25/11/2025

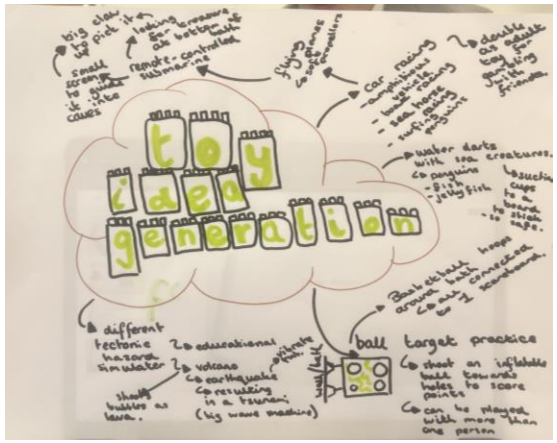
FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL

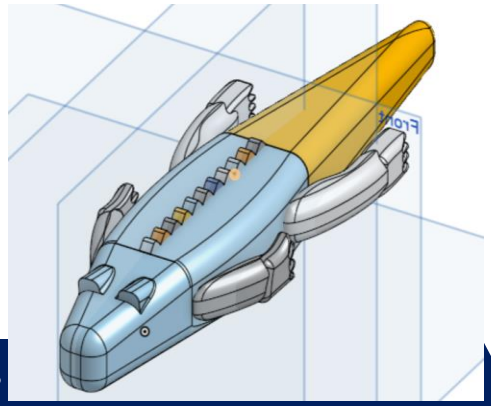
A-level Product Design

AQA: 7552

AMBITIOUS COLLABORATIVE HAPPY INTEGRITY ENDURANCE VERSATILITY EXCELLENCE

Design the Future





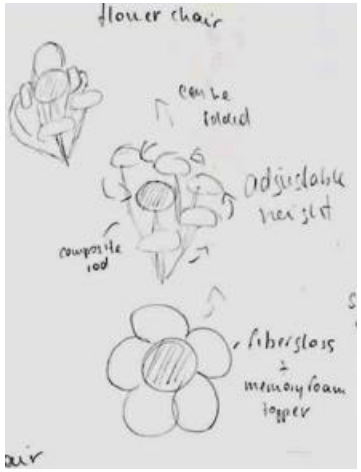
A-Level Product Design (AQA 7552)

Where creativity meets problem-solving.

Explore how ideas become real products — from concept sketches to working prototypes and learn about mass production.

Learn to think and innovate like a designer, make like a maker, and problem solve like an engineer.

What Is Product Design?



Product Design is about realising ideas that solve real world problems.

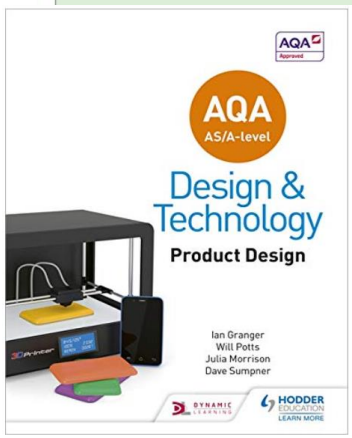
You'll explore how people use products, experiment with materials and processes, and bring your ideas to life through models and prototypes.

It's the subject where creativity meets curiosity.

Assessment:

Written examinations:

Paper 1	+	Paper 2
What's assessed • Technical principles • Designing and making principles • Specialist knowledge		**What's assessed** • Technical principles • Designing and making principles • Specialist knowledge
How it's assessed • Written exam: 2 hours • 100 marks • 25 % of A-level		**How it's assessed** • Written exam: 2 hours • 100 marks • 25 % of A-level
Questions Mixture of short answer, multiple choice and extended response questions.		**Questions** **Section A: Product analysis** • 40 marks available. • Up to six short answer questions based on visual stimulus of product(s). **Section B: Commercial manufacture** • 60 marks. • Two extended response questions worth a total of 30 marks each.



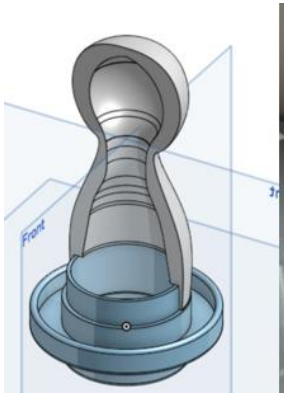
NEA: Coursework:

Non-exam assessment (NEA)
What's assessed Practical application of: • Technical principles • Designing and making principles • Specialist knowledge

How it's assessed
• Single substantial design and make task
• 100 marks
• 50 % of A-level
• Approximately 40 hours in duration
• Written or electronic portfolio with photographic evidence of final outcome
• Assessment criteria to include:
  • exploration
  • designing
  • making
  • analysis and evaluation.
The above will be assessed in a holistic way.

