The Course

**Framework**

The course suggested here is a framework to help you in the delivery of Design and Design & Technology and you are welcome to use whatever you want from the site.

There is additional information to support and develop your understanding of the nature of the subject. The idea is to enable you to create a solid philosophical base to justify, explain and promote the subject to those around you.

**Essential Approach**

*We must have a clear vision of what we understand by Design and Design & Technology:*

* As that clear vision creates aspirations, direction, motivation, and drive in all those involved

*We must embrace the meaning of Design & Design & Technology that:*

* Design is about designing and creating products, systems, and environments, to improve the quality of people’s lives and relationships.

We must understand the benefits of Design & Technology that:

* Design & Technology contributes to the curriculum, society and the life of our students
* And be able to express the value of Design & Technology to a range of audiences

**Deeper Aims & Purpose**

It is essential we have a deep understanding of the meaning and impact of design, not only to guide us and give purpose to our teaching, but also to enable the subject’s survival and continuation. We need to be able to explain its importance, so that others can understand how it contributes to education, society and their daily lives.

*With this approach our students will truly benefit*.

As well as the assignments, there are a range of documents with regards to the aims and purpose of the course and Design/Design and Technology as a whole, giving depth and understanding of why we do what we do. You are very welcome to use whatever you want from these and to evolve them to make them your own.

**Background**

This course was developed from the BTEC Design from the early 2000s. It was always a sound, well-written qualification; to the point and focused upon what was really important in Design. Units have been combined, elements altered, and sections cut out which were not appropriate to this type of course. As a result, four pathways have been created which cover the assignments presented at KS4.

**Phases and Key Stages**

There are 2 phases, Phase 1, which is KS4, running from year 9 to 11, which is truncated by a major project (NEA) in the final year. Phase 2, which is for KS5, running form year 12 to 13, and again completed by a major project (NEA) in the final year, it is assumed that students have undertaken Phase 1 to take full advantage of Phase 2.

Stages of the Course

*The five years were divided in to five stages:*

[Year 9 – Immerse](https://www.inspirationindesign.uk/?page_id=6996)

*Overview:*To evolve, re-enforce and recap the student’s basic D&T skills from Key Stage 3 and to instil the working methods, approach and thinking needed to enable students to develop their thinking to a stage where they can start to realise their ideas independently.

[Year 10 – Develop](https://www.inspirationindesign.uk/?page_id=7013)

*Overview:*To develop the student’s skill base further to enable independent manufacture. To give them the flexibility and confidence to create their ideas independently, with a clear understanding of all the stages of the design process.

[Year 11 – Realise](https://www.inspirationindesign.uk/?page_id=6078)

*Overview:*Although an assessment year, this is the fruition of all the previous year’s work. It is an opportunity for students to show their design capability in a large and challenging situation.

[Year 12 – Evolve](https://www.inspirationindesign.uk/?page_id=3690)

*Overview:*To evolve, develop and enhance, not only the student’s skill levels, but also their creativity and imagination in idea generation. To give them confidence to explore ideas and avoid the mundane. Also, to give them an understanding of design in the outside world, which could give them opportunities, if the wish to pursue them, or enhance their careers if they don’t.

[Year 13 – Create](https://www.inspirationindesign.uk/?page_id=6030)

*Overview:*This is the culmination of the student’s five-year experience. It is an opportunity for students to show their capability, independence and vision, in a large and challenging situation. Through their experience of the whole course, it is hoped they will be able to think as designers, which will contribute to all aspects of their lives and the lives of others.