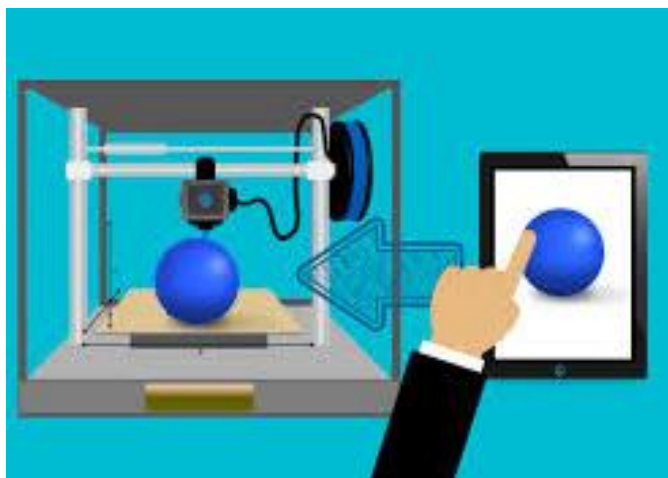




Product Design



What our students say:

“Product design is central to society as it affects everyone’s day to day life, everything needs to be designed to ensure it can suit its purpose. I chose product design to deepen my knowledge of the design and manufacturing processes, I’ve learned a range of building techniques, handwork based skills and how to draw a range artistic designs. I’ve especially enjoyed the challenge of developing artistic drawings and then adapting them as little as possible to ensure that they can be manufactured using common techniques.”

Entry Requirements:

5 GCSEs graded 9 – 4, including English and Mathematics. Design and Technology at grade 4+ is preferred.

Exam Board and Specification Link:

AQA A Level Design and Technology: Product Design, 7552: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/as-and-a-level/design-and-technology-product-design-7552>

What skills will you develop?

Taking Product Design will help you to study the design of real artefacts so that you can participate in today and tomorrow’s rapidly changing technological world. You will become a critical and informed user of products, and become a designer and innovator. The course will help you to think and do something creative to improve the quality of life for everyone. You will become self-motivated - a creative, problem solver. You will look for needs, wants and opportunities and respond to them by developing a range of design ideas and by improving your skills to make and evaluate end products and systems. You will combine practical skills with an understanding of aesthetics, social issues, environmental issues, function, and industrial practices.

What will you study?

The Product Design course will appeal to students who have an inquiring mind and an interest in artefact / product design. In Year 12 and Year 13 you will enjoy designing and making things from wood, metal and plastics at an advanced level, and have a developing skill in presenting ideas to a high graphical standard. Throughout the course the design aspect is an integrated process that involves the consideration of human needs - which produces a response / solution in the form of a 3D artefact following an iterative process of designing, making, testing and evaluating.

The choice of project towards the end of Year 12 and in Year 13 is left to the student. This is a flexible project and a variety of ideas are easily accommodated to allow different areas of interest to be explored – centred around a design context and the design process – a design brief is developed following the design process through to manufacturing an end product leading to testing and evaluation. The course will also involve considerable preparation for the written exam – through theory content, assignments to develop knowledge and skills as well as practice for answering examination questions.



Product Design

Why study this subject?

This course will appeal to students who have an enquiring technological mind and an interest in artefact / product 3D design. You will enjoy designing and making things from wood, metal and plastics at an advanced level, and have a creative skill in presenting ideas to a high graphical degree. Throughout the course the design aspect is an integrated process that involves the consideration of human needs which produces a response in the form of a 3D artefact / product.

How will you be assessed?

- Paper 1 – Technical principles – written exam 2.5hrs – 120 marks making 30% of the A level.
- Paper 2 – Designing and making principles – written exam 1.5hrs – 80 marks making 20% of the A level.
- Non-exam assessment (NEA) – practical application of technical principles, designing and making principles – substantial design and make project – 100 marks making 50% of the A level.

Where can the subject lead?

University degrees in: product design, industrial design, architecture, model making, systems design, graphical design, packaging design, exhibition/display design and engineering disciplines (mechanical, structural and electronic). Careers in furniture design and manufacture, cabinet making, interior design, teaching, 'craft' apprenticeships and antique restoration are all possible. Most universities have excellent industry/commercial links which enable students to access onward career opportunities.

Contact Information

For further information about this course, contact Mark Woodcock, Assistant Headteacher/Head of Technology, at: mwoodcock@chenderit.net