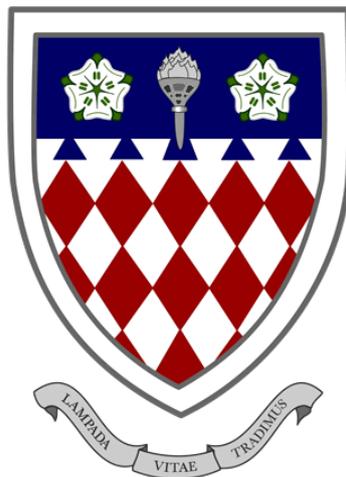


# Spalding High School Sixth Form

## A Level DT: Product Design



## Why Choose A Level DT: Product Design?

Ours is the creative real world STEM subject, making sense of the theories of all the others. It is the inspiring, rigorous and practical subject which prepares you to live and work in the future. You have a lot of fun, at the same time express yourself and explore the latest technology.

Design is a way of thinking, converting ideas to products and services. Everything around us has been designed, the cars, the spaces, user interfaces of our latest digital app, the TV programmes we watch. All designed, all made. Imagine others enjoying products that have come from your mind.

We explore ideas, logically, developing everyday skills, experimenting, to create real things. D&T develops our appreciation of the built environment as well as of nature. It is hands on. At A-Level you get to design what you want to design; there are no wrong answers; if it can help then it is good. Taking risks, not being afraid of getting things wrong is a vital part of problem solving.

Create a better future by asking: “why not?”

## What career paths might I follow with A Level Product Design?

The skills you will develop are very useful whether you hope to follow a related career or not. Employers appreciate your advanced experience in problem solving, analysis, risk management, presentation and promoting (etc).

Last year the engineering, manufacturing and creative sectors were worth £500b. For young people and their parents thinking about future careers they need to be aware that the Creative industry grew three times more than wider UK economy. Five of the top eleven best paid graduate jobs are engineering based. The UK needs to increase its STEM graduates by 50%. 1.8M new engineers are needed over next ten years. Graduates will be in big demand, giving them a myriad of choice. 1M creative jobs need to be filled by 2030; there are great job opportunities, in a rewarding environment. Career prospects are fantastic.

Aeronautical Engineering, Animatronics, Architecture, Automotive Design, Building Conservation, Computer-Aided Design, Disaster Management, Electronic Product design, Energy Efficiency, Engineering for Third World Development, Ergonomics, Furniture Making, Graphic Design, Industrial Design, Manufacturing Management, Marketing, Medical Product Design, Model Making, Motorsport Engineering, Naval Architecture, Packaging, Printing, Product Performance and Safety, Quality Management, Security Technology, Sports Technology, Sustainable Design, Teaching, Toy Design, Virtual Reality Design (to name but a few).

## What is the content of the course and how is it assessed?

The course combines everything you have enjoyed so far in Design Technology, mixing graphic design with engineering and manufacturing in a range of materials from specialist card, wood, metal and plastic to glass reinforced plastic, concrete and carbon fibre. It is flexible and allows you to focus your work on your own area of interest.

Theories: Materials/ Performance / Processes / Digital Technologies/ Manufacturing Industries/ Sustainability/ Legislation/ Project Management / Enterprise/ Marketing / Critical Analysis

Teaching is shared by teachers to utilise their specialist knowledge.

In Y12 you will be learning and applying theories in a range of short design and making assignments from Interior designing and modelling to designing and making a 3D printed scalextric "wacky racer" from bioplastic, enabling you to have some fun, and express your creativity. Mini tasks enable you to use equipment such as the bandsaw, lathes, aluminium casting crucible etc without having to go through the whole design process.

In Y13 more in depth theories are studied and applied in an independent design and make project of your choice. We are focused on giving you the tools, knowledge and information you need to become more effective, more experienced and more efficient.

## What do our students say about A Level DT: Product Design?

*'D&T has put me one step ahead of most of the other students on my course' :*

*'I now work as a designer which I absolutely love.'*

*'D&T has without doubt been the subject that has stayed with me, proving to be highly applicable, relevant and useful in a surprising range of day-to-day endeavours.'*

## **Specification**

Exam Board—Edexcel

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/design-technology-product-design-2017.html>

## **Entry requirements**

There are no previous requirements although GCSE Design Technology is a good grounding for A Level study and if studied a Grade B is required

If not studied previously at least a Grade 6 in English Language at GCSE

***For further details please contact***

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