Course Titles: GCSE Design and Technology
Awarding Body: AQA
Further information available from: Mr Newman, Mr Hewitt and Mr Gough

This exciting 2 Year GCSE course allows students to gain a broad understanding of technical, designing and making principles.

You will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. You will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise. Our GCSE allows you to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. These will include, paper/ card modelling as well as the potential to explore wood, metal and plastics.

You will be required to identify a problem area, carry out research, analyse and then produce a design proposal, which has been fully developed to include a prototype, showing that it is fit for purpose and has potential commercial value, through a rigorous evaluation process.

The use of ICT will be an integral part of the course. Computer-aided Design has to be included in the design folder. Computer-aided Manufacturing will be included in the practical work.

How is it assessed?
50% coursework – NEA
50% written exam paper

NEA
A folder of evidence:
Identifying and investigating design possibilities, producing a design brief and specification, generating design ideas, developing design ideas, realising design ideas, analysis and evaluation.

Written Paper:

Section A - Core technical principles (20 Marks) A mixture of multiple-choice short questions assessing a breadth of technical knowledge.

Section B - Specialist technical principles. (30 Marks) Several short answer questions and one extended response to assess a more in-depth knowledge of technical principles.

Section C— Designing and making principles (50 Marks) A mixture of short answer and extended response questions.

Post 16 Study

Students who achieve a grade 4 or above would be well prepared to study OCR A Level Art & Design 3D Product Design.