

Design

Is this course for me?

This course will appeal to those students who:

- Have a strong interest in the world of Design
- Enjoy studying an imaginative, creative and ever-changing subject
- Like to keep up to date with new technology
- Like to investigate and solve problems
- Enjoy practical subjects.

Units of Study

Technical Principles - 30% of A Level - 2 ½ hour written exam

Examined unit in which students will study issues to enhance their knowledge and understanding of a range of materials and be able to apply to different contexts and products including:

- ◆ Materials & their applications - how and why they are used in products
- ◆ Testing and investigating materials
- ◆ Processes and manufacturing - fabrication methods
- ◆ Digital design and manufacture
- ◆ Protecting designs and their intellectual properties

Designing and Making Principles - Principles 20% of A Level - 1 ½ hour written exam

Examined unit in which students will study different areas of designing and influences and their contexts including:

- ◆ Design methods
- ◆ Design styles and movements
- ◆ Virtual modelling
- ◆ Design processes

NEA Assessment 50 % of A Level - Major design and make project

Individual product design and manufacturing based on a context given by the exam board and the design brief developed by the student. Students will produce a portfolio and final prototype/product.

Entry Requirements

You need to have studied either Product Design, Graphic Products or Engineering, and gained a level 5 or above at GCSE. GCSE courses provide a foundation of knowledge for A Level. It is important that you have a strong interest in Design and want to develop both your creative and manufacturing skills, as well as build on your levels of knowledge and understanding.

What will this course prepare me for?

Students with A Level Design can go on to a wide range of possible higher education courses or career opportunities. The course can lead directly to several fields of product or Graphic Design. In addition Design and Technology also combines effectively with a range of Sciences, Humanities and Mathematics subjects and can provide a useful platform for further study in areas such as Architecture, Engineering, Management, Ergonomics, Urban Planning and Education.