

AQA A-Level Design and Technology: Product Design (7552)

This course builds on the prior learning that you will have gained during GCSE Design & Technology.

Your A level studies will provide you with a broad spectrum of knowledge relating to product design.



What is the structure of the course?

Component 1: Written Paper - Technical Principles	30%	• Single paper of 2 hours duration • 120 marks • Questions vary from short answer to extended response
Component 2: Written Paper - Designing and making principles	20%	• Single paper of 1.5 hours duration • 80 marks • Questions relating to product analysis and commercial manufacture
Component 3: Non-Examined Assessment (NEA)	50%	• 100 marks • Substantial design and make prototype task

How is the course delivered?

Year 12 = Focused skills based practicals (Autumn term) followed by a design and make practical task (Spring term) to build up your design and workshop skills ready for your NEA + theory lessons.

Year 13 = Major coursework (NEA) + theory lessons that lead to two examinations

Timetabled 8 hours a fortnight 4 hours NEA prep 4 hours exam prep.

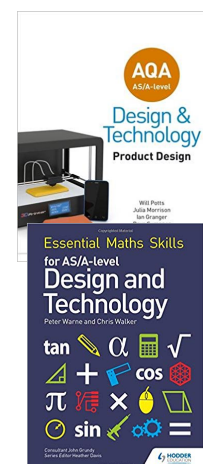
What does the course involve?

- The is a design based course where the specification combines theoretical content with practical application.
- You will be developing your practical skills in the workshops using equipment such as the laser cutter, centre lathe, brazing hearth, workshop techniques and 3D printing.
- You will be independently reading and researching topics outside of lessons.
- The use of mathematical skills is a key requirement, and is tested in the examinations (15% of the paper).
- An understanding of underlying scientific principles is expected.
- You will need to have a creative and flexible approach to designing.

Is there a textbook?

You will need to purchase the following Product Design textbook: 'AQA AS/A-Level Design and Technology: Product Design' by Will Potts & Julia Morrison (ISBN: 978-1-5104-1408-2)

For students who do not study A-Level Maths, we would also strongly recommend 'Essential Maths Skills for AS/A Level Design and Technology' by Peter Warne & Chris Walker (ISBN: 9781510417069)



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Summer Break Tasks:

Over the summer you **must** complete the following and bring to your first lesson:

	Completed?
Choose a design movement and a designer from the list below and put a presentation together to show your research and findings. You should include: - The philosophy of the movement / design - Information about styles - Images of example work. Be ready to talk about your designer/movement when you return to school in September.	
CAD: On Shape Please email skwright@tringschool.org for a list on On Shape tutorials	

Design Movements:

- Arts and Crafts
- Art Deco
- Modernism e.g. Bauhaus
- Postmodernism e.g. Memphis

Designers:

- Phillip Starke
- James Dyson
- Margaret Calvert
- Dieter Rams
- Charles and Ray Eames
- Marianne Brandt

Any questions?

Speak to Mrs Wright (skwright@tringschool.org)

We are looking forward to seeing you all in September with your design research and lots of fresh ideas