

A-Level Product Design

Exam Board:	Edexcel
Preferred Entry Requirements:	GCSE Product Design Grade A* - B
Coursework:	60% of the total AS marks Students produce one portfolio that contains evidence of product investigation, product design and product manufacture. Topics include: Product investigation; Performance analysis; Materials and/or components; Manufacture; Quality; Product design; Design and development; Communicate; Product manufacture Production plan; Making and Testing
Examination:	 40% of the total AS marks A) Materials and components: Metals; Polymers; Woods; Composites; Laminates; Modern materials and products; New and smart materials; Components B) Industrial and commercial practice; Scale of production Material processing and forming techniques; Manufacturing techniques for mass production; Joining techniques; Material removal; Heat treatment; Conversion and seasoning; Faults in woods; Computer-aided design (CAD); Modelling and prototyping; Computer-aided manufacture C) Quality: Quality assurance systems and quality control in production; Quality standards
Is this the right course for me?	A career in product design offers you the opportunity to make a real impact. The process of nurturing a design from the early concept stages to a commercially viable solution suitable for mass manufacture can also give product designers a great amount of job satisfaction. Product design careers cover an extremely broad spectrum of industries. Consequently, the emphasis on technical or aesthetic design expertise can vary from role to role. More technical projects will demand a greater understanding of engineering, where function may dictate form. More artistic projects are more likely to focus on form and usability.

