



The Polesworth School

Ensuring Excellence

Curriculum information for Product Design: Resistant Materials Year 11

Which exam board and course are used?	AQA GCSE Design and Technology https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/gcse/design-and-technology-8552
What curriculum topics are being covered this year?	For most of the year students focus on completing the NEA task set by the exam board. This is worth 50% of their final grade. They must produce a portfolio of work, including research, designing and evaluations. Students are also expected to make a working prototype showing the skills that they have learnt during the last two years. Once the coursework is completed, we then focus on revising for the written exam in the summer term. Students will need to recall the information that they learnt during year 10. Further to this, lessons will be planned for students to individualise their revision and focus on areas that they do not feel confident in.
How many exams have students got and what is covered in each one?	During the school year students will sit a pre-public exam in the first term and their final written exam in the summer term. This exam will cover Core content in Section A, more technical knowledge of their chosen specialism in Section B and Designing and making principles in Section C. The written exam is worth 50% of their final grade.
What should students be focusing on?	While completing the coursework, students should ensure that they are using the skills and knowledge that they have learnt in the last two years. They should use the deadline checklist and help booklet to ensure that they achieve maximum marks.
What is the best way for parents to support students in this subject?	Encourage your son/daughter to watch YouTube videos or use the websites below when they are completing homework, coursework, or revision. Attend the curriculum/parents' evenings during the year to gain a better understanding of your son/daughter's progress. Check Teams, as it is updated with key information.
What websites and resources would be helpful? What wider reading would be helpful? Where can I get resources?	http://www.technologystudent.com/ - covers all of the key knowledge needed for the exam and there is also guidance for the students when completing their coursework. https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/examspecs/zby2bdm - a fantastic resource that is tailored to the exam boards specification. Here you can revise the key information, watch videos to motivate students and there are quick tests at the end to ensure that the information has been understood. Free Homework & Revision for A Level, GCSE, KS3 & KS2 (senecalearning.com) – Seneca is a free resource which links to students' classes and parents can also access it to track your child's progress. You can sit mock exams from your phone!
Have previous students got any tips or advice for this subject?	Make sure that you go to catch up sessions so that you do not fall behind on your work. The revision sessions are fun, especially when we do practical within them.