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GCSE Technology and Design
Questions/Answers

1.	Request CCEA support at cluster groups.	*Contact the CCEA if you require a support visit to discuss.*
2.	Fact files?	*Fact Files will be posted on the CCEA website as soon as copyright has been cleared on the outstanding images.*
3.	Can centres use both themes to provide scope?	*Centres can choose both design themes if desired.*
4.	Font size 12 Limiting?	*There is no prescribed font in the specification just a maximum size of 12. Titles size font is 16.*
5.	Concepts- should these be developed on concept pages?	*There is flexibility in design thinking. It is left to each candidate to present the portfolio as they choose.*
6.	How many is considered a range of concepts?	***Ref: Amplification:*** *Candidates should be encouraged to generate a **good range of ideas/concepts** on their first design sheet. Quality of **communication** is the target. These preliminary freehand sketches or first ideas may have some fabrication detail and include brief annotation. Evidence of genuine creativity and quality of original thinking will be rewarded.*
7.	Is there still as much emphasis on research materials and their influence on outcomes?	***Ref: 3.2 Research and Analysis in the Specification (page 41)*** *Students should be able to: apply research and analytical skills that show clear connections to the design opportunity/problem and initial design brief.*
8.	Why can CAD not be used for concept sketches along with freehand sketches?	***Ref; Appendix 2. (page 44)*** *Candidates work independently to:- Develop initial design concepts that make use of a range of excellent freehand graphical techniques; the freehand concept sketches should show evidence of excellent creative thinking and analysis. Freehand sketching is perceived as an innate*

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8. Cont.		*and natural means of communicating initial ideas when problem solving. It is considered to be a core skill in technology and design and a worthwhile educational experience.*
9	"Excellent Annotation"-Needs to be clearer.	*Annotation that is clear and succinct including evidence of a sound knowledge and understanding of the concepts.* *See specification (page 42):* *Quality of written communication will be assessed throughout the portfolio.*
10.	"some fabrication detail"- Clarity	*The development of ideas needs to include evidence of fabrication/manufacturing details of how parts.*
11.	"black box design"- how much detail is required?	*Candidates incorporating **system/s** (electronics/mechanical/pneumatic control) in their project should include a range (minimum of two) black box (I/C/O) input/control/output models along with suggested concepts of housings, environments platform etc., where appropriate.*
12.	Is modelling of an element of the product considered acceptable?	***Yes if the outcome/s meet the descriptors in:-*** ***Ref; Appendix 2: (page 60):*** ***Candidates work independently to:*** *produce scaled physical model(s) or mock-up(s) of the potential solution which convey(s) excellent understanding of the product's form and function; and produces excellent evidence of testing the model(s) or mock-up(s) to check if it is a feasible proposal to manufacture, and modify as necessary.*
13.	Analysis-Is component research needed for a systems folder?	*Yes: candidates are required to research existing products in relation to their functionality, ergonomics, aesthetics etc.* ***(Page 44) 3.2 Research and Analysis:*** *apply research and analytical skills that show clear connections to the design opportunity/problem and initial design brief;*

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14.	Analysis: concern over enough room to include detailed research?	*The design portfolio should be a maximum of **ten** A3 sheets on one side only or equivalent.*
15.	JCQ guidelines on revealing mark to candidates	*Teachers should read all JCQ guidance in relation to controlled assessment.* *Is the centre required to tell candidates what marks they have been awarded? Yes. The centre must inform candidates of their centre assessed marks as a candidate is allowed to request a review of the centre's marking before marks are submitted to the awarding body.*
16.	Does modelling entail modelling of the product only or is modelling of the system necessary?	*Appendix 2: (page 64). Candidates work independently to: - produce a scaled physical model(s) or mock-up(s) of the **potential solution** which conveys excellent understanding of the product's form.* *Candidates should be encouraged to show model/s of the system virtual or physical where appropriate.*
17	Does a ten page portfolio include the cover page?	*A ten page portfolio should address the four elements of Appendix 2 on A3 paper. The front cover is not counted within the ten pages.*
18.	Is it useful regarding making to have a card modelling during concepts and developed on a development page?	**Appendix 2:** Candidates work independently to: *produce a scaled physical model(s) or mock-up(s) of the potential solution which conveys excellent understanding of the product's form and function; and produce evidence of excellent testing the model(s) or mock-up(s) to check if it is a feasible proposal to manufacture and modify as necessary.*
19.	Will the timing of the Agreement Trial be in advance of the themes?	Yes.