Eduqas GCSE Design Technology Curriculum Intent

What the curriculum is designed to do

GCSE Design and Technology prepares students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students become aware of, and learn from, wider influences on design and technology, including historical, social/cultural, environmental, and economic factors. The course offers the opportunities to solve real problems by designing and making products and developing technical knowledge and understanding. This course builds on the designing and making skills developed across KS3

How we deliver the curriculum

The curriculum is delivered through a blend of theory and practical lessons to provide students with the knowledge required for the course, but also enable them to apply their knowledge to practical contexts. During Year 10 students will complete a timbers project with a woodworking skills focus, graphic and design skills project, electronics unit and a practice NEA (Non examined assessment).

There are two elements to Year 11. The NEA, coursework contexts are released by the exam board in June of Year 10. Students identify a problem and client and design and make a product to solve the problem. This represents 50% of the final GCSE grade. The second element is preparation for the final exam. The theory aspect of the course covers; design and technology and our world, smart materials, electronic systems and programmable components, mechanical components and devices, materials. These topics are taught through a series of lessons and focussed practical tasks.

How we assess students

Students will complete at least one formative assessment per half-term to prepare them for the following assessments:

Component	Description of assessment	When does the assessment take place?
Component 1: Design and Technology in the 21st Century	100 marks 2-hour exam paper covering all theory content	Year 11 June exam series
Component 2: Design and Make Task	100 Marks Non-exam assessment. Context set by Eduqas. Students produce a sketchbook and artefact that solves a problem and demonstrates their design thinking. Students have 40 hours to produce their NEA	Year 11. Assessed and moderated internally. Marks submitted to exam board 1st May in the examination year. Sample selected by Eduqas for external moderation

How it benefits students learning and personal development

This qualification will enable students to confidently continue their study of Design Technology at KS5 or pursue a career in the creative, engineering, or practical industries. Students will develop a portfolio of their design and practical work alongside personal skills such as problem solving, team working and communication. Through managing their NEA students will also develop skills in planning and time management.