

# Component 2: Controlled Assessment

## Apply it

An example scenario could be:  
Improving working spaces both inside and outside of the home (environments and objects)

- How can work spaces be made more environmentally friendly?
- How can workspaces encourage students to revise more for their exams?

Each design scenario, or theme, will include two questions, known as contextual challenges. Whichever scenario or theme you pick, you must choose one contextual challenge to explore and respond to through your assessment project. You need to pick a scenario that will sustain your interest over a few months and one that sets off your imagination. It might be that you want to analyse each scenario by brainstorming your first thoughts and carrying out some initial research to help you make your decision. It may also be worth reading ahead so that you can see what is expected of you, however, you don't need to have a solution all ready as this will come through the **iterative design process**.

## ***What does controlled assessment mean?***

Component 2 is a controlled assessment task. This means that the work you submit must be your own and must be completed in your classroom. You can ask your friends for their opinions and their feedback but you cannot submit work done by anyone else.

## ***How much of my GCSE is it worth?***

Component 2 is worth 50 per cent of your Design and Technology GCSE, so you need to try your best at every stage of the creative process.

## ***How will I be marked?***

There are 100 marks for the project and you will submit it to your teacher as a portfolio and **prototype**. Your portfolio will be approximately 20–30 sides of A3 paper. You may also submit models (using mediums such as paper/card/foam) alongside your finished prototype. You will either submit your work electronically or as a printed project, depending on your teacher and school – a selection of these will then be passed on to an **external moderator**. You will use your knowledge, skills and understanding that you have gained throughout KS3 and KS4 to complete your project.

The moderator may not see your actual prototype in the flesh. Therefore, it is really important that you take pictures at every stage of the manufacturing process to show that it was you who made it and not your friend, the teacher or the technician!

## ***Can my teacher help me?***

Your teacher will be there to guide you through the process, discuss your ideas with you, ensure that you are working safely and provide general feedback to your group. Your teacher is not allowed to give you individual feedback on how to meet the assessment criteria or allow you to re-work your portfolio after it has been marked. Therefore, you need to make sure that you listen carefully to any whole group feedback and apply this to your own work.

## Key terms

**Iterative design process:** where you continually test, evaluate and refine your ideas, meaning that you will do work on different stages at a variety of points through your project.

**Prototype:** either a scale model or an actual finished product. For example, if you are designing an interior, you would not have time to make this full size, so a scale model would be appropriate.

**External moderator:** someone who will check that your teacher has given your non-examination assessment the correct mark.