



16 January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Mini Non-Examined Assessment, 50 marks (50% of end of year grade)

I am writing to update you on what is currently happening in Design Technology lessons this term.

On **Monday 12 January**, students started a mini-Non-Examined Assessment (NEA) worth 50% of the end of year grade, this is a smaller version of the real NEA that takes place from 1 June and runs all the way through until April of Year 11.

The mini-NEA has been designed to help students in preparation for the real weighted NEA as we are unable to give advice and guidance during that time.

There are 5 sections to the mini NEA:

Section A worth 5 marks - investigating the context, finding problems, deciding on a user and carrying out product analysis.

Section B worth 5 marks - design specification & Design brief.

Section C worth 15 marks - follows the iterative cycle process, with design ideas, modelling and testing.

Section D worth 15 marks is the production plan and making.

Section E worth 10 marks is user feedback, evaluation and modification.

The context for this year's mini-NEA is 'organisation', students are required to work alongside a user of their choice, this user must be able to give them guidance on a frequent basis.

Staying focused and completing work in the required time is paramount, the work will take approximately a term to complete with an estimate of 16 pieces of work required. We use Google Classroom for the NEA pages, therefore, students are able to amend/update from any internet connected device to complete homework and stay on track. There is a clear time plan, guidance for each page, a page template and homework already preloaded onto Google Classroom, feedback and progress monitoring also happens this way.

Overall, any work that is not completed in class will become additional homework or students are welcome to use the DT facilities at break and lunch. Students need to ensure they submit their work once completed and we aim for estimated marks to be on Go4Schools just after the Easter break.

Running alongside the mini-NEA is planned bitesize revision homeworks, these have been planned to cover all topic areas in preparation for the mock exam. Each Monday homework will be set for students to revise 2 topic areas, the following Monday students will sit a 10-mark multiple choice test. In addition, a past paper will be set over half term so students can see an example paper prior to the mock taking place, we will review this paper after half term, again this is to support students so they are not overwhelmed, it is already on Google classroom should they wish to get ahead. All lesson PowerPoints and resources are also on Google Classroom.



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May I thank you again for your continued support, should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards
Mrs Mosley
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