

Product Design GCSE

Exam Board: AQA
Course Code: 8205

Product Design course overview

This exciting and successful course allows you to design, develop, model and manufacture a range of three dimensional designs to suit users' needs in our ever changing and diverse society.

The course, which is assessed over the two years, is arranged to encourage the development of creative skills (graphical and practical) and gives the opportunity to identify, examine and problem solve using a variety of processes and materials.

You are encouraged to work on your own ideas, investigating, planning, making, testing and marketing their products against the requirements of the design specifications and users' needs.

You will develop a broad range of skills through 'design and make' project activities relating to researching, understanding the influences of current products and historical ones, organising, team working, communicating (drawing, writing and modelling), self-reliance, ICT, CAD/CAM (Computer Aided Designing/Manufacture), innovation, problem-solving and activities related to industrial practices and the application of systems and control to manufacture in quantity. You will develop essential knowledge and skills including those involved in strategic business thinking, market research, creativity and problem-solving and manufacturing, which would be of great benefit in a variety of future careers.

How is the course assessed?

In term 1 of Y10, you will build on your experience of KS3 product design and develop the necessary skills, processes & techniques needed to enable you to complete this GCSE; this will be internally assessed by the subject teacher. In term 2 of Y10 and continued in year 11, you will be working towards completing the two components that form the GCSE.

Component 1 – Portfolio (Controlled Assessment) 60% of the GCSE

Developing and Applying Design and Manufacturing Skills.

Component 2 - AQA Set-Assignment (Controlled Assessment) 40% of the GCSE

Is this course for you?

You should give this course serious consideration if:

- You enjoy solving problems, being creative and inventive
- You spend time outside of school sketching and drawing
- You are interested in using computers, hand tools and machinery – including 3D printing
- You would enjoy modelling with a variety of different materials

What could this course lead to?

The course provides an excellent progression route onto A level Art and Design/BTEC Art & Design courses and related career paths including Product Design, Engineering and Manufacturing qualifications, as well as Business and Science based courses.

Who can I contact for further advice or support?

Mr M Simpson, Head of Department: msimpson@cityleicester.leicester.sch.uk

