

Department of Art and Design

The department encourages pupils to explore their creativity in fine art, drawing and painting, ceramics, textiles, photography and sculpture. There are teaching rooms dedicated to the specialist teaching in these areas and a gallery for visiting exhibitions.

The art and design course provides the opportunity of personal expression, analytical reasoning and self-directed learning. We offer a full range of trips including the galleries of London, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham and a European study tour.

The Art department is centrally located on the school site and houses three specialist areas of painting, ceramics and textiles. Exhibitions are held annually to include work by the pupils, visiting artist in residency workshops and work donated to the school by specialised artists. The department has close links to the work of professional artists and visiting artist in residencies, including hosting meetings and dinners which provide a lively focus for debate.

Curriculum

In Years 5, 6, 7 pupils follow a broad based curriculum but are taught by specialist teachers. Pupils explore an introduction to the creative arts within a set theme. They develop elements of basic design, exploring colour, pattern, line and texture.

In Year 9, the work becomes more specialised and pupils follow set themes where they explore all components of a set course. Through practical assignments, students develop an understanding of the basic requirements of further study in Art and Design.

EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

Pupils opt for the GCSE course in Art and Design. The GCSE art examination gives you the opportunity to examine and discover, through personal experience, a wide range of knowledge in visual and practical areas. A broad course of study will offer the following areas of work: drawing, painting, three-dimensional, print making, digital photography and sculpture.

During the two year course, visits will be made to museums, galleries and other centres of visual interest, design and information. To enable pupils to make maximum use of acquired knowledge and experience, they will be required to keep a record of all stages of projects undertaken. This record, in file or sketch book form will include the making of notes, research, sketches, drawings and photographs. In the first year, pupils will be expected to follow a wide and general course whilst drawing the second year they will be encouraged to take a more personal and specialised approach to studies. Aspects of art history and appreciation will also be included.

Assessment: There will be continuous assessment over the two year period and the course work will carry up to 60% of the total marks. In the final year, pupils will carry out a controlled test which will be in the form of a project set by the examining body. The mark for this controlled test will be 40% of the total GCSE score.

At the end of the two year course, pupils will be expected to put up an exhibition of work which will consist of course work projects and controlled test work.

All the work will be assessed both internally by staff within the art department and externally by visiting moderators for the OCR examination board.

For Curriculum Page
Art at AS/A2 Level
EXAMINATION BOARD: OCR

WHY STUDY ART?

Art is a form of communication and expression: a visual language. The main purpose of any course in art, craft and design is to develop your ability to appreciate the visual world, respond in a personal and creative way and perhaps even contribute for the benefit of everyone. The skills you develop will be varied. Among them you will develop a working knowledge of materials, practices and ICT technology within art. You will develop the skills to interpret and convey your ideas and feelings using art, craft and design. You will develop your imaginative and creative powers and experimental, analytical and documenting skills. You will also develop a specialist vocabulary and the knowledge and understanding of the place of art, craft and design in history and in contemporary society.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The best foundation for success in AS and A2 level art is a good grade in GCSE art. Where a pupil has attained a C grade or below or has not taken GCSE it is important to seek the advice of the Head of Art before deciding on taking the course. If you have an aptitude for the subject, if you are creative or “good at drawing”, you may have the basic skills to succeed.

SUBJECT SPECIFICATIONS

In Years 12 and 13 Pupils follow a Fine Art course which consists of Painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture and alternative media. These Advanced Subsidiary GCE and Advanced units are devised to combine breadth and depth of study with the freedom of choice required to accommodate a range of abilities. Candidates are encouraged to develop awareness of cultural heritage, personal preferences and relevant environmental considerations.

- Unit One: Research Projects. 30% of AS, 15% of A2.
- Unit Two: Personal Investigation. 30% of AS, 15% of A2.
- Unit Three: Controlled Assignment. 40% of AS, 20% of A2.
- Unit Four: A2 Course Specialist Project. 15% of A2.
- Unit Five: Personal Study. 15% of A2
- Unit Six: Control Test. 20% of A2.

HIGHER EDUCATION AND CAREER CHOICES

The study of art is useful or necessary if you wish to go to study: Architecture, Graphic Design, Fashion and Textiles, Product Design, 3D Design, Conservation, Furniture Design, Illustration, Photography, Model Making, Media, Theatre, Jewellery, Interior Design, Ceramