A LEVEL DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY PRODUCT DESIGN

Subject:	DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY
Exam Board:	AQA
Qualification gained upon successful completion of course:	A Level Design & Technology Product Design
Graded:	A*-E
Minimum entry requirement:	5 GCSEs at grade 5 or above including English and maths
Examined through:	Formal Assessment takes place in the final year of the course and consists of two exam papers and an extended design and make project: 1. Technical Principles Exam - 30% of qualification 2. Designing and Making Principles Exam - 20% of qualification 3. Extended Project - 50% of qualification
Length of course:	2 years
No. of lessons per week:	5 lessons
Content of course:	Students can expect engaging learning linked to materials, resources, processing and manufacturing from a range of industrial sectors. Sustainability and the impact of design and manufacture upon the environment will be considered in detail. The needs and wants of different consumer groups will also be studied, linking to ergonomics and user-centred design. Computer aided design and manufacture will feature heavily in the course and you will become familiar with a range of digital manufacturing technologies. These include, 3D printing, laser cutting and CNC machining.
Why should a student choose to study this subject?	The course is aimed at enhancing, refining and developing skills first explored in KS4. Strong emphasis is placed on understanding and applying iterative design processes. Students will use their creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values. There is a strong theoretical background which underpins the learning explored on the course and this is matched with the opportunity for practical learning. If you want to push your understanding of the subject and enjoy learning through practical projects, then this is the course for you.

Progression routes:	This qualification offers learners the opportunity to develop their technical art and design skills through a process of self evaluation, practice and review. In addition to the sector-specific content available in this qualification, the requirements mean that learners develop the transferable and higher-order skills that are highly regarded by higher education and employers, for example communication, project management and problem solving.
Who should parents contact for further information:	Mr M McLean m.mclean@waterfront-that.org.uk