Technology and Design GCSE

Product Design









Studying Technology and Design provides opportunities to tackle and resolve design and technological problems to meet human needs within a range of contexts. Essentially, we are searching for better ways to do things, inventing solutions and taking risks

Technology and Design GCSE is made of 3 sections:

Unit 1 Technology and Design Core

1.5 hour written exam - completed in Year 11 - 25% of overall GCSE

Topics covered:

- Design and communication
- Manufacturing materials and processes
- Electronic systems
- Mechanical systems
- Pneumatic systems
- Computer control systems

Unit 2 Specialist Option - Product design

1.5 hour written exam - completed in Year 12 - 25% of overall GCSE

Topics covered

- Design and innovation
- Manufacturing practices
- Materials components and fabrication
- Market influences
- Social responsibility of product design

Unit 3 Design and Make project

Controlled assessment - completed in Year 11 & 12 -50% of overall GCSE

Students complete a design project comprising of a design portfolio and an associated manufacturing task. Teachers mark the design project, and visit centres to carry out moderation.

Students considering Technology and Design GCSE should:

- Enjoy designing and making their own projects
- Be confident and responsible in solving real life problems through creative solutions
- Enjoy graphical communication through hand sketches and CAD
- Use ICT to record, process and present information.