

## Year 9 Design and Technology – Electronic Products Vocabulary List

(Tier 2 and Tier 3)



**Conductor** – a material that allows energy (thermal or electrical) to pass through it.

**Insulator** – a material that does not allow energy (thermal or electrical) to pass through it.

**LED** – stands for light emitting diode. This is a two terminal electronic component that emits light when connected with the correct polarity to a source of energy.

**PCB** – stands for printed circuit board. This is a plastic board with copper tracks used to build circuits.

**Phototransistor** – a light sensitive semi-conductor used to detect light levels in electronic devices.

**Polarity** – components with polarity have positive and negative terminals and must be connected the correct way in order for them to work.

**Resistor** – a small ceramic electronic component that reduces current flow in a circuit.

**Solder** – a low melting point metal used to join components and wires to PCBs.

**Semiconductor** - a material which has an electrical conductivity value falling between that of a conductor, such as copper, and an insulator, such as glass.

**Track** - the copper connections on the back of a PCB that make the circuit work.

**Transistor** – a semiconductor device used in electronic circuits to amplify or switch electrical signals or power.