Product Design Course Information

Title of Course	
	A Level Product Design
Exam Board	ТВА
Syllabus title	Product Design
Course Code	Depends on Exam Board
Course Content	All the Design and Technology A levels will be changing slightly from 2017 (with assessment in 2019). Therefore, the actual course details are as yet unavailable as courses have yet to be validated by the DFES. However, course content that is recurrent throughout all exam boards is that the Design and Technology Product Design A level will be based on 50% coursework and 50% exams. The course work will be based on a student led problem which will be investigated and solved by researching the users or stake holders of the product. The outcome of this research will then form the basis of the student's ideas, designs and blue prints of a new product, communicated through sketches, CAD drawings, models, prototypes and annotation. Students will be expected to make prototypes and evaluate their ideas throughout its development and inception. Pupils will take a theory and design based exam paper to make up the second 50%. Exact details on this will be specific to the individual exam boards, which are still currently waiting for accreditation.
Assessment/weighting	Assessment will be 50% coursework and 50% exam work overall.
Trips/visits	We would normally arrange a visit to an exhibition help support student studies and engagement with Product Design outside of the school environment and a visit to a university such as London South Bank University to find out about undergraduate courses, content and the work that students do. This would also be very helpful for students to get to know what portfolio content they would need from the tutors and help from those who interview at this level. We have also been able to visit an architects practice in the past to see where a design degree could lead and find out about career pathways.
Future opportunities/ careers	Product Design will lead to primarily to pathways involving design or creativity, such as architecture, engineering, 3D design, product design and graphic design. The subject is also an excellent addition for anybody wishing to follow a creative, business, IT or media based career.

Product Design Person Specification

	Essential:
Qualifications/ School record	Candidates must have achieved at least 5 GCSE grades between A*-C (or equivalent). 95% Attendance record A Hardworking attitude
Attitude/Qualities	 Hard working Creative Positive/Enthusiastic
Skills	 Team worker Able to think of new solutions to problems Organised and can meet deadlines Able
Experience	 Those who have successfully studied Design and Technology in KS4. Those who wish to learn how to develop new products Those who are looking for subject involving following their own tastes and who wish to define their own pathways.
	Desirable:
Qualifications/ School record	C or above in DT GCSE
Skills	 Ability to draw Confident in using ICT, such as 2D Design, Google Sketch Up or Photoshop Able to create new solutions Good at model making
Experience	 Those who have successfully studied Design and Technology in KS4. Those who wish to learn how to develop new products Those who are looking for a subject which is about creative input and performance rather than purely academic theory.