GCSE Product Design

AT A GLANCE

Format

Year 10:
Students follow a Scheme of work designed to enable them to explore a range of Product Design knowledge and skill development; this includes presentation, graphics based computer software, materials and design ethics. Students will work through a range of mock projects to prepare them for unit 2.

Unit 1: Written paper (exam)
Written exam is 40% of the final grade consisting of a design task as well as a variety of Product Design questions including materials and components, packaging and marketing, manufacturing processes and design issues.

Unit 2: Design & make (coursework project)
Applying knowledge and skills acquired in year 10, students respond to one of a range of design situations. Students apply the design process including: research, specification, initial ideas, development, final design, modelling and creating a final outcome.

Success Tips

- Students should consider year 10 as a vital under-pinning for a successful year 11 coursework unit and examination.
- Students need to ensure that presentation of all work is of a very high standard, reflecting the design industries expectation of quality and care.
- Understand and demonstrate the use of Health and Safety requirements in industry and the workshop.
- Extend all of your research beyond the information given to you.
- Understand and demonstrate the need for constant analysis and refinement so ensure a quality finish.
- It's really important that every aspect of your work is annotated to allow a thought process to be easily identified.
- Work with and research the properties and applications of a range of materials.

We would encourage students and parents to visit www.aqa.org.uk to look at the Product Design Specification and assessment criteria.

Study guides are available for AQA Product Design by Coordination Group Publications: www.cgpbooks.co.uk