



ppportunity



**The challenge for a
broad and balanced
curriculum**

GCSE in
Engineering
Double Award



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**School
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Be informed.

GCSE in
Engineering
Double Award

And create opportunity for others.

 The
brochure

for teachers,
pupils, and
parents.



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"To provide more vocational learning in order to develop skills to complement academic learning."

About the qualification

The GCSE in Engineering was first introduced in September 2002. It is one of a suite of eight new GCSEs, proposed by the government, to provide more vocational learning in order to develop skills to complement academic learning.

The GCSE in Engineering is all about extending new opportunities for 14- to 16-year-olds - a springboard for opportunity. As a qualification it's compatible with further academic studies leading to Higher Education or a continued vocational pathway to a technically orientated and work-based Modern Apprenticeship.

It's a qualification for young pupils who have an interest in or are curious about science,

engineering, and technology. This is a subject that is equally suited to young women as it is young men. It is an inclusive qualification for all.

As a 'double award' - the equivalent of two standard GCSE grades - due to the comprehensive content, makes it a very worthwhile qualification to have in its own right.

As a course that spans two academic years, the first cohort of GCSE in Engineering candidates will be awarded with their certificates in the summer of 2004.



Benefits it will bring

"Greater choice at the 14-19 phase has now become a requirement at key stage 4."

Pupil perspective

The GCSE in Engineering will allow pupils to engage with it like no other GCSE. It has plenty of variety on offer to suit all interests at a level that is challenging and stimulating. 'Make projects' can be tailored to an individual's interests. So if an aviation-based project doesn't take-off with the female pupils then a project with a medical theme may. The options are flexible.

Teacher perspective

It'll provide a new teaching scheme to challenge and offer completely new ways to deliver lessons.

It can also provide an opening to visit local technology employers to show what industry is really like.

School perspective

To be able to offer greater choice is always welcome. The GCSE in Engineering as a new feature to the school curriculum would bring an added element of variety. It will also add value to the portfolio of subjects that your school offers. It is also an opportunity to forge new liaisons with local training providers, Further Education institutions, and technology employers to enhance the school's profile and reputation.

As of the 12 JAN 2004, 280^[*] schools are delivering the GCSE in Engineering to 8,000^[*] pupils.

3

"To help you make an informed decision as to whether the qualification is right for your school"

Getting started



This brochure is intended for those in a position of stewardship of a school. It gives some general information about the GCSE in Engineering and highlights some of the positive attributes it can bring to a school.

Whilst this particular GCSE is relatively new there's already plenty of good information sources to help you make an informed decision as to whether the qualification is right for your school.

There is a brochure designed for teachers, pupils, and parents which gives more exacting detail on the scheme of assessment and a useful insight into engineering technology.

A CD-ROM which features support materials for teachers will provide content that will illuminate the structure of the qualification. It will also lead the way in inspiring ideas for projects.

Ever thought about designing an artificial limb, or a theme park ride? How about making a handheld electronic keyboard or a vehicle that navigates its surroundings? These are just some suggestions and there's plenty of scope for pupils to devise their own.

The brochure and CD-ROM are available free of charge, see back cover for details. For something more immediate have a look at www.gcseinengineering.com

4

Comment

"It's challenging and inspiring, and can lead to all kinds of careers and further study"

Paul Turnbull

Project leader for GCSE in Engineering

"This qualification has many benefits for schools; it promotes wider participation at 14-19, introduces teachers to a wider range of teaching styles and promotes teacher professional development. The pupils will be challenged by the engaging way that engineering is delivered and appreciate the opportunity to sample the exciting world of technology in a real setting."

Barry McGregor

Teacher of the GCSE in Engineering

"This course, offers pupils the opportunity to experience what being an engineer is all about. It offers students the opportunity to consider

further options about their future career aspirations and, during the course, they will develop the diverse skills used in industry. For teachers, the flexibility of the course is designed to suit the needs of the school environment."

Claire Donovan

EEF Education & skills policy adviser

"The GCSE in Engineering is a great introduction for young people to the exciting world of engineering. It's challenging and inspiring, and can lead to all kinds of careers and further study. As well as the rigorous intellectual and technical content, it can develop team-working, problem-solving, and project management - skills which employers really want to see in all young people."