

**Exam Board:** AQA  
**Qualification:** 7552  
**Assessment Information:** 2 Exams + NEA  
(2.5hr + 1.5hr)

[Link to official specification](#)

**Department Information:**

*The Design Technology department empowers students to explore creativity and innovation through hands-on learning. Our curriculum covers product design, engineering, and Textiles, emphasizing sustainability and real-world applications. With good facilities, we cultivate technical skills and critical thinking, preparing students for future careers in the dynamic field of design. By integrating these values into the curriculum and classroom culture, we can cultivate well-rounded students who excel not only in Design Technology but in their overall personal development.*

**ACHIEVE in the curriculum:**

*Ambitious: We encourage students to tackle complex design challenges that push their creative boundaries. We support students in setting personal and team goals for projects, fostering a growth mindset. Happy: We create a collaborative and supportive classroom atmosphere where students feel comfortable sharing ideas. We regularly recognize and celebrate individual and group successes, big or small. Integrity: We teach students the importance of ethical practices in design, including sustainability and fair sourcing of materials. We encourage students to take responsibility for their work and decisions, promoting honesty in all aspects of the design process. Endurance: We instil a mindset of perseverance by emphasizing the importance of learning from failure and iterating on designs. By implementing projects that require sustained effort and commitment, helping students understand the value of endurance in achieving their goals. Versatility: We encourage students to learn and apply a variety of techniques and tools, from digital modelling to hands-on fabrication. We present problems that can be approached in multiple ways, promoting creative thinking and adaptability.*

**Curriculum Aims & Intent:**

*Students will need to produce a detailed NEA. We will start with a variety of small projects in Year 12 and cover the bulk of the theory in Year 12. Students will have one theory lesson, 1 test lesson and 1 test review lesson in the 2 week cycle.*

**Resources:**

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-AS-Level-Design-Technology/dp/1510414088>

**How we keep parents informed:**

*Year 13 - Progress reports are published 4 times per year, in October, November and February, with a face-to-face parents' evening in December.*

**How parents can help their child:**

*Extend their knowledge of Product Design – take to Galleries, Exhibitions, high end shops like Liberty/Selfridges etc to look at objects*

| <b>What we study and when:</b> |   |  |   |                                 |                                |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Term</b>                    | <b>Unit, Topic Or Summary Of Work Covered</b> | <b>Knowledge, Understanding &amp; Skills Developed</b>       | <b>ACHIEVE / Personal Development Focus</b> | <b>How The Work Is Assessed</b> | <b>Careers Links</b>           |
| <b>1</b>                       | NEA   | Specifications and designs                                   | Integrity, Endurance and Versatility        | NEA<br>Theory tests             | Own project – being a designer |
| <b>2</b>                       | NEA<br><br>PPE - prep                         | Development and prototype                                    | Integrity, Endurance and Versatility        | NEA<br>Theory tests             | Own project – being a designer |
| <b>3</b>                       | NEA   | Final outcome  | Integrity, Endurance and Versatility        | NEA<br>Theory tests             | Own project – being a designer |
| <b>4</b>                       | NEA   | Testing and evaluation –<br>deadline 3 weeks after half term | Integrity, Endurance and Versatility        | NEA<br>Theory tests             | Own project – being a designer |
| <b>5</b>                       | Theory  | Review knowledge and practice papers                         | Endurance                                   | End exam                        |                                |
| <b>6</b>                       |   |  |   |                                 |                                |