WBS – GCSE PREFERENCE INFORMATION 2026 - 2028

GCSE: DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

(Product Design)

Examining Board: AQA

Subject Leader: Mr Colburn

Teachers: Mr Colburn

Technician: Mr Colburn

Entry requirements:

There are no formal entry requirements for this qualification, but a good command of written English and a good standard of Mathematics are deemed essential to do well in this subject. Generally, the department welcomes students who have an interest in being innovative, can work confidently with machinery and equipment and who are willing to work independently.

Course Overview:

Product Design is about providing opportunities for students to combine their designing and making skills with technical knowledge in order to design and create quality products through an iterative process. The new Product Design GCSE places greater emphasis on allowing students to use their creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values.

Product Design teaches students how to take risks and so become more resilient, resourceful, innovative, enterprising and capable. The course allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. Students will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth. Product Design teaches students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Product Design including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

Future opportunities:

- Product Designer
- Architect
- Engineer
- Fashion designer
- Electrician
- Entrepreneur
- Interior designer

About the Exam and/or None Examined Assessment:

- Assessment 1

2-hour written exam at the end of the course. Worth 50% of the GCSE

- Assessment 2

35-hour non-exam assessment (NEA) - A substantial design and make coursework. Worth 50% of the GCSE.