



May 2026

Dear Parent/Carer

## **Year 12 Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) in A-Level Design and Technology: Product Design**

I wanted to get in contact to make you aware of the start of the Non-Examination Assessment (NEA) in A-Level Design and Technology: Product Design.

We have just started working on the NEA in lesson time. This is a long investigation, design and make project which will account for 50% of the students final A-level grade for Product Design. We will be working on this up until the **final deadline of 19 March 2027**.

Students will choose a real-world issue to research, design and manufacture a solution to. They will need to produce an A3 digital design portfolio on PowerPoint (approx. 45-pages) as well as manufacturing iterations and a final prototype of their product.

As this is an assessed task, all aspects must be the student's own work. As their class teacher, I am not permitted to give specific feedback on work but will highlight where work is missing and give general advice. The online folder work can be completed at home once started in school, but the manufacture of the product must be undertaken only in the school workshops. Help for and an overview for each section of the NEA can be found on the FROG Product Design subject page.

<https://frog.backwellschool.net/0a281a4cd26f6452c369b138190ce125/nea-info>

I will set mini deadlines throughout the NEA to help students stay on target – these can be found on the link above. It is very important that students keep up with the work on this. All home learning from when we start will be related to the completion of the NEA, with a few exam questions to keep the knowledge fresh. As we progress through the project, I will keep you up to date with the progress of the NEA. If a student falls behind with the tasks, the home learning catch-up policy will apply, I will notify home, and students will be required to attend a catch-up session at lunchtime.

Lesson time alone will not be enough to complete the NEA, students will need to use their study periods to ensure they keep up with the work. Please can you encourage the completion of work at home or in their study periods.

In school, DT2 is open every break and lunchtime only to D&T Product Design students to complete NEA work. DT2 has PC's and an A3 printer and I will be around to provide any support the students may need. A Level students are also able to come and use the workshops in their free periods, they can arrange this with me as needed.

If you have any questions regarding anything to do with the Product Design NEA or any other aspect of the course, please do not hesitate to contact me at [rlavelle@backwellschool.net](mailto:rlavelle@backwellschool.net)

Yours sincerely

Robin Lavelle  
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