AQA GCSE Design and Technology (specification can be found here: AQA |GCSE | Design and Technology | Specification at a glance)

Year	Autumn	Spring	Summer
10	7 weeks Exam: Designing Principles • *investigation, primary and secondary data* • *environmental, social, and economic challenge* • *the work of others* • *design strategies* • *communication of design ideas* **Unit Assessment 1: Designing Principles** Practice NEA: CAD/CAM Laser Ply Storage box	7 weeks – Mock Exam 1 Exam: Energy and Materials • *Energy generation* • *Energy storage* • *Modern materials* • *Smart materials* • *Composite materials* **Unit Assessment 3: Energy and Materials** Practice NEA: Metals & Alloys- Engineering Aluminum Padlock	5 weeks – Exam: Materials and their working properties • *Paper and boards* • *Natural and manufactured timbers* • *Metals and alloys* • *Polymers* • *Textiles* **Unit Assessment 5: Materials and their working properties** Practice NEA: Polymers-Vacuum forming – Night Light casing design and make
10	7 weeks Exam: New and emerging technologies • *Industry and enterprise* • *Sustainability and the environment* • *People, culture and society* • *Production techniques and systems* • *Informing design decisions* **Unit Assessment 2: New and emerging technologies** Practice NEA: Timber & Manmade boards/ Woodworking joints	7 weeks Exam: Systems and devices • *Systems approach to designing* • *Electronic systems* • *Mechanical devices* **Unit Assessment 4: Systems and devices** Practice NEA: Electronics – Night Light	7 weeks – Mock Exam 2 Exam: Making principles • *Selection of materials and components* • *Tolerances and allowances* • *Materials management and marking out* • *Specialist tools. Equipment, techniques, and processes* • *Surface treatments and finishes* **Unit Assessment 6: Making principles** Full NEA: June -AQA release of Contextual Challenge • Identifying and investigating design possibilities • Producing a design brief and specification

11	**7 weeks** **Exam: Common specialist technical principles** • ***Forces and stresses on materials and objects*** • ***Improving functionality*** • ***Ecological and social footprint*** • ***The six Rs*** • ***Scales of production*** **Unit Assessment 7: Common specialist technical principles** **NEA:** • **Generating design ideas** • **Developing design ideas**	**7 weeks** **Exam: Exam revision** **NEA:** • **Realising design ideas** • **Analysing & evaluating**	**5 weeks** **Exam: Exam revision** **AQA Drawing techniques- Past papers analysis and technical preparation for the exam.**
11	**7 weeks – Mock Exam 3** **Exam: Specialist technical principles- Timber based materials** • ***Sources, origins, and properties*** • ***Working with timber-based materials*** • ***Commercial manufacturing, surface treatments and finishes*** **Unit Assessment 8: Specialist technical principles- Timber based materials** **NEA:** • **Realising design ideas**	**6 weeks – Mock Exam 4** **Exam: Exam revision** **NEA:** • **Realising design ideas** • **Analysing & evaluating** **Easter deadline for all AQA NEA design and make folder and practical.**	**N/A study leave** **Final Exam in June (50% of final grade).**