

# GCSE Design and Technology

## Resistant Materials & Graphics Technology

### Specification Overview

The GCSE courses being offered are Resistant Materials Technology and Graphic Products Technology. The department follows the AQA specifications 3545 and 3543 for these courses respectively. Pupils can only select one of the above GCSE courses to study from Year 10 onwards.

Prior to starting the course in Year 10, pupils **must** have followed a foundation course in Years 8 and 9. These GCSE courses both lay an appropriate foundation for post – 16 studies in Design & Technology.

### Written Paper: *Resistant Materials*

Candidates will be tested on their knowledge and understanding of design and manufacture, and the core subject areas of: materials (wood, metal and plastics) with processing technology, components, adhesives, product analysis, and evaluation techniques. A preparation sheet is issued to pupils by the examination board on the 1<sup>st</sup> March. This information is common to the foundation and higher tier papers and will give students advance notice of the design context of the examination.

### Written Paper: *Graphic Products*

Candidates will be tested on their knowledge and understanding of design and manufacture, and the core subject areas of: materials (thermoplastics, block modelling and paper based), components, techniques, processes, products and application, and evaluation techniques. A preparation sheet is issued to pupils by the examination board on the 1<sup>st</sup> March. This information is common to the foundation and higher tier papers and will give students advance notice of the design context of the examination.

### Coursework: *Resistant Materials & Graphic Products*

Coursework will be internally assessed and externally moderated. The project consists of a situation and a design brief that is chosen by the pupil in discussion with their teacher. A three dimensional product will be supported by a concise design portfolio, the project should not exceed 40 hours in length.

| Component          | Weighting | Time     |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|
| Written Paper      | 40%       | 2 Hours  |
| Coursework Project | 60%       | 40 Hours |

Full Details of the course can be obtained from the AQA website: [www.aqa.org.uk](http://www.aqa.org.uk)