

GCSE DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: 3D Products

Type of Qualification: GCSE (AQA)

How it is assessed: 50% Examination
50% Coursework

Course Overview:

- The course consists of three key elements. These include:
 - Core technical principles
 - Specialist technical principles
 - Designing and making principles
- Design Technology: 3D Products is an exciting new course for those students who enjoy designing and creating products for consumers, but don't want to be constrained to studying one material area.
- The year 9 curriculum for this course will provide students will an opportunity to build on their KS3 DT experience. It will focus mainly on the **core technical principles** and general practical skills before applying these to larger design and make projects through year 10 and 11.
- **Explore – Create - Evaluate** will be at the subjects' core. It will be used to help students design and develop high quality 3D product outcomes in a suitable material.
- 50% of the final marks are given for designing and making a high quality product with a supporting design folder. The skills needed to do this are taught through a number of shorter skills based projects in the first part of the course. Subject specific modelling and manufacturing processes as well as computer aided design are also covered.
- The written exam accounts for the remaining 50% of the final mark. The exam tests a student's core knowledge (the core technical principles) and design skills across Design Technology, as well as content relevant to one or more material areas (specialist technical principles). The exam will be split into 3 sections.
- The course will cover the following skills:
 - Design strategies (including iterative, user centred, creative and design influenced)
 - Exploring, modelling and testing ideas
 - Product design
 - Materials knowledge (including their working characteristics)

Beyond Year 11:

Design & technology GCSE is a robust and exciting qualification which prepares students for further study or apprenticeships in various design fields, including Product design, Fashion, Graphic Design, Textile Design and Engineering.

From September 2017 all Design Technology GCSEs will be merged into one qualification. Students will study the **core technical principles** of Design Technology within Year 9 before specialising in 3D Products.