Task(s) Students will undertake a substantial design and make task and produce a final prototype. The context of the task will be determined by the student.

Year 12 Projects



Learning by Doing

You'll complete a range of exciting projects designed to build creativity and divergent thinking:

Design and make a user-centred chair for a classroom.

Respond to a live toy industry brief set by a leading toy manufacturer.

Explore materials and processes through experimentation.

Year 12 Projects - Core Design Skills

Think. Draw. Make. Test.

You'll develop essential design skills used by professionals:

- Marker rendering and visual communication
- Engineering drawing and CAD
- Card modelling and rapid prototyping- 3D printing.
- Iterative design – idea, prototype, critical analysis, refine.....repeat.

Theory Through Practice

Learn by Experimenting

We teach theory through a mix of interactive lessons and hands-on practical work:

- Casting and materials testing
- Product disassembly and analysis
- Workshop experiments with wood, metal, and polymers
- Learn about mass manufacturing.

Understanding comes from making and testing — not just reading.

The UK Creative Industries

Design Is a UK Superpower

- The UK's creative industries are worth over £100 billion a year – and growing.
- 1 in 8 UK businesses are part of the creative economy.
- Design drives innovation in technology, transport, entertainment, toys and fashion.
- The **film and TV industry is rapidly expanding around London and the Thames Valley**, creating new opportunities in **set design, modelmaking, and digital production**

Universities and Careers

Where can Product Design Take You?

A-Level Product Design is a stepping stone to:

- Product, Industrial, Interior, furniture or Automotive Design.
- Architecture and Engineering.
- Prop and set design for film and TV.
- UX/UI and Graphic Design
- Toy Design and Modelmaking

Universities love design students — creative thinkers who can problem-solve and make ideas real.

Thinking Beyond AI

AI Can’t Replace Imagination

As AI transforms industries, human creativity becomes more valuable than ever.

Product Design teaches you to:

- Think differently
- Challenge assumptions
- Generate original ideas

“Design is where technology meets humanity.”

Join Us

Curious? Creative? This Is for You.

We're looking for students who:

- Are curious about how things work
- Love experimenting and making
- Want to solve problems creatively

At Furze Platt Product Design A level is taught by specialist teachers with real industry experience — bringing insight, creativity, and real-world knowledge to every project.

Be bold. Be inventive. Be a designer.

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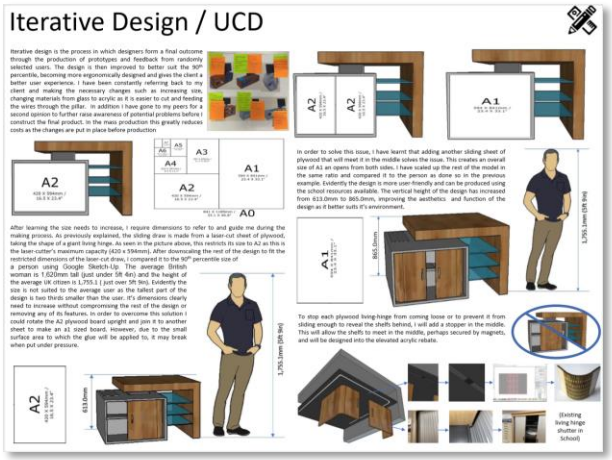
Example of part of the NEA:

