



Fides Caritas Unitas

ALL SAINTS
ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL • YORK

AQA A LEVEL

PRODUCT DESIGN

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives you the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers. Especially those in the creative industries.

You will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put your learning in to practice by producing prototypes of your choice.

You will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

COURSE CONTENT

Year 12

Inclusive design: A project that allows students to redesign a product around the user centred needs.

Architectural project: Students use shipping containers to design an interior space for start up businesses to use.

Industrial Lighting: A project that goes beyond the use of conventional materials by using copper and concrete to redesign commercial lighting.

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ASSESSMENT

Paper 1 (Technical Principles): Written exam: 2 hours and 30 minutes, 120 marks, 30% of A-level.

Paper 2 (Designing and Making Principles): Written exam: 1 hour and 30 minutes, 80 marks, 20% of A-level.

Non-Examined Assessment (NEA): Substantial design and make project, 100 marks, 50% of A-level.

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SUBJECT COMBINATIONS

Product Design works well with a range of A Level subjects, in particular, Science, Maths, Art and Design, Physics, Business Studies and Computer Science.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

At least 5 GCSEs at grade 5 and above including English & Maths. It is helpful to have studied GCSE Design and Technology, but this is not a course requirement.

PROGRESSION

A qualification in product design develops your creative design skills and gives you the technical ability you need to use production methods and materials creatively. It also equips you with other skills that are valued by many employers, such as: presentation skills, communication skills, the ability to work to deadlines, commercial and entrepreneurial skills, problem-solving skills, the ability to use your initiative and work independently, team working skills, visual and spatial awareness, general and specialist IT skills, such as computer-aided design (CAD).

FUTURES

This qualification can lead to a variety of different career pathways, including product design, engineering and architecture. It could also form part of your route into university, especially if you wish to pursue a subject like Engineering. Some students progress to taking advanced apprenticeships with local companies or gain employment directly in the technology and engineering sector in their local area.

COURSE CONTACT

Matt Price
M.Price@allsaints.york.sch.uk

6fadmin@allsaints.york.sch.uk

01904 647877