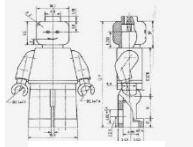# Design & Technology

What is Design & Technology all about?
Design & technology is an exciting course; it involves investigating, designing, planning and making quality products using a variety of materials. It provides students with the opportunity to develop communication skills, problem-solving and show **flair, imagination and creativity** in a range of activities.

Investigate   **Design**   **Make**   **Analyse and evaluate**

What topics will I cover?
A qualification in Design and Technology will prepare you to become a creative and critical thinker, developing your skills to design and make prototypes that solve real life problems.
During the two year course you will study a wide range of materials including papers and boards, timber, metals, polymers and electronics. You will also develop an understanding of systems, programmable components and mechanisms to support any potential design solutions you may develop later on. In Year 10 students learn how to use a variety of tools and equipment including the laser cutter and 3d printers safely and appropriately in order to make high quality products. You will complete your design challenge in Year 11. In Year 11 you will design and make a product in response to a brief set by the exam board which will provide you with the opportunities to demonstrate the skills you have learnt. The GCSE course has a number of links to other subjects such as Mathematics, Science and Business Studies which will only help further your understanding and skills in these areas. This content also reflects the importance of design & technology as a pivotal STEM subject.

Where can the qualification take me?
The study of design and technology can lead to future careers in product design, engineering and architecture, and graphic design; it will develop your design and thinking skills that open up a world of possibility, providing the tools to create the future.

How am I assessed?
This qualification is linear. Linear means that students will sit all their exams and submit all their non-exam assessment at the end of the course.
The Design & Technology course offers two exciting units to students:

Coursework (NEA)	Iterative Design Challenge Investigate; Design; Make; Analyse and evaluate Create a working prototype and portfolio of evidence	50% of course
Exam 2 hours	Core technical principles Specialist technical principles Designing and making principles	50% of course

What examination board will I follow?

AQA

Who should I speak to for further information?
Mr Neville or any of your D&T teachers