



Backwell School

An Ofsted Outstanding School
A National Teaching School

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Headteacher: Jon Nunes MA

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 AQA GCSE Design and Technology

I am writing to provide you with information that was given to your son/daughter after the start of their final examination GCSE project. The examination deadline for completion of all GCSE Design and Technology NEA (Non-Examination Assessment) projects is **Friday 22 March, 2019**. This will allow our candidates the opportunity to know their marks before they are sent to the examination board at the start of May. We will be providing dedicated teaching for the written paper in lessons either side of the Easter holiday.

It is therefore imperative that your child completes their 'Making' outcome by **Friday 15 March** to allow time to test and evaluate their product(s) with their target market (which would be yourselves, please).

The students will have evidence for the following sections in their portfolio:

- **Appropriate Research** - including photographed objects that have been analysed as to how practical and attractive they are.
- **Thorough Analysis of Design Brief and Research**
- **Detailed Specification with measurable criteria** - how could I measure this? e.g. ask my family what they think or perform a physical test like opening a drawer to check it works properly.
- **Initial Design Ideas** - with evaluative notes written by student and family member as to how to improve each design; these designs were made as small models and photographed.
- **Design Development** - including information on values issues, e.g. moral, social, environmental obligations; card and CAD models; how it would be made in industry; recorded testing of materials and methods of making, e.g. lathe turning and/or forging practice and applied finishes, as well as recording comments from family on any later corrugated card models.
- **Making documents:**
 - a) **Presentation Drawing** of chosen design.
 - b) **Orthographic Projection** - drawing and/or dimensioned 3-D line drawing to show sizes.
 - c) **Production Plan** - Step-by-step, thought-up sequence of making before making begins so it is planned. This may be a flow diagram showing Quality Control (QC) checks after each stage of making to check accuracy.
- **Testing and Evaluation throughout** - Analysis of design development including comments from student and parents/carers as to how to improve the designs.
- **In the final week, students will test their completed practical work** - Taking it home to parents/carers to obtain feedback on how practical and good-looking the work is and how to improve it

The students will have been given a more detailed breakdown by their teacher of what is needed for each section above.

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Arrangements are in place for students to work on their practical projects before school (they can come in from 7.30 am by prior arrangement with their teacher), during lunchtimes and after school in workshops DT3 and DT4 until 6.30 pm.

Mr Cox has already made arrangements with his class and I will be staying after school on the dates shown below to offer all students the chance to complete their practical examination.

- Monday 4 March
- Tuesday 5 March - Only until 4.45 pm
- Wednesday 6 March
- Friday 8 March
- Monday 11 March
- Tuesday 12 March - Only after 4.30 pm.
- Wednesday 13 March
- Thursday 14 March
- Friday 15 March - Practical work to be completed and taken home for testing and evaluating
- Monday 18 March - Practical work to be brought back to school and begin completion of final paperwork.
- Tuesday 19 March - Only after 4.30 pm
- Wednesday 20 March
- Thursday 21 March
- Friday 22 March - Submission of all examination NEA paper work and practical work, including test pieces and models.

If your child would like to attend the above sessions, please ensure that suitable arrangements are made for his/her safe journey home. Alternatively, for those students who live in Yatton, Cleeve, Claverham, Kingston Seymour, Long Ashton and Bristol, the school provides a free late bus leaving school at 5.00 pm.

Should any students fail to meet the above deadlines for reasons other than evidenced medical, any work submitted afterwards will not be marked.

I should be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt of this letter by signing and returning the tear-off slip below. If you have any queries about the after-school opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact me. However, any questions about the course requirements should be directed to your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely

G Brees
Head of Technology

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Please sign and return this slip to the Technology department as soon as possible.

NAME OF STUDENT: _____ TUTOR GROUP: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Carer