

AQA GCSE (9-1) Design and Technology. Link to download specification:

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/design-and-technology/specifications/AQA-8552-SP-2017.PDF>

How will I be assessed?

You are currently completing your **NEA (Non-Examined Assessment)** which is worth 50% of your final grade.

What's assessed?	How is it assessed?
Practical application of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core technical principles Specialist technical principles Designing and making principles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-exam assessment (NEA): 30–35 hours approx. To be completed in school only. 100 marks 50% of GCSE Students will produce a prototype and a portfolio of evidence due beginning of May 2025. Work will be marked by teachers and moderated by AQA
Tasks:	
Substantial design and make task based on independent work Assessment criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying and investigating design possibilities Producing a design brief and specification Generating design ideas Developing design ideas Realising design ideas Analysing & evaluating In the spirit of the iterative design process, the above should be awarded holistically where they take place and not in a linear manner 	

In June 2025 you will then sit your **written exam** which fulfils the other 50% of your final grade.

What's assessed?	How is it assessed?
Knowledge and application of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core technical principles Specialist technical principles Designing and making principles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Written exam: 2 hours – June 2025 100 marks 50% of GCSE
Tasks:	
The paper is split into 3 sections: Section A – Core technical principles (20 marks) A mixture of multiple choice and short answer questions assessing a breadth of technical knowledge and understanding. Section B – Specialist technical principles (30 marks) Several short answer questions (2–5 marks) and one extended response to assess a more in-depth knowledge of technical principles. Section C – Designing and making principles (50 marks) A mixture of short answer and extended response questions. Students will be asked to complete drawing or redesign in this section.	

How can I help as a parent/carer?

1. We will be running an NEA catch up session after school on Tuesdays. If your child is feeling like they are behind or just want a bit more guidance this is a great opportunity to get extra help with their NEA or to just give them some more time that they might need.
2. All students will be given a 'Quick revision questions' booklet with questions and answers inside. Every week they will be set a series of questions as homework and then these will be tested/checked in lesson. These are short, quick questions and answers to ensure the broad range of knowledge is there in preparation for the exam.
3. Each student will be given a long answer practice book and a short answer practice book. These will be set as either homework or to be used in lesson. It is vital that these are being completed so they are getting used to the language that will be used in the exam and will be practice on how to complete a question well. At the back of these books will be a mark scheme so the student can mark them and then try and improve their answer.
4. As well as specific question booklets, there are multiple past papers that can be completed. This is the best way to practice for the final exam. Completing questions in a timed setting is the best way to prepare. We will be going over some of these in lessons, but if a student wants to complete these as additional revision, they will be available in Mrs Hobbs room (A32)
5. Online quizzes and revision resources. BBC Bitesize has lots of easy to access information with videos, images, text and quick quizzes to support with the GCSE. Make sure you are clicking the AQA specification as other exam boards are also on there.
6. Make sure you have the revision and practice question guide or the revision only guide. You can get this through parent pay (or on Amazon). These are full of practice questions and other helpful tips specifically for the AQA exam.

