



PRODUCT DESIGN

Exam Board: AQA

Specification: [Click here for more information](#)

COURSE SUMMARY

This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially in the creative industries. They will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning into practice by producing prototypes of their choice. Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers. This course requires students to cover technical and designing and making principles.

WHY STUDY PRODUCT DESIGN?

Product Design is thinking about the objects that are all around us in modern day life, how a new mobile phone was designed on a computer screen, modelling new products, making prototypes. The course involves looking at design movements, designers and architecture to gain inspiration to design new innovative, creative products for a target audience. The course encourages students to be inquisitive about how things work and fascinated about materials and how to work with them.

"Product Design is a brilliant course that allows you to open your mind and to expand on your creativity by learning from others and by sharing ideas." *Sam*

"This course is without a doubt one for the organised and for the creative. I would recommend it." *Alex*

WHAT HAPPENS IN LESSONS?

The students will have two lessons a week concentrating on the coursework element and two hours a week developing theory and knowledge skills through written work and practical work. The students develop their knowledge with tools and machinery through a variety of focused practical tasks.

"A Level Product Design at St Bart's is a fun and creative course. Although the coursework is a lot of work and can be quite challenging, it is very independent and hands-on, which is a nice change from other subjects. It opens doors to a number of jobs in the design industry." *Megan*

"Product Design is a really fun subject. It has been my favourite subject this year because it is a very creative and hands on subject rather than a lot of writing and listening." *Evie*

COURSE ASSESSMENT

This is a linear course. This means that students opting for an A Level in this subject will be committing to a two-year linear course with all units examined at the end of Year 13. At the end of the course there are two written exams in technical principles and designing and making principles which represent 50% of the final qualification. The other 50% is a non-exam assessment where students chose their brief to design and prototype their own solution to solve an everyday need or problem.

"When I leave school I hope to study Product Design at Loughborough. I have studied Product Design, Graphic Communication and English."

William

MIGHT LEAD TO...

Participation in this course can help to establish a secure foundation for further and higher education courses. It is particularly useful for those who want to go into product design, graphic design, interior design, architecture, industrial design or engineering.

ADVICE ON ENTRY

Design and Technology GCSE is not a requirement, but where students have completed the GCSE course, a Grade 5 or higher is preferred.

