



A Level Design & Technology in Product Design is a continuum from the GCSE in Design and Technology. It is essential that students applying for the A Level course have a genuine interest in D&T, a diligent and methodical approach to their studies. Students must achieve a grade A\*-C pass in Design and Technology.

The course enables progression towards degrees and careers in a wide range of Design and Technology industries such as: advertising, architecture, construction, carpentry, engineering, graphic design, media, manufacturing, marketing, motor vehicle design, repair, product design, sales and many others.

#### **EDEXCEL DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN A Level 9DT0**

The 2 year course is designed to equip students with design skills for the future, recognise design needs and develop an understanding of how global issues and the latest technologies have an impact on the world around them. Students learn and apply key design skills that prepare them for the modern world. They develop confidence to take design risks through the encouragement of innovation and creativity and further their understanding of new and emerging technologies.

Mathematical and scientific principles are an integral part of the designing and developing process and students will be expected to apply these principles when considering the designs of others.

#### **The A Level Design Technology in Product Design consists of 2 components:**

**Component 1 9DT0/01: Principles of Design Technology – 50% of A Level – Written Exam 2 hours 30 minutes.**

**Component 2 9DT0/02: Independent Design and Make Project – 50% of A Level – Non Examined Assessment.**

The first component covers the Principles of Design and Technology. It covers the following topics: materials, performance characteristics of materials, processes and techniques, digital technologies, factors influencing the development of products, effects of technological developments, potential hazards and risk assessment, features of manufacturing industries, designing for maintenance and the cleaner environment, current legislation, information handling, modelling and forward planning and further processes and techniques. The exam paper includes calculations, short-open and open-response questions as well as extended-writing questions.

The second component is an independent design and make project. Students produce a substantial design, make and evaluate project which consists of a portfolio and prototype. There are 4 parts to the assessment covering the identification of a design problem, developing the design, making the prototype and evaluating both the design and the final prototype. The investigation report is internally assessed and externally moderated.

Useful websites/further reading:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/design-technology-product-design-2017.html#tab-0>