GCSE DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare pupils to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Pupils will gain awareness and learn from wider influences in Design and Technology, including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Pupils will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making, applying technical and practical expertise, leading to careers opportunities in Design, Architecture, Fashion and Engineering.

The GCSE Design and Technology course builds on the work pupils have been studying in Years 7 - 9. These subjects: Electronics, Graphics, Computer Aided Design, Computer Control, Resistant Materials, Textiles and Sustainability, form the **core technical principles.**

The GCSE course will require pupils to continue studying the core technical principles and also choose a **specialist material area.**

The specialist material areas pupils can choose from are:

1. **Electronics -** Electronic and mechanical systems
2. **Graphic** products - Papers and Boards
3. **Resistant Materials** - Timber, metal based materials and polymers
4. **Textile products** - Textile based materials

In their specialist material area pupils will be required to **design and make** a high-quality prototype product with a supporting design folder. This contributes 50% of the marks towards their final grade. At the end of the course pupils will be examined in their knowledge of the core technical principles and in their chosen specialist material area.

Assessment

Assessment is in two parts: one is the **Non-Exam Assessment** (NEA), a design and make project, which will be marked internally by their teacher and one is an external examination. This will test knowledge of the core technical principles and a pupil's chosen specialist material area. There are no tiers of entry which gives all pupils access to the full range of GCSE grades (9 - 1).

	Descriptions	Assessment	Mark	Time allowed
Unit 1	Design and make project	Non Exam Assessment(NEA)	50%	30-35 hours
Unit 2	Core and Specialist technical principles	Examination	50%	2 hours

Please contact Miss Mulholland or Mr Ingram if you would like further guidance.