



# Design Technology

Wigston College

## GCSE 2024 - 2026

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### Examination Board

AQA

### Entry Requirements:

Grade 4 in both maths and science at the end of Year 9.

### What will I be studying?

Our GCSE Design Technology specification sets out the knowledge, understanding and skills required to undertake the iterative design process of exploring, creating and evaluating.

The subject content has been split into three sections as follows:

- Core technical principles
- Specialist technical principles
- Designing and making principles

Assessment objectives (AOs) are set by Ofqual and are the same across all GCSE Design and Technology specifications.

The exams and non-exam assessment will measure how students have achieved the following assessment objectives

- AO1- Identify, investigate and outline design possibilities to address needs and wants
- AO2- Design and make prototypes that are fit for purpose
- AO3- Analyse and evaluate: design decisions and outcomes, including for prototypes made by themselves and others, Wider issues in design technology
- AO4- Demonstrate and apply knowledge and understanding of: technical principles, and designing and making principles

### What's assessed?

Paper 1

- Core technical principles
- Specialist technical principles
- Designing and making principles

In addition:

- At least 15% of the exam will assess maths
- At least 10% of the exam will assess science

Questions

**Section A-** Core technical principles (20 Marks)

A mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions assessing a breadth of technical knowledge and understanding

**Section B-** Specialist technical principles (30 Marks)

Several short answer questions (2-5 marks) and one extended response to assess a more in depth technical principles

**Section C-** Designing and making principles (50 Marks)

A mixture of short answer and extended response questions

NEA

Substantial design and make task

Assessment criteria:

- Identifying and investigating design possibilities
- Producing a design brief and specification
- Generating design ideas
- Developing design ideas
- Realising design ideas
- Analysing & evaluating

Students will produce a prototype and portfolio of evidence

Contextual challenges are released by the exam board on June 1<sup>st</sup> in the year prior to the submission of the NEA

### How will I be studying?

Design technology includes questions that allow students to demonstrate their ability to:

- Recall information
- Draw together information from different areas of the specification
- Apply their knowledge and understanding in practical and theoretical contexts

### How will I be assessed?

#### **Paper 1**

Written exam: 2 hours

100 marks

50% of GCSE

#### **NEA**

Non- exam assessment (NEA):30-35 Hours approx.

100 Marks

50% of GCSE

### **Where Next?**

GCSE Design Technology can lead onto many design pathways such as engineering, architecture, manufacturing to name but a few.