



## SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE

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**MATERIALS DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**PRELIMINARY UNIT 3 AND UNIT 4**

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## Sample course outline

### Materials Design and Technology – Preliminary

#### Unit 3 and Unit 4

Unit 3 (notional timeframe only – may take up to whole year)

Week	Key teaching points	Content
1	Introduction to design fundamentals, materials and workshop/studio	<b>Materials – Nature and properties of materials</b> Identify by appearance and name materials within the chosen context:
2–3	<p><b>Task 1: Introduction to design fundamentals</b> Introduction and application of design fundamentals and factors affecting design through selected products and materials</p> <p>Comparing products, their uses, and understanding the nature and properties of materials of different products</p> <p><b>Task 1 due Week 2</b></p> <p><b>Task 2: Material properties for different product uses</b> Identifying the different properties or characteristics of materials, and explore why these materials are chosen for each product's function</p> <p><b>Task 2 due Week 3</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>metals – types of steel, aluminium, brass, copper, tin, stainless steel</li> <li>textiles – cotton, denim, linen, wool, silk, synthetics</li> <li>wood – softwoods, hardwoods, different types of manufactured boards</li> </ul> <p>Identify basic aesthetic properties or characteristics, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>colour – bright, dull</li> <li>appearance – patterned, plain</li> <li>texture – soft, hard, smooth, rough</li> <li>density – heavy, light</li> </ul> <p><b>Materials in context</b> Identify basic uses for materials within the chosen context:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>metals – kitchen utensils, workshop tools</li> <li>textiles – clothing, household items</li> <li>wood – furniture</li> </ul> <p><b>Design fundamentals and skills</b> Discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>needs and wants</li> <li>existing products</li> <li>design fundamentals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>aesthetics, function, safety, cost</li> </ul> </li> <li>factors affecting design <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>aesthetics, function</li> <li>social requirements, environmental requirements</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
4–7	<p>Use of technology: practical skills and techniques within the design process</p> <p><b>Task 3: Developing and communicating design ideas</b> Using simple drawing and annotation techniques, develop a product, while making changes through design choices</p> <p><b>Task 3 due Week 7</b></p>	<p><b>Design fundamentals and skills</b> Devise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>using communication techniques <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sketching, annotating</li> </ul> </li> <li>sketches of personal product ideas, with development of images to a final solution</li> <li>presentation of design choices and final design</li> </ul> <p>Use guided and/or highly scaffolded design plans as the idea/plan for an eventual product</p> <p>Evaluate when discussing and devising design ideas</p>

Week	Key teaching points	Content
		<p><b>Skills and techniques</b> Develop basic graphic skills with simple annotation chosen from, but not limited to, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• coloured images cut and pasted</li> <li>• 2D pencil sketches</li> <li>• pictorial drawings</li> <li>• colour or rendered drawings</li> <li>• desktop publishing or ICT drawing</li> </ul> <p>Use appropriate terminology and conventions Name and use basic equipment, as appropriate to context</p>
8–15	<p>Use of technology: safety, production skills and techniques</p> <p><b>Task 4: Manufacture the product</b> Practical skills and techniques are used in the manipulation of materials to produce the product, as applicable to context</p> <p>Safety: students' correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE) where applicable</p> <p>Production management as directed by the teacher</p> <p><b>Task 4 due Week 15</b></p>	<p>Use appropriate terminology and conventions Name and use basic equipment, as appropriate to context</p> <p>Manipulate materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mark out parts/shapes</li> <li>• cut out and/or shape parts/shapes</li> <li>• join or assemble</li> <li>• finish product</li> </ul> <p><b>Safety</b> Correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE) where applicable</p> <p><b>Production management</b> Use teacher-directed design, production plans and processes</p> <p>With supervision, use tools and machines safely</p> <p>Communicate and describe the production process in simple terms</p> <p>Manage processes to finish a product</p> <p>Demonstrate workshop clean-up procedures</p>
16	<p>Design fundamentals and skills</p> <p>Evaluation of products</p> <p><b>Task 5: Presentation of completed product</b></p> <p><b>Task 5 due Week 16</b></p>	<p><b>Design fundamentals and skills</b> Evaluate finished product against initial design</p>

## Unit 4 (notional timeframe only – may take up to whole year)

Week	Key teaching points	Content
1	Re-introduction to design fundamentals, materials and workshop/studio	<b>Nature and properties of materials</b> Identify, by appearance and name, within the chosen context:
2–3	<p><b>Task 6: Nature and properties of materials</b> Identify and name the materials by their appearance</p> <p>Look at a range of different common materials and identify some of the differences of the materials' properties</p> <p><b>Task 6 due Week 2</b></p> <p><b>Task 7: Design fundamentals and skills</b> Explore existing products, within context based on needs and wants</p> <p>Personal likes and preferences based on design fundamentals and factors affecting design</p> <p><b>Task 7 due Week 3</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>metals – ferrous, non-ferrous</li> <li>textiles – natural fibres, manufactured fibres</li> <li>wood – softwoods, hardwoods, and different manufactured boards</li> </ul> <p>Identify basic aesthetic properties or characteristics, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>colour</li> <li>appearance – patterned, plain</li> <li>texture – soft, hard, smooth, rough</li> <li>density – heavy, light</li> </ul> <p><b>Materials in context</b> Identify, within a chosen context, common materials and describe their uses</p> <p>Name some products or objects made from common materials</p> <p><b>Design fundamentals and skills</b> Discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>design needs and wants</li> <li>existing products</li> <li>design fundamentals</li> <li>factors affecting design</li> </ul>
4–7	<p>Use of technology – Practical skills and techniques</p> <p><b>Task 8: Methods of communicating design ideas</b> Students use a variety of drawing methods and annotation techniques to develop a product, making changes by design choices within the design process, to develop an individual design solution</p> <p><b>Task 8 due Week 7</b></p>	<p><b>Design fundamentals and skills</b> Devise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>using communication techniques</li> <li>sketches of personal product ideas with development of images to a final solution</li> <li>design choices based on design fundamentals</li> <li>presentation of final design</li> </ul> <p>Use guided and/or highly scaffolded design plans as the idea/choice/plan for an eventual product</p> <p>Evaluate when discussing and devising design ideas</p> <p><b>Use of technology – skills and techniques</b> Use a guided design method to develop own solution</p> <p>Develop graphic skills, such as desktop publishing and/or hand sketching with simple annotation</p>
8–15	<p>Use of technology: safety, production skills and techniques</p> <p><b>Task 9: Manufacture a product</b> Manipulation of materials to produce the product, as applicable to context</p> <p>Safety: correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE) where applicable</p> <p>Production management as directed by teacher</p>	<p><b>Use of technology – skills and techniques</b> Use tools and basic machinery</p> <p>Manipulate materials by cutting, shaping, joining and finishing</p> <p>Use appropriate correct basic terminology and conventions</p> <p><b>Safety</b> Correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE) where applicable</p>

Week	Key teaching points	Content
	<b>Task 9 due Week 15</b>	<b>Production management</b> Use simple tools and machines Use teacher-directed design, production plans and processes Communicate and describe the production process
16	<b>Task 10: Presentation of completed product</b> Design fundamentals and skills Evaluation of products <b>Task 10 due Week 16</b>	<b>Design fundamentals and skills</b> Evaluate finished product against initial design