



GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness 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 apply technical and practical expertise. Our GCSE allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

The Design & Technology department have prepared several ways in which students can be supported in preparing for their GCSE exams in Product Design and Textiles. The course is assessed across two elements. The NEA (Coursework folio + practical outcome) is worth 50% of their final GCSE grade. The remaining 50% is achieved through a 2-hour written examination paper.

The resources and advice below can be used in preparation for the mock exams as well as the real examinations in the Summer. All the resources are created with the aim of streamlining and simplifying the revision process so that no matter the grade a student is capable of, they are easily able to access the content and enter the exam with a full awareness of what they need know.

D&T revision – Initially in Year 11, sessions are provided to support specific groups of students. As the mocks approach, revision sessions are to be made available for a wider range of students. Details of these will be provided by class teachers. Students are also encouraged to direct revision queries or requests for support to their class teacher.

Microsoft Teams – as part of the revision site for the Year 11 students, there are a range of specifically designed resources aimed at making sure revision is as straightforward as possible. Students should consider the use of traditional revision guides (provided) in addition with the resources available on the Year 11 revision area.

These include:

- **Section 1 – CORE TECHNICAL PRINCIPLES**, New and Emerging Technologies, Energy Generation and Storage, Developments in New Materials, Systems approach to Designing, Mechanical Devices and Material Categories
- **Section 2 – SPECIALIST TECHNICAL PRINCIPLES**, Papers and Boards, Timber Based Materials, Metal Based Materials, Polymers, Textiles Based Materials and Electronic and Mechanical Systems.
- **Section 3 – DESIGNING AND MAKING PRINCIPLES**, Investigating, Designing, Making and Evaluating.
- **Past Papers and Mark Schemes**

BBC Bitesize - [GCSE Design and Technology - AQA - BBC Bitesize](#)

Date for GCSE Design & Technology Examination 2026

Exam for (8552/W) June 2026 series WEDNESDAY 10th JUNE 2026

Start time: PM | Duration: 2h

Students have studied the content on the AQA specification and there is no tiered entry – all students complete the same exam.

If students feel they need any further support or guidance in GCSE D&T, they should direct questions to their class teacher in the first instance. The whole department wishes students the very best of luck in their mock and summer exams. We are incredibly grateful for support from parents/carers.

M Wallace

Mrs Kate Wallace – Subject Leader for Design & Technology

September 2025

