



## NCFE Level 2 Technical Award in Graphic Design

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### What is it?

Being a graphic designer is the profession of visual communication that combines images, words and ideas to convey information to an audience. It involves designing print or electronic forms of visual information for advertisement, publication, packaging or a website.

The NCFE Level 2 Technical Award in Graphic Design has been designed to sit alongside the requirements of core GCSE subjects and is appropriate for learners who are motivated and challenged by learning through hands-on experiences and through content which is concrete and related directly to those experiences.

### What does it involve?

During the two years of this course students will undertake a number of projects designed to broaden their understanding and appreciation of line, shape, form, proportion, colour, movement and texture. Students will develop an understanding of the designed world and a critical awareness of aesthetics and ergonomics in designing for others. They will also develop their understanding of branding, marketing and how to approach a brief relating to the Graphics industry.

Students will need to produce practical outcomes with related materials and a design folder which should include all research, idea development, modelling and planning before manufacture.

### How is the course structured?

Unit title		Assessment
Unit 01 Introduction to graphic design	Mandatory	Internally and externally assessed
Unit 02 Graphic design practice	Mandatory	Internally and externally assessed
Unit 03 Responding to a graphic design brief	Mandatory	Internally and externally assessed
Unit 04 Graphic design portfolio	Mandatory	Internally assessed

To be awarded the NCFE Level 2 Technical Award in Graphic Design, learners are required to successfully complete all 4 mandatory units. Learners must also achieve a minimum of a Pass in the external assessment. The external assessment is a Practical exam conducted over two school days totalling 10 hours. This is set and marked by the NCFE aiming to assess learners' knowledge, understanding and skills from across all units of the qualification.

### Progression routes

The course develops skills which lead into courses at A-level and University, aiding students interested in careers in packaging design, Branding and corporate identity, various forms of marketing design, media and interior design.

Studying Art, Design and Technology at GCSE demonstrates to employers and professionals in further/higher education that you have an ability to use a wide range of academic and practical skills to solve problems.

Careers in the creative industries are varied and students will discover opportunities as they continue their route through further education courses. Examples of these are:

University & College courses, Graphic design, Illustration, Advertising, Packaging design, Computer graphics, Multimedia, Animation for video, web, gaming and the big screen.