GCSE Design & Technology
What can you do to improve?

What do I need to revise?

Component 1: Design and Technology in the 21st Century
A mix of short answers, structured and extended writing questions assessing candidates' knowledge and understanding of technical principles, designing and making principles and their ability to analyse and evaluate design decisions.

Component 2: Non Exam Assessment
Design and Make Task of 35 Hours
A sustained design and make task, based on a contextual challenge set by the exam board, assessing candidates' ability to identify, investigate and outline design possibilities. Design and make prototypes, analyse and evaluate design decisions.

How it's assessed
- Written exam: 2 hours   50% of the GCSE
- 100 marks, answer Questions 1-5 & specialist question 6 on Natural & Manufactured Timbers or Ferrous & Non-Ferrous Metals only.
- Design & Make Task of 35 Hours   50% of the GCSE

Use the L drive resources
The L drive (available through Home Access Plus and the school website) provides information on all of the key topics.

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Resource	Study Skill	What to do
Checklists		Use the revision sheets and exercise book to identify your strong and weak areas. Spend at least one hour per week revising weak areas. Follow your teacher's guidance as to how to complete the NEA in order to gain as many marks as possible.
Flashcards and revision booklets		Use the resources on the L drive to help you revise and complete the NEA. It would be a good idea to use knowledge tests / notes from lessons / information on L-Drive to make flash cards.
Past Papers		Look back through your exercise book at your revision notes and past exam papers. Look on the EDUQAS website for example papers to complete.
BBC GCSE Bitesize		https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/z4nfwty The EDUQAS section of the website is broken down into the Core Knowledge and Technical sections. It provides excellent resources for self testing.
D&T Student		http://www.technologystudent.com/ An excellent revision resources that covers all of the D&T Curriculum. It includes knowledge sections, exercise sheets and examination questions.

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 revision materials on the L drive?
- 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 students 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

NORTHGATE
High School

GCSE
Design & Technology
EDUQAS

Advice for
Effective Revision