

Early Entry GCSE Design and Technology: PRODUCT DESIGN or GRAPHICS

Course Description:

Early Entry GCSE Design and Technology has two pathways to choose from – you can choose Product Design **or** Graphics – both are the same Design and Technology GCSE but in Product you will study timber for your specialist topic and in Graphics you will study paper and board for your specialist topic.

The Year 9 Early Entry is our foundation GCSE year during which students will develop their skills in drawing, design and problem solving, investigation, analysis, Computer Aided Design, making and evaluating. You will also cover the core elements of the theory to help students to learn these thoroughly.

During year 10 you will cover a range of mini projects to enable you to become confident and fully skilled before starting your NEA (coursework) in June. The NEA will continue into year 11 to be completed in the spring term

The NEA is worth 50% of the overall GCSE and is a comprehensive research, design, develop, make and test/evaluate. Most of the NEA takes place in school as controlled assessment. We run Design and Technology Study Support sessions after school should you need some further help with completing this work.

There is a written exam at the end of the course that is worth 50% of the overall GCSE. The theory for this will be covered throughout the course.

For more details, please watch this Loom video:

<https://www.loom.com/share/f05c0c3daa404635bfe2e964dfd126bc>

Why should you choose GCSE Design and Technology PRODUCT DESIGN or GRAPHICS for GCSE?

- Excellent, well paid, creative careers prospects for D&T students (see below)
- It is a creative and exciting subject that gives valuable life skills – communicating ideas, problem solving, becoming skilful at making and constructing products
- 50% Coursework, 50% exam
- It supports literacy and numeracy throughout the course
- The theory overlaps with Maths, English, Science, Geography and Business
- STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) careers provide excellent salaries:
Graduates earn £160,000 more than non-graduates in their working life time, and STEM graduates tend to earn nearly £250,000 more
- 58% of all new jobs will be STEM related. There will be significant growth in new jobs but also massive replacement demand.

Any more reasons to take the subject?

- You will develop your design skills and creativity along with your communication skills and maths skills
- You will solve technical problems using designing, modelling and testing
- Use will use a mixture of traditional practical skills and CAD and CAM to manufacture products - we have a dedicated CAD/CAM suite (3D printer, laser cutter, CNC router, CNC vinyl cutter as well as 2 further computer rooms and three well-resourced workshops
- You will be trained to work with a range of tools and equipment safely and skilfully
- The course progresses to a highly successful A Level in Product Design (consistently ALPS 3 which means our results are in top 25% of the country)

Career Opportunities from Design and Technology include:

- **Engineering** for instance: Aerospace & Avionics, Civil, Automotive, Environmental, Construction, Manufacturing
- **Design** - Product Design, Graphic Design; Interior Design
- **Media** - Advertising; Marketing; Market Research; Television
- **Entertainment** - Special Effects; Stage Design; Costumes; Props
- **Desktop Publishing** - Newspapers; Magazines; Photography
- **Architecture;**
- **Robotics;**
- **Animation;**
- **Computer Aided Design & Manufacture**

For more detail, please email
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Success criteria for the course:

- Students will need to be creative and enjoy problem solving, designing and making.
- They need to be able to focus independently to create a comprehensive coursework portfolio.