

# DESIGN TECHNOLOGY: PRODUCT DESIGN at AS/A2 LEVEL

**EXAM BOARD: OCR**

## WHY STUDY DESIGN TECHNOLOGY?

These Design and Technology specifications are designed to offer candidates the opportunity to study, propose and realise prototype solutions closely linked to the real world of product manufacture.

These specifications are designed to encourage candidates to:

- Initiate design solutions, develop, test and trial working models and prototypes;
- Develop and sustain imagination, innovation and flair when working with concepts and materials;
- Develop an understanding of contemporary design and technological practices and consider the uses and effects of new technologies and modern materials;
- Develop thinking skills, financial capability, enterprise and entrepreneurial skills.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To succeed at A level or AS level in this subject it is desirable for students to have followed the higher tier course in a Design Technology subject at GCSE. Where students have to obtain a C or above in foundation level it is possible for them to embark on the A level but it is important that the parents and student seek advice from the Head of Design Technology. This subject can be offered to A2 level, every other year.

## SUBJECT SPECIFICATION

The AS GCE is both a 'stand alone' qualification and also the first half of the corresponding Advanced GCE.

### Year 1 A/S Product Design

From September 2008 the AS GCE is made up of two mandatory units, which form 50% of the corresponding four-unit Advanced GCE.

*F521: Advanced Innovation Challenge.* Candidates take part in a timed design challenge based on a pre-released theme, under examination conditions. The challenge consists of a workbook, a modeling exercise and a written paper. The challenge is held in the centre and is marked externally by OCR.

2 x 3hr sessions on 1 day and a formal 1 hour exam paper.

*F522: The Product Study.* Candidates should carry out an in depth product analysis resulting in suggestions for improvements.

30 hours

### Year 2 A Level Product Design

From September 2009 the Advanced GCE is made of two mandatory units at AS and two further units at A2.

*F523: Design, make and evaluate.* Students are required to produce a coursework portfolio and product that demonstrates their designing, making and evaluating skills, using creativity flair and innovation. This final project should represent approximately 40hours work.

*F523: Product Design.* This is a 2 ½ hour written paper focused towards products and applications.

There are two assessment sessions each year; in January and June. There is no restriction on the number of times a candidate can re-sit each unit.

The study of Product Design is useful in order to study a variety of courses at university.

## **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Students or parents requiring any further details are most welcome to contact Mr N Keighley, Head of Design Technology.