



A LEVEL PRODUCT DESIGN

Product Design gives you an opportunity to spend time creating interesting and original design solutions before actually making the prototypes. The subject covers the skills needed in the real world of design, which directly support the quest for innovative products that would be marketable worldwide. This course will develop your skills in communication, analytical writing, creativity, problem solving and project management. Experimental and investigative activities are carried out in order to develop practical skills. These activities allow the use of knowledge and understanding in planning, carrying out, analysing and evaluation.

The Design Centre facilities located at the Stevenage Skills Centre site are second to none and are fully equipped to support a wide range of design activities. We have established practices in a range of media related to product design, including laminating wood, and metal turning, plastics forming, aluminium sand casting, arc welding, brazing, silver soldering and kiln laminated glass. However, the focus and actual design content may vary as we review our delivery in the light of interests, new experiences and new developments.

LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

The awarding body is AQA

The course is Design and Technology: Product Design (3D Design).
In AS there are two units.

Unit 1 - PROD1: Materials, Components and Application

50% of AS, (25% of A Level)

2 hour written paper - 80 marks

Based primarily on Materials and Components and consisting of three sections

Unit 2 - PROD2: Learning Through Designing and Making

50% of AS, (25% of A Level)

Coursework - approx. 50 hours - 80 marks: Written design portfolio

Manufactured outcome: A design-and-make project

PROGRESSION

A Product Design A level is respected by many universities. The 'live' project work offers challenging design situations leading to the making of well-engineered prototypes. You will have the opportunity to follow your own interest, e.g. a sport or hobby, or work on project for local businesses. The course is a good foundation for future degree courses and careers in Architecture, Engineering and Product Design. A trip to London early in Year 12 will give students the opportunity to experience and learn from the work of current Product Designers and Architects.

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