KINGSWINFORD ACADEMY
ASPIRE TO EXCELLENCE

Year 11 Achieve Excellence - Parent Support Guide
GCSE Design & Technology

Key Exam Information:

Exam Board: AQA Design and Technology
Assessment: Portfolio (Coursework) 50%, Externally Set Task (Exam) 50%

Course Overview:
In Year 11, a self-generated project showcases the techniques acquired in a creative way. The project embraces all aspects of the design process and students will need to use current industrial practices to generate, evaluate, and implement design ideas. In this year they will continue to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.
Assessment: In Year 11 the completed project is worth 50% of the final grade; this is in the form of a none exam assessment (NEA) where students decide upon a product to make that responds to a particular contextual challenge.
There is also a theory examination worth 50% of the final grade which features a variety of short and longer mark questions, as well as drawing questions and mathematical problem solving questions.

Key content/ skills covered:
Throughout Year 11 students learn a range of practical skills as well as having a theoretical content. These skills include:
- Exploring and analysing the work of others
- Generating ideas using a range of information sources and drawing techniques
- Developing and modelling ideas in order to meet a client's specification
- Planning time needed to complete a task
- Realising design ideas and making high quality products
- Evaluating their own ideas and products to make judgements about the originality of design ideas and quality of solutions.

Dates of key assessments and deadlines:
Final Portfolio deadline Thursday 25th March 2027

Links to revision sites/ resources:
https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zby2bdm
https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/revision-notes/gcse/design-and-technology/aqa

Links to past papers and revision guides:
https://revisionworld.com/gcse-revision/design-technology/gcse-design-and-technology-past-papers-0/aqa-gcse-design-and-technology-past-papers

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