AQA GCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - Exam Guidance 2025

- Your GCSE Design and Technology exam will last 2 hours, 100 marks, 50% of your GCSE
- It will be split into three sections:
 - Section A Core Technical Principles Multiple choice and short answer questions
 - Section B Specialist Technical Principles Long answer questions
 - Section C Designing and Making Principles Long answer questions and sketching/drawing

Section A - Core Technical Principles (20 marks)

A range of general Design and Technology questions assessing the breadth of technical knowledge and understanding. You could be asked about materials and why and where we use them (wood, metal, plastic). You may be asked about levers -Class 1 - seesaw, Class 2 - wheelbarrow, Class 3 - fishing rod.

B - Specialist Technical Principles (30 marks)

A range of short answer questions and one extended response to assess a more in depth knowledge of Technical Principles. Could be based on manufacturing processes, materials (timber/wood), ethics and social issues. Usually a question on the environment.

Section C - Designing and Making Principles (50 marks)

A mixture of short answer and extended response questions. Could be based on a Designer/Company (Dyson, Primark, etc), Product Evaluation, Sketching and Drawing. Know specialist terminology (ACCESS FM). Could be a question related to Maths and Science.