

Subject: Design and Technology		
Head of Department Sonja Allen	Qualification GCSE	Exam Board AQA

GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness of, and learn from, wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and to apply technical and practical expertise.

GCSE Design and Technology allows students to study core technical, designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

This course is assessed through two mediums;

Paper One: Written Examination Paper

- 2 Hours – 100 marks – 50%

Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) – A3 Portfolio approx. 20 pages

- 30-35 hours – 100 Marks – 50%

Across the two media students will be assessed on the following:

- Identify, investigate and outline design possibilities to address needs and wants.
- Design and make prototypes that are fit for purpose.
- Analyse and evaluate:
 - The design decisions and outcomes involved in creating prototypes, made both by the students themselves and also those made by others
 - wider issues in Design and Technology.
- Demonstrate and apply knowledge and understanding of:
 - Technical principles
 - Designing and making principles.

N.B - Although there are practical elements to the course the assessed aspects are mainly written and so the two year course is about practising both elements. Students must also demonstrate mathematical and scientific knowledge and understanding, in relation to Design and Technology.

Course Outline:

Throughout year 10 students will have one double lesson and a single lesson. During the double lesson students will conduct mini projects using a variety of materials including wood, metal, plastic and textiles. These projects are designed to challenge students' existing knowledge and to encourage new skills in both design and manufacture. In the single lessons students will cover the theoretical aspects of the course and practice past exam questions.

In the final term of year 10 students will embark on their Non Exam Assessment (50%) which will last until Easter of year 11. Students will choose a project brief from a selection provided by the examining board and run this through from conducting initial research, through to design and making and then finally evaluating the outcome.

In the final term of year 11 students will sit a written exam which contributes to 50% of the overall grade. Students will sit two formal mocks and many informal practice papers before sitting the final paper. The exam is design-based and will reflect the knowledge gained over the last two years. *For more information please do not hesitate to contact: sallen2@langtreeschool.com*