

GCSE Product Design – Resistant Materials

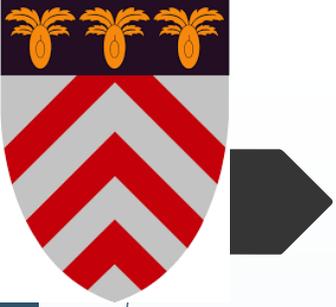
Design is a diverse and enjoyable subject to study, in which you can specialise in, many different materials and careers. It is a well-respected subject by universities due to the complexity and variety of skills that it teaches. You will learn how to recognise the quality of products and the robust nature of their design which is a useful life skill.

GCSE Product Design will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

The GCSE allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

The course has two distinct sections Theory knowledge based in two areas: - core technical principles which covers general design and manufacturing principles and processes and specialist technical principles covering, in greater depth, areas related to the specific materials being used, in this case resistant materials. Secondly the designing and making principles taught through a series of real life problem solving contexts.

Students must also demonstrate mathematical and scientific knowledge and understanding, in relation to design and technology.



Frequently asked questions

Assessment

Unit 1: A written paper worth 50% of the overall GCSE taken at the end of Year 11 based on two years theory work.

Unit 2: A portfolio of a minimum 20 pages of A3 and a manufactured product worth 50% of the overall GCSE grade.

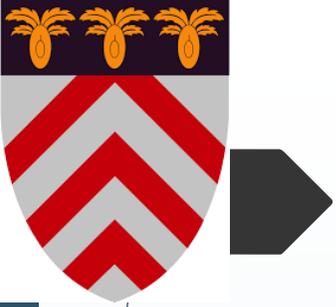
Do not take this GCSE if you think it will be all practical work it is a full GCSE and will therefore contain a degree of theory and written work.

Skills and commitment

Students who are inquisitive about design and how things work will enjoy this course. Students will need to enjoy problem solving through design with an ability to think creatively to develop their ideas and design solutions. There is a strong link to environmental issues within the course so students who have an interest in global environmental issues will find the work interesting.

How can I find out more information about the course?

Speak to your resistant materials teacher and other students who are taking the course if you have any further questions. Your resistant materials teacher will be happy to help and can show you examples of current and past project work. Booking an appointment with your resistant materials teacher on parents evening would be an excellent opportunity to talk about this course in greater detail.



Student feedback

Why choose a GCSE in product design?

- It's great to be able to do something creative!
- I really enjoyed the opportunity to come up with my own design solutions.

What's the most interesting thing you learn about on the course?

- Learning how to develop a new product from a design problem.
- Being able to use my sketching and design skills to show what a product will look like then converting it into a computer drawing ready for manufacture.

What do you like about the subject?

- I enjoy the mix a practical and theory that is taught in the course.
- I enjoyed the independence that developing a new product gave me.