

GCSE D&T: Exam Board: AQA

GCSE Exam Structure

There are no changes to the GCSE in D&T (Product Design) Exam for 2021. There is one exam in the summer:

D&T Exam Paper: 2 hours Core Technical Principles covered in Term 1 of Yr10. Specialist Technical Principles covered in Term 2 of Yr10. Designing and Making Principles covered in Term 3 of Yr10 and continues in Yr11 through NEA. This is worth 100 marks. 50% of GCSE

D&T NEA Substantial design and make task. Students will produce a portfolio of evidence and a prototype. This is worth 100 marks and focusses on Designing and Making Principles. 50% of GCSE
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Changes to NEA: Permit exam boards to accept mock-ups and/or clear and detailed intentions of prototypes. AQA are currently waiting for Ofqual to give further fine detail on this decision.

December Mock Exam Structure (30th November – 11th December)

GCSE D&T Paper : 2 hours 100 marks

March Mock Exam Structure

Being Organised

There are a number of techniques students can use to revise for their examinations and as a school we will share a range of these strategies with them. We advise that students complete their revision in short, disciplined amounts of time and use a revision timetable (example right) to help them plan and structure their revision.



All students have been supplied with a White Design and Technology 'My Revision Notes' textbook. They must take good care of this resource; it is on loan to each student and must be returned after the exam in summer 2021. These books cover the full specification content which will be covered in the written examination. They are easy to follow, including Core Technical Principles, Specialist Technical Principles and Designing and Making Principles.

Furthermore, there are many 'Exam Tips' and 'Typical Mistakes' for students to read and add to their revision notes.

There are 'Now Test Yourself' questions at the end of each revision area in the textbook. Students will also have the opportunity to tackle sample exam questions as part of their exam preparation.



Plan: Remaining Teaching Weeks to Mock Exams

Week Beginning	Lesson Content	Revision Material	Curriculum Recovery	Homework	Revision Class
12 th October	Primary research/Secondary research techniques. Target market/client development	Hodder White Textbook – Design & Technology My Revision Notes. All students have a copy. Core technical principles - Section 1 'New and emerging technologies'	All stages of the D&T NEA expectation are written in task format and available via Teams in Files. At the beginning of September 2020 all students handed in work completed during lockdown and are aware of the stage they are up to. Recovery is ongoing – there is a weekly hand in assignment via TEAMS every Friday at 17.00 to check recovery progress.	Curriculum recovery – work in One drive to make progress with NEA Answer 5 questions page 6 in the 'Now test yourself green box'	PG Online Sample 1 exam paper questions – Section A all 1 mark and 2 mark questions.
19 th October	Work of others Inspiration for your designs comes from...? All students have names of designers and design companies. Independent research and investigation needed.	Hodder White Textbook – Design & Technology My Revision Notes. Core technical principles - Section 2 'Energy generation and Storage' AND 3 'Developments in new Materials'	All stages of the D&T NEA expectation are written in task format and available via Teams in Files. At the beginning of September 2020 all students handed in work completed during lockdown and are aware of the stage they are up to. Recovery is ongoing – there is a weekly hand in assignment via TEAMS every Friday at 17.00 to check recovery progress.	Curriculum recovery – work in One drive to make progress with NEA Answer 3 Questions on page 9 in the 'Now test yourself' green box. Answer 5 questions on page 12 in the 'Now test yourself' green box	PG Online Sample 1 exam paper questions – Section B, questions 14,15,16.
Half Term Homework	Students are to complete multiple choice exam questions and short two mark questions. The questions are a similar style to the questions in the Section A part of the exam. The work should take 1 hour, it is due in the first lesson back after half-term.				

2 nd November	Product analysis – 3 or 4 existing products to analyse via ACCESSFM	Hodder White Textbook – Design & Technology My Revision Notes. Core technical principles - Section 4 'Systems approach to Designing' AND 5 'Mechanical devices'	It is expected that all students have managed to recover time lost during lockdown* – regular Teams hand in assignment to check.	One drive – hand in NEA showing PP progress for this week via Teams assignment Answer 5 questions on page 14 'Now test yourself' green box. Answer 5 questions on page 17 'Now test yourself' green box.	PG Online Sample I exam paper questions – Section B, questions 17, 18.
9 th November	Design brief and Design Specification	Hodder White Textbook – Design & Technology My Revision Notes. Core technical principles - Section 6 'Materials and their working properties'	*One drive access to continue recovery if needed by some students	One drive – hand in NEA showing PP progress for this week via Teams assignment Answer 7 questions on page 25 'Now test yourself' green box.	PG Online Sample I exam paper questions – Section C, questions 19, 20, 21.
16 th November	Generation of Ideas, these must relate to the contextual challenge chosen. They must be discussed with the client. *Work of others – demonstrate where the inspiration for your ideas has come from	Hodder White Textbook – Design & Technology My Revision Notes. Core technical principles - Section 7 'Papers & Boards'	*One drive access to continue recovery if needed by some students	One drive – hand in NEA showing PP progress for this week via Teams assignment Answer 4 questions on page 37 'Now test yourself' green box.	PG Online Sample I exam paper questions – Section C, questions 22, 23.
23 rd November	Development of Design Ideas Must include a range of 2D and 3D sketches. Include suitable CAD/3D modelling. Quality and suitability of model(s) key NOT quantity of work	Hodder White Textbook – Design & Technology My Revision Notes. Specialist technical principles - Section 8 'Timber based materials'	*One drive access to continue recovery if needed by some students	One drive – hand in NEA showing PP progress for this week via Teams assignment Answer 5 questions on page 48 'Now test yourself' green box.	PG Online Sample I exam paper questions – Section C, questions 24, 25.

Plan: January to Summer Exams

Half-term	Lesson Content	Revision Material	Curriculum Recovery	Homework	Revision Class
January to February	Development of Design Ideas	Hodder White Textbook – Design & Technology My Revision Notes. Specialist technical principles - Section 9 'Metal Based materials'	*One drive access to continue recovery if needed by some students	One drive – hand in NEA showing PP progress for this week via Teams assignment Answer 5 questions on page 59 'Now test yourself' green box.	PG Online Sample 2 exam paper
February to April	Realising Design idea	Hodder White Textbook – Design & Technology My Revision Notes. Specialist technical principles - Section 10 'Polymers'	*One drive access to continue recovery if needed by some students	One drive – hand in NEA showing PP progress for this week via Teams assignment Answer 5 questions on page 69 'Now test yourself' green box.	PG Online Sample 3 exam paper
April to May	Analysing, Testing, evaluating	Hodder White Textbook – Design & Technology My Revision Notes. Exam practice p.26, p.93, p.137	*One drive access to continue recovery if needed by some students	Bespoke revision based on evaluating tasks undertaken	Exam technique, Top Tips – Success in the Exam p.138

Exam Board Guidance

[Exam Board Specification](#) - pages 9-35 cover the subject content of the GCSE D&T Specification