

GCSE AQA Design & Technology Electronic and Mechanical Systems

PAPER 1: 50% 2hr Examination

Core Technical Principles – Mixture of short answer and multiple choice questions to assess breadth of technical knowledge and understanding (20 Marks)

Specialist Technical Principles – Several short answer questions and one extended response to assess a more in-depth knowledge of technical principles (30 Marks)

Designing & Making Principles – A mixture of short answer and extended response questions (50 marks)

PAPER 2: 50% 35hrs approx. – classroom based

Non – Examined Assessment – Classroom based problem identification, design and realisation task with focus area specified by AQA - (100 marks)

How it's assessed

- Each section = 50% of the GCSE.

What can you do to improve?

All of the content in paper 1 will be covered in the lesson and supported with regular homework.

Looking back over the content regularly and going through the homework without any support.



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Resource	Study Skill	What to do
Homework	Review	Use the textbooks in the school library to help you with your homework. Spend at least one hour per week going through the homework task to get used to the method of examination delivery.
Course Planner	Research & Review	Use the course planner that you have been given and the text books available that you to make notes on the areas that are covered in the lessons. Investigate the designers and the companies that have been outlined.
PowerPoint Presentation	Review , Research & Read	Go through the PowerPoint presentations given in class that are available on the Learning Portal and familiarize yourself with the content. Spend time on the YouTube videos that clarify the different processes, materials and procedures.
BBC GCSE Bitesize	Review	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zbv2bdm The Pocket Sized Revision Guide – GCSE Design & Technology

How can parents help?

1. Check that your son/daughter is making full use of all the resources and support available.

We have worked hard to provide resources that will help with revision. Please check that your son/daughter is using these resources.

- Are they using the homework booklet that have been issues with?
- Have they printed out the revision checklists and practice exam questions for each exam paper?
- Are they following a realistic revision timetable?
- Are they attending after school support sessions and making full use of lesson time?

2. Check that your son/daughter is using effective revision strategies.

It is crucial that pupils follow the advice they have been given about how to revise. Simply reading through notes is not enough. The key tips for successful revision in Design & Technology are:

- Summarising – Encourage your son/daughter to summarise key topics using flashcards, a Mind Map, diagram or revision poster. They could teach you about a key topic from the revision checklist or you could test them on their ability to recall key information on their flashcards.
- Regular self-testing –Testing tells you what you know and what you don't know and therefore where to focus further study. Recalling what you have learned causes your brain to reconsolidate the memory, which strengthens its connections to what you already know and makes it easier to recall in the future.

Please encourage your son/daughter to:

- Regularly use the knowledge tests, past papers and practice questions on the L drive to check their understanding of the key topics.
- Focus their revision on 'weaker' areas (these should be identified through regular self-testing).
- Ask for support from their teacher when they need it.

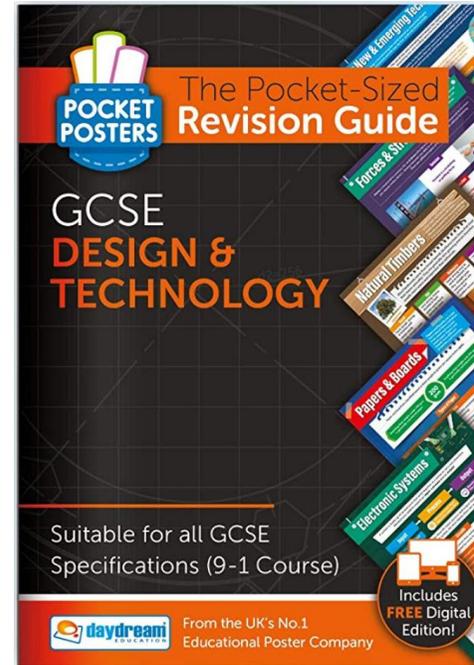
Further advice and support is available on the parents section of the school website



GCSE AQA

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Advice for Effective Revision