

A Level Design and Technology: Product Design

The Department, Facilities and Resources

A Level Product Design lets you delve into the creation of the products that surround us, after studying this course you will be able to combine practical and theoretical skills, creating innovative products in a specialism of your choice. We have a dedicated 6th form workshop space for student's use. We have a laser cutter and vinyl cutter and a range of standard machines and equipment. You will use a variety of materials to develop creative solutions to design problems. Research skills, design model-making, drawing and presentation techniques are vital elements of the coursework. You will study a personal investigation unit and two externally set (exam) unit in the second year.

The Product Design two-year A Level suits people with an interest in designing and making 3D solutions that meet a need or solve a problem. You should have a desire to create and make products, furniture and lighting in 3D and an interest in using 2D and 3D materials in a practical way. In the first year you will cover product design drawing realisation, ideas development through 3D model making, and Computer Aided Design construction. A range of different projects are covered and conclude with either a 3D and CAD model solution. The second year includes a personal project for which students write their own brief.

You can expect to:

- Create and make prototype ideas that solve functional problems in a workshop environment.
- Research and explore the work of product, furniture and lighting designers.
- Visit design galleries and museum spaces.
- Year 12: Range of small design projects and mock exam papers.
- Year 13: Personal design brief NEA and 2 exam papers.

Assessment (AQA Exam board)

50% of A-level is coursework which you design plan and execute.

50% are split over two papers

Paper 1: Technical Principles – 30%

Paper 2: Designing and Making Principles – 20%

