

## Frequently Asked Questions for 3D Design

### 1. What is the exam board?

Pearson Edexcel.

### 2. What qualification is this and what is it worth?

This is the Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9–1) in Three-dimensional Design, which is equivalent to one GCSE.

The course focuses on designing, prototyping, modelling and making three-dimensional outcomes, allowing students to explore functional and aesthetic design across areas such as architecture, interiors, product design and sculpture.

### 3. What will students study on the course?

Students will develop work through practical projects that involve researching designers and artists, experimenting with materials, and creating three-dimensional outcomes.

The course may include work in areas such as:

- Architectural and interior design
- Product and exhibition design
- Sculpture and ceramics
- Design for theatre, film and television
- Jewellery and body adornment

Students learn how to take ideas from initial concept to final realisation using sketchbooks, drawings, models and practical outcomes.

### 4. How is the course assessed?

The course is assessed through two coursework-based components:

- Component 1 – Personal Portfolio (60%)  
A body of practical work developed over time in response to teacher-set themes.

- Component 2 – Externally Set Assignment (40%)  
An externally set theme released by Edexcel, with preparatory work followed by a 10-hour supervised practical outcome.

There is no written examination.

### **5. Is there any coursework?**

Yes. 100% of the qualification is coursework-based, internally assessed and externally moderated.

### **6. What skills will students develop?**

Students will develop:

- Practical making skills using a range of materials
- Creative problem-solving and design thinking
- Understanding of materials and their properties
- Skills in modelling, prototyping and construction
- Drawing and visual communication skills
- The ability to analyse, refine and evaluate their own work

These skills are transferable and valuable across many creative and technical careers.

### **7. What materials and processes will students use?**

Students may work with a wide range of materials, including:

- Wood
- Plastics
- Metals
- Textiles
- Clay and ceramics
- Paper and card

Work may involve digital and non-digital processes, including modelling, construction, surface decoration and technical drawing.

## **8. How often are students assessed during the course?**

Students are assessed regularly through:

- Ongoing feedback on practical work
- End-of-project reviews
- Interim assessments linked to assessment objectives

## **9. Where could this qualification lead?**

This course can support progression into careers such as:

- Architect
- Interior designer
- Product or furniture designer
- Sculptor or ceramic artist
- Set, exhibition or theatre designer
- Model maker
- Designer for film and television

It also provides a strong foundation for A Level Art and Design, Design Technology, apprenticeships or creative industry pathways.

## **10. What key qualities are needed to do well in Three-dimensional Design?**

Students who are successful often:

- Enjoy practical, hands-on learning
- Are creative and enjoy problem-solving
- Are willing to experiment and refine ideas
- Can work independently over extended projects
- Are organised and meet coursework deadlines

## **12. Is this course right for me?**

This course is suitable for students who:

- Enjoy making and working with materials
- Are interested in design, architecture or creative industries
- Enjoy developing ideas over time through practical work