

AQA A-Level Design and Technology – Product Design Course Outline

The course has been designed to encourage candidates to take a broad view of Design and Technology, to develop their capacity to design and make products and to appreciate the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing.

Paper 1

What's assessed

Core technical principles and core designing and making principles.

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 100 marks
- 25% of A-level

Questions

Mixture of short answer, multiple choice and extended response.

Paper 2

What's assessed

Specialist knowledge, technical and designing and making principles.

How it's assessed

- Written exam: 2 hours
- 25% of A-level

Questions

Mixture of short answer, multiple choice and extended response questions.

Section A:

- Product Analysis.
- Up to 6 short answer questions based on visual stimulus of product(s).

Section B:

- Commercial manufacture.
- Mixture of short and extended response questions

There is the opportunity for students to use the schools vast CAD/CAM resources. The design could be built using Pro Engineer then a prototype model made with the schools 3D Printer

Non-exam assessment (NEA)

What's assessed

Practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles and specialist knowledge.

How it's assessed

- Substantial design and make task
- 45 Hours
- 100 marks
- 50% of A-Level

Evidence

Digital design portfolio and photographic evidence of final prototype.

Entry Qualifications

Normal entry requirements to the Braintree Sixth Form. Students wishing to take this course should have completed a GCSE, or equivalent course, in a Design Technology subject achieving at least B grade or equivalent.

Career Prospects

Careers include Product Designer, Architect, Surveyor, Engineer, CAD/CAM Designer/Engineer and Design and technology teaching.

Students can progress to higher education in a variety of degree level courses. A distinct advantage for courses such as Computer Aided Product Design and Architecture.

Further information

www.aqa.org.uk – Draft specification 7552, A-Level Design and Technology – Product Design.