Spalding Grammar School Sixth Form

Subject Information

Entry Requirement:

Grade B in GCSE Design and Technology (Resistant Materials or Product Design) or GCSE Engineering if studied. If not studied at GCSE, Grade 6 in Mathematics.

Students who have studied GCSE Textiles or GCSE Graphic Design, should speak to the Head of Design Technology before applying.

Awarding body: AQA

About the subject: The course has been designed to encourage students to take a broad view of design and technology, to develop their capacity to design and make products whilst appreciating the complex relations between design, materials, manufacture and marketing. Students will be given opportunities to develop their creativity, capability and entrepreneurial skills, to apply knowledge and understanding to a range of technological activities, to develop critical thinking and collaborative skills. The course enables students to enhance their design capability by developing their practical skills in use of ICT (including CAD and CAM) and other specialist machinery in our purpose-built technology workshops.

Students who have studied Product Design at A Level have gone on to study a variety of degree subjects including Industrial Design and Technology, Engineering, Product Design, Architecture, Law and Accountancy. A number of former students have also moved directly into employment with companies using CAD and CAM, based on the skills they have developed over the duration of the course.

Assessment:

The Product Design course offered is AQA A Level Product Design which allows students to pursue a range of design and manufacturing activities. A major focus of the course is towards Resistant Materials where a sound working knowledge of design, materials, manufacture and marketing of the prototype are all key features throughout the course.

The course consists of three modules. Two are written external examinations, each equally weighted contributing towards half of the course assessment. The third is a single design and make prototype project all completed in the final year.