



### TEACHERS SAY...

'Product Design is an enormously satisfying career. You have an idea and - with the use of modelling tools like clay or computers - it comes to life. Imagine how satisfying it must be for the person who designed the iPhone or Razer to hold the finished product in their hand'

### YOUR NOTES

## Course Overview:

A level Design and Technology: Product Design (3-D Design) helps students take a broad view of design and technology, develops your capacity to design and make products and appreciates the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing. As a 3D designer you are at the crossroads of a number of skills. You need creativity in order to imagine the shape and function of the object. But you'll also need to know about manufacturing processes, materials, historical, social, cultural and environmental influences on Design and Technology.

First year of A level	Second year of A level
<p><b>Technical Principles:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Materials and their applications</li> <li>Performance characteristics of materials</li> <li>Enhancement of materials</li> <li>Forming redistribution and addition processes</li> <li>The use of adhesives and fixings</li> <li>The use of finishes</li> <li>Modern industrial practice</li> <li>Efficient use of materials</li> <li>Digital design and manufacture</li> </ul>	<p><b>Designing and making principles:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design methods and processes</li> <li>Design theory</li> <li>How technology and cultural changes can impact on the work of designers</li> <li>Product life cycle</li> <li>Critical analysis and evaluation</li> <li>Selecting appropriate tools, equipment and processes</li> <li>Accuracy in design and manufacture</li> <li>Responsible design</li> <li>Design for manufacture and project management</li> </ul>
<p>Non Exam Assessment (NEA), 50% of your marks. You will complete a substantial design task to demonstrate your understanding of the practical application of core technical principles, core designing and making principles and specialist knowledge. This is done using your own design with a range of materials and processes. All internal assessments are externally moderated</p>	
<p>Throughout the A level you will develop and improve practical skills through a number of short projects.</p>	

# A level Product Design

## Examination Board:



## Teacher contact:

Mr Corser

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## Entry requirements:

Desirable Grade C / 4 or above in GCSE Design and Technology: Product Design. Grade 4 or above in English Literature and/or Language.

If a student has not taken GCSE Design and Technology, we would want to see evidence of creative/practical work.

## Type of Assessment:

Assessments will take the form of exam and non-exam assessments. Out of the 50% exam element a 2h30 paper covers technical principles accounting for 30% of your marks and a 1hr 30 paper covers designing and making principles accounting for the final 20% of your marks.

## This course goes well with:

English, History, Business Studies, Graphics, Art, Psychology, Photography

## Possible degree options:

There are a myriad of possible vocational and academic onward training routes. The top degree courses taken by students who have an A-level in Design and Technology are:

Architecture, Design Studies, Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering.

## What can I do now to help me prepare for my course?

Visit museums and galleries, including the Design Museum, Victoria and Albert Museum. Investigate your favourite designers by searching books and websites.  
Teach yourself to use some of the many CAD programmes available, Auto desk and many others are free to students.

[Www.aqa.co.uk](http://www.aqa.co.uk)

AS and A2 Student workbooks

[Www.technologystudent.com](http://www.technologystudent.com)

Revision resources

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/>

Huge number of resources covering all topics found at GCSE and A level.

<https://www.designmuseum.org>

The design museum, keep up to date with trends.

### Literacy, when you...

...read around the subject, and use several sources of information to answer problems.

### Numeracy, when you...

...plan and design garments and products, calculate materials, use CAD/CAM, measure.

### ICT, when you...

...research current theories, create presentations and complete assignments, use CAD/CAM.

## Possible Career options:

Studying an A-level Product Design related degree at university gives you all sorts of exciting career options, including:

Clothing/textile technologist

Colour technologist

Exhibition designer

Furniture designer

Industrial/product designer

Interior and spatial designer

Advertising art director

Automotive engineer

Graphic designer

Materials engineer

Product manager

Production designer, theatre/television/film

Purchasing manager

Stylist

Secondary school teacher.

Higher education lecturer