AQA GCSE Design and Technology (DT) allows students to follow an iterative design process to produce a prototype. The specialism is underpinned by studying a range of **core technical principles**: papers and boards, textiles, metals, polymers, new materials, systems, mechanical systems, environmental, sustainability, industrial practices, enterprise, social/moral and cultural issues, energy generation and storage. This allows interleaving their knowledge from one material area into another to deepen their understanding of the issues relating to DT. Some aspects of DT have cross curricular links with Science, Maths, Geography, Computing and Business Studies, allowing students to develop a greater awareness of how DT fits in modern society and the technological world we live in.

Within your chosen **specialism** you will cover all aspects of the iterative design process and appropriate manufacturing skills. E.g. The work of others (designers), design strategies, specifications, sketching, orthographic drawing, 3D modelling, prototyping, CAD, tolerances, quality control, tools/equipment and processes, scales of production.

Throughout the course you will learn theory and carry out short practical tasks to embed skills and knowledge. The theory will be taught, revised and progress checked throughout the course.

In June of year 10 the exam board will release the **NEA (controlled assessment)** context, these design contexts will change each year. You will need to generate evidence in a portfolio to show how you have solved the client brief. This gives you the opportunity to but the theory into practice. The NEA portfolio will be produced from June of year 10 to February of Yr11. This portfolio is worth 50% of the overall grade.

The months of year 11 will focus on revision and **examination** practice. The exam is worth 50% of the overall grade. The examination covers the core technical principles before focusing on specialist technical knowledge for a chosen material area.

**Subject: GCSE Design and Technology (AQA) Year Group: Key stage 4**

