

AS/ A LEVEL PRODUCT DESIGN

Entry requirements - 5 grade A-C at GCSE and Grade C or above in GCSE Design and Technology.

Design and Technology offers candidates a fantastic opportunity to gain personal satisfaction and a positive experience from working with a wide ranging variety of materials. The practical problem solving processes in this course will encourage independent learning, creativity and innovation.

At AS level students will develop an understanding of a broad range of materials, with emphasis on the life cycle of products, manufacture and final disposal. This specification also considers the broader issues for the designer including the environmental sustainability of products and consumer safety.

Unit 1 will cover:

- Developing an understanding of the physical and mechanical properties in a broad range of materials and components.
- Methods in which materials and components can be manipulated to manufacture products.
- Computer aided design (CAD) and computer aided manufacture (CAM).
- Ergonomics and anthropometrics, inclusive design and consumer safety.
- The life cycle of products including manufacture, use and functional aspects and final disposal.

Unit 2 is coursework.

At A2, the specification offers candidates the opportunity to further develop the knowledge and practical skills from AS. You will continue to develop a body of coursework alongside an understanding of the processes and procedures of commercial production and manufacture.

Unit 3 will cover:

- Examination of alternative designs and redesigning existing products.
- Use of natural resources, materials utilisation, conservation, waste disposal/ management, pollution, recycling.
- Appreciation and understanding of the use of CAM for industrial production.

Unit 4 is coursework.

You will submit evidence of a single, substantial designing and making activity.