



Design & Technology

Advanced Level



A Level courses in Design and Technology are currently being finalised with Ofqual for the coming academic year, and the coursework units are currently under development at WBS.

The AQA course will allow students to study historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on Design and Technology and put their learning into practice by designing and making products. Students have the opportunity to develop practical skills, theoretical knowledge, and skills that will enable them to work in a wide range of careers - especially those in the creative industries. They will:

- develop an understanding of what it is like to be a designer and maker
- develop skills useful for employment and higher education.

Exam Board: AQA

No previous study of DT is required, but an interest in the subject is vital.

"A student who studies Design and Technology at A Level would be interested in problem solving, learning about technology, its development, and its applications, and enjoy explaining ideas through a variety of means. This would include the making of three dimensional prototypes that employ a broad range of materials and processes. As well as traditional approaches this would also include the use of new technologies such as CAD/CAM. They would become proficient in explaining their work verbally and visually through the use of drawing, written work, and electronic communication."

Over the two years, students develop their understanding of both the practical and theoretical aspects of the subject. A broad understanding of materials and their applications, testing, manufacture, commercial practice, new technologies, and the methodology of design are some of the aspects covered.

During the first year, a number of practical projects will act as a vehicle to deliver both skills and to reinforce theoretical aspects of the course. Formal testing will accompany each unit.

The second main examination year is structured in preparation for the written examinations and the completion of a major coursework element. The examination units are as follows:

Paper 1— Technical Principles. A 2 hour 30 minute paper worth 30% of the marks. This is a mixture of short and structured longer answer questions;

Paper 2— Designing and Making Principles. A 1 hour 30 minute paper worth 20% of the marks. Questions are based upon product analysis and commercial manufacture;

Non Examination Assessment (NEA). A 45 hour, substantial single design and make task worth 50% of the marks. Submission is made by means of an electronic portfolio which includes photographic evidence of the practical outcome.

William Brookes Sixth Form

Farley Road

Much Wenlock

Shropshire

TF13 6NB

01952 728900

bsteale@williambrookes.com

williambrookes.com/sixth-form

Engineering Education Scheme

As part of our commitment to the development of STEM at William Brookes, Year 12 students with an interest in developing a career in Design or Engineering are encouraged to take part in the scheme that will link them with a company working on a live design project in Year 12 as an extra-curricular activity.