

Product Design: Top Tips for success at A Level

Teachers' Top Ten Tips:

1. Make every lesson count.
2. Attend every lesson possible. If there is a valid reason for missing a lesson, be proactive in ensuring that you copy up notes and catch up on any missed home learning.
3. Seek advice immediately if you do not understand a concept.
4. Keep up to date with compulsory home learning.
5. Manage your time between all of your subjects to balance workloads, paid work and relaxation time. This will help you reach deadlines and not burnout.
6. Keep detailed, well presented notes and organise these carefully under clear headings so you have a good basis for revision.
7. Re-read your class notes to help reinforce understanding and seek advice if you are unsure of any topics covered.
8. Act on feedback given by teachers to help improve your work.
9. You will need to become familiar with a range of tools, processes and materials in relation to Product Design. This will help inform your design decisions and subject understanding.
10. Practice using a range of CAD based software in your own time to improve your efficiency and capabilities implementing CAD within your work.

Student advice 'Things I wish I had known before starting AS Product Design'

- Make sure notes are clear and easy to read.
- Every minute counts, making use of every second in the workshop is vital. Don't leave it to the last minute!
- Get as much experience using tools and machines as possible, this lets you just get on with your work.
- Don't cling on to ideas that the teacher advises against, if they say it won't work it probably won't!