



Key information for the Design and Technology Stage 6 Syllabus (2013)

- Schools and teachers use syllabuses to develop educational programs for students. The [Design and Technology Stage 6 Syllabus \(2013\)](#) requires students to study 3 core topics over 240 hours of course time.
- School-based assessment specifications require schools to develop an assessment program for each Year 11 and Year 12 course. For school-based assessment requirements refer to [Assessment and reporting in Design and Technology Stage 6](#).

HSC Examinations

- For details on the HSC Design and Technology examination, refer to [Assessment and reporting in Design and Technology Stage 6](#). The HSC Design and Technology examination consists of a written paper worth 40 marks. The time allowed is 1 hour and 30 minutes plus 5 minutes reading time. Also assessed as part of the HSC for Design and Technology is a Major Design Project component worth a total of 60 marks. The marking guidelines for the Major Design Project can be found at [Marking guidelines for Major Design Project](#) along with [Design and Technology project advice](#).
- Past HSC papers published by NESA, are a useful resource to help students to become familiar with the examination format and structure. Past papers for Design and Technology can be found at [HSC exam papers](#).
- HSC standards materials by NESA, provide a collection of resources of sample responses typical of work at the boundaries between HSC bands. The [Design and Technology Stage 6 HSC standards materials](#) can be found on the NESA webpage.

Support materials

The TAS Curriculum Team provides resources to support NSW teachers in the implementation of the Design and Technology Stage 6 Syllabus (2013).

- The [TAS resources 11-12](#) webpage contains resources for the Major Design Project.
- Resources can also be found on the [TAS Statewide Staffroom](#)

NESA also has a range of support materials on the Design and Technology Stage 6 Syllabus (2013) webpage including sample scope and sequences, sample units and sample assessment schedules.

The NESA SHAPE [Learning Lab](#) webpage contains helpful resources for the Major Design Project.

Visit the [SHAPE virtual exhibition](#) featuring projects from the 2024 HSC.

Professional learning

The TAS Curriculum Team provides a range of live online and face to face professional learning events throughout the year. To view any upcoming events, go to the [TAS Statewide Staffroom Professional Learning channel](#) to stay up to date.

General HSC information

- The [NSW Education Standards Authority \(NESA\)](#) oversees the Higher School Certificate (HSC), offering resources for students on exam preparation, course selection, and academic integrity.
- The [NESA HSC glossary](#) provides teachers with guidance on how to use key terms consistently, ensuring students understand their meanings and apply them appropriately across various subjects for effective exam preparation.
- The NESA [HSC assessment moderation](#) process ensures fairness by adjusting school assessment marks based on exam results, making them comparable across schools.
- The [ACE rules](#) outline HSC school-based assessment integrity, task development, marking, appeals, and record-keeping. They cover malpractice policies, illness/misadventure procedures, task notifications, ranking, and restrictions on reporting final marks, ensuring compliance with NESA's assessment standards.
- HSC monitoring advice, Section 1.6 outlines HSC record-keeping requirements, including teaching programs, assessment documentation, interventions and work samples. Visit [Stage 6 – monitoring implementation and support](#) for more information.
- School-based assessment for the HSC contributes to a student's final mark and is designed to evaluate students' understanding and skills based on syllabus outcomes.

The Design and Technology 11–12 syllabus will follow the NSW Curriculum Reform timeline, with NESA consultation in 2026, syllabus release in 2027, school planning and preparation throughout 2028, and full classroom implementation from 2029.



Contact us

If you would like further information or support, please email TAS@det.nsw.edu.au or contact our team via the [TAS Statewide Staffroom](#). You can also subscribe to our [TAS Newsletter](#).