



Dear Student,

Welcome to GCSE Product Design

I am delighted that you have chosen to study GCSE Design and Technology (Product Design) from September 2025. You will be studying a creative, practical, and challenging course that builds directly on the skills and knowledge you have developed at Key Stage 3.

The Product Design course, following the Eduqas specification, is structured around two main components:

- **50% Non-Examined Assessment (NEA):** This is a major design-and-make project that towards the end of Year 10. This task requires you to solve a real-world design problem through investigation, prototyping, evaluating and manufacturing a high-quality product
- **50% Written Exam:** This assesses your knowledge of materials, processes, designing and making principles, sustainability, new technologies, and the wider impact of design in our world. The exam will take place at the end of Year 11 and is based on both core technical knowledge and your chosen material area.

Product Design isn't just about making things – you will also be encouraged to think like a designer – to explore, take risks, and push your ideas to achieve high-quality design and research outcomes, as well as practical ones. You will work on a range of design and practical tasks and be expected to apply both creative and technical thinking to solve problems and develop innovative solutions.

This GCSE will require **hard work, focus, and a real desire to succeed**. You are expected to approach each lesson with a positive attitude and a commitment to producing your best work. Deadlines must be met, workshop safety respected, and all tasks completed to the highest standard possible.

By the end of the course, you will have not only developed valuable skills in design and manufacturing, but also gained confidence in presenting ideas, solving problems, and working independently – skills that are highly regarded in a wide range of careers and further education pathways.

To help you prepare for the course, here are a few resource suggestions for you to look at:

1. Mr Design Technology! (youtube channel)
2. GCSE D&T lessons (youtube channel)
3. Mr Ridley Design and Technology (youtube channel)
4. BBC Bitesize (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z4nfwty>)

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Headteacher Mrs Roberta Harrison



Product Design affects our everyday lives and how we interact with the world in which we live – by studying this course, you are showing a real interest in how you can make an impact on this!

“Creativity is intelligence having fun” Albert Einstein

I look forward to working with you and seeing the exciting work you will produce over the next two years.

If you have any questions before September, please feel free to come and see me.

Mr K Todd

Head of Design and Technology



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