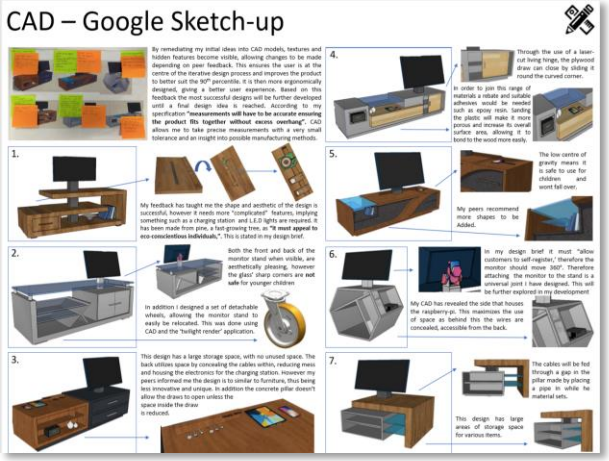
Client Requirements / Feedback

Modelling

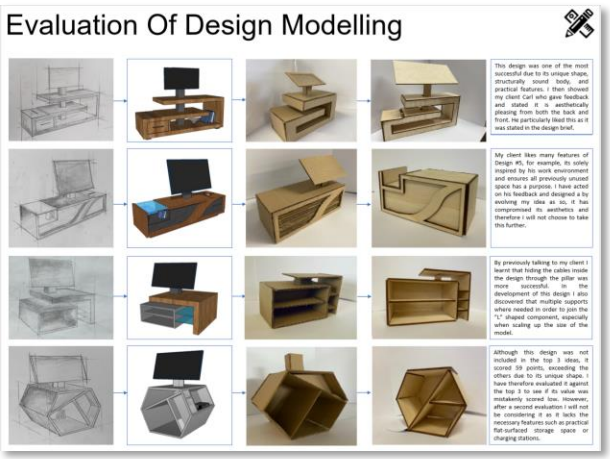
Iterative Design / UCD



CAD – Google Sketch-up



Evaluation Of Design Modelling



Making Section A

A selection of slides from a personal project

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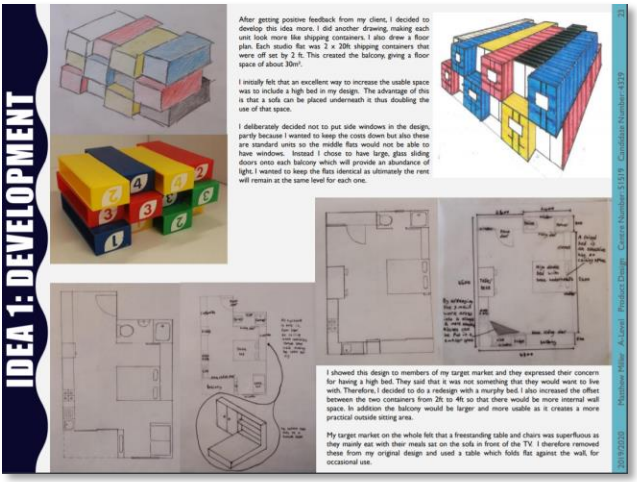
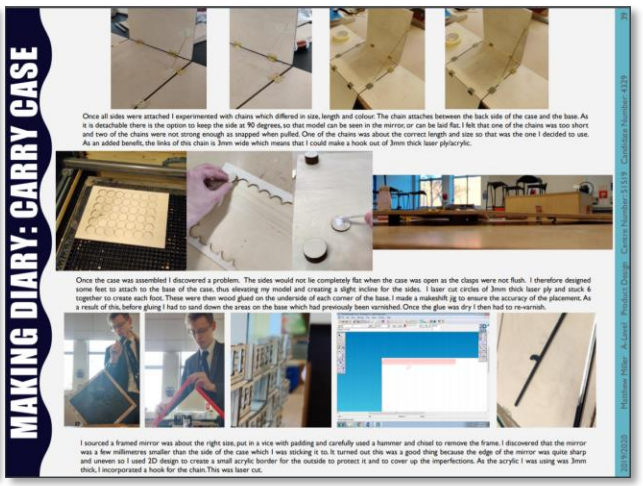
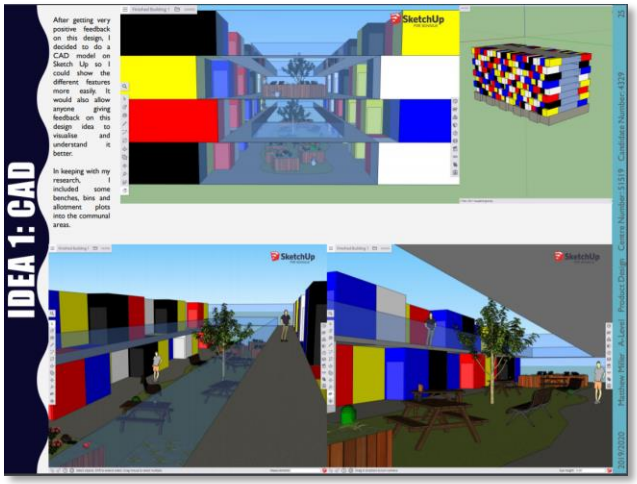
Example of part of the NEA:







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