

Notes to candidates

Before you start, you must choose a brief and read the ‘Instructions for candidates’ which give details of the skills you must demonstrate and the type of evidence you must provide.

You should speak to your teacher or lecturer before you start if you are unclear about what is required for this assessment.

Complete the product design specification on the research and specification pro forma.

You must:

- draw conclusions from the research
- ensure your specification covers a range of issues such as aesthetics, function, ergonomics, performance and cost

INTERVIEW WITH CLIENT

Managers of Stalks & Stems were interviewed:

Q1 How many changing pods do you require?

We would like 2 for each of our stores.

Q2 Do you have a specific location for the changing pods?

No, we often change the store layout so we would like to be able to reposition the pods, however they will always be used indoors. We would like the pod to take up a floor space of no more than 3 x 3 m.

Q3 Are there any aesthetic requirements to keep in with the store?

It should compliment neutral colour scheme of our café and store. (See picture on next pro forma.) We are looking for something that has an organic form and is not just a ‘box’.

Q4 How much are you willing to pay for each pod?

A maximum of £600.

Q5 What do you mean by ‘basic cleaning facilities’?

The baby wipes dispenser, sanitiser dispensers and nappy bins we currently use should be available in the pod.

Q6 Do you have any additional requirements of the pods?


The pods must be safe for the users and easy for our staff to clean, maintain and reposition.

DESIGN BRIEF & CLIENT DETAILS

Stalks & Stems is a chain of garden centres with 25 branches across Scotland.

They would like design proposals for baby changing pods which would allow customers to safely change their baby in a degree of privacy. The proposal must have basic cleaning facilities and space to manoeuvre a buggy.

One or more of the components shown on pages 24–26 of the candidate guide may be used within the assembly of the proposal.



FOCUS GROUP

A focus group of parents and grandparents was formed to gather their thoughts on the pod.

The group was asked to discuss their experience of changing babies in public places and what they felt was required from a good changing pod. The main points of the discussion are summarised below:

- There were some horrible stories and a number of the group had refused to change their baby in an unclean area. All of the focus group agreed that they would not use the pod unless it was clean.*
- There was discussion about the size of baby buggies and how it could sometimes be difficult to turn them in confined spaces. Confined space or poor layout often made it difficult to access their baby changing bag.*
- There was discussion about what should be in the pod. It was agreed that it would be good if the pod had baby wipes and sanitiser available. It was also agreed that there should be a bin to dispose of nappies, etc.*
- All talked about the safety. They told stories of their babies wriggling and rolling about when getting changed. They all felt it was important that baby couldn’t fall when getting changed.*
- One woman, a wheelchair user, said that the designer should remember that it was important that ALL users should be able to make full use of the pod.*
- All of the group pointed out the opening and closing of doors was a major problem when manoeuvring a buggy, baby, changing bag and possibly other items. The group agreed that the ideal changing pod would not have a door. Ideally they would like an entrance which would give them easy access but also not allow passers-by to see the baby getting changed.*

SIZES OF ITEMS



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