

A level Subject Information

Subject: Technology and Design

What the subject is about:

The subject looks at materials and manufacturing processes in an industrial setting. It examines electronics at a basic level and mechanisms and pneumatics in more detail. 2 of the 4 units are coursework based and involve designing and manufacturing two products with a technological theme of your choice.

Course content and assessment schedule:

Paper	Duration	Season when first taken	Brief outline of main content.
1	2hrs	Summer Year 13	This unit is a study of product design including materials and their manufacturing processes as well as studying mechanical and pneumatic control systems.
2	NA	Summer Year 13	This is a design-and-make unit where students try to develop or improve an existing product with a view to re-designing either the product or an aspect of it.
3	2hrs	Summer Year 14	This unit is an in-depth study of mechanical and pneumatic control systems.
4	NA	Summer Year 14	Students will be required to design and manufacture a technological product or system. They must identify a problem or need and ensure it is of a complexity that reflects A level standard. A technological product must have an energy source to make it function and include a control system comprising input, process and output. A design folder should accompany the practical solution with written and drawn information produced on not more than 20 A3 pages. Students can present their designs in an electronic format.

Entry requirements:

Compulsory GCSE subjects	Grade	Desirable subjects	Grade
Maths	B	Technology	
Science	BB		

Qualities / skills needed to succeed in the course

You must be able to work well as an individual on course work and be good at meeting deadlines.
You do not necessarily need to have a good technical mind but have an interest in finding out how things work.
You need reasonable computer skills.
You do not need good drawing skills.
You need an interest in working with different materials.