



01 June 2026

Dear Families

Important Information Regarding GCSE Design and Technology Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) - Year 10

I am writing to inform you about an important upcoming phase in your child's GCSE Design and Technology course. As we move into Summer Term 2, students will begin their Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) work during their regular Design and Technology lessons.

The GCSE grade is split equally into two parts:

- **The NEA:** Constitutes a significant **50%** of their final GCSE grade. During this period, students will complete a comprehensive folder of work demonstrating their understanding of the design process, technical skills, and ability to develop and evaluate a design solution.
- **The Examination:** The remaining **50%** will be determined by a 2-hour exam at the end of Year 11.

Contextual Challenges

The NEA topics have been released today. Students must choose one of the following contextual challenges to explore, design, and make:

1. **Making or enjoying music**
2. **In the classroom**
3. **Exploring outdoors**

Please spend some time with your child to talk through these topics and find out which one they are interested in pursuing.

Important Deadlines

To ensure students stay on track and manage their workload effectively, deadlines will be set for each section of the NEA. These dates will be sent home prior to each submission point so you can support your child effectively throughout this crucial part of their GCSE.

The initial deadlines are as follows:

- Section A (Investigation of challenge) & Section B (Design brief and specification): Submission via Google Classroom by Friday 10 July 2026.

We understand that you may have questions regarding the NEA, and we encourage you to reach out directly if you do. You can contact me at gmltby@mysackville.co.uk





Sackville School

TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

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Thank you for your continued support in your child's education.

Yours sincerely

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