your chosen area. It could be a school bag, work area, compact storage shelf etc. If possible, could you complete a disassembly of a related product. This would involve taking it apart and trying to identify how it was initially constructed. What materials and manufacturing methods could have been used? Make sure you photograph the product fully assembled and then in parts. It should take no more than 1/2 A3 page for this task.