

Summer 2022 GCSE Examination Changes

SUBJECT: GCSE Design Technology

Examining Board : AQA

Because of the ongoing impacts of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, there are some changes to how GCSE Design and Technology will be assessed in 2022.

These changes are for 2022 only.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Changes to non-exam assessment (NEA)
- Advance information on exams will be available

CHANGES TO NEA

There are changes to parts of the NEA for GCSE Design and Technology. The 'Realising design ideas' and 'Analysing and evaluating' sections have been rewritten to reflect these changes.

REALISING DESIGN IDEAS

- This section has been reduced from 20 to 10 marks
- Students will no longer be assessed on the skill of making but will be required to show their 'intentions of prototypes' and demonstrate their understanding of the processes involved in making
- The assessment no longer requires students to make a final prototype. Instead, they can show their understanding of the processes involved in making by writing about them. Documenting these processes is one way of gaining marks in the 2022 'Realising design ideas' section. However, making skills are important for progression to future study, and for students' understanding, so we'd encourage you to continue to allow students to make wherever possible. This is another way of demonstrating the knowledge tested in the 2022 'Realising design ideas' section.

ANALYSING AND EVALUATION

- This section has been reduced from 20 to 15 marks
- Analysis and evaluation throughout the design process can take place in relation to prototype ideas and models
- There's no expectation to test a final made prototype but students should find ways of testing prototype designs.

ADVANCE INFORMATION ON EXAMS WILL BE AVAILABLE

To help students focus their exam preparation, there will be advance information on what exams will cover.



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This advance information will be available by 7 February 2022, or sooner if the pandemic worsens.

In the meantime, the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) has published [guidance for teachers and students on the use of advance information for 2022.](#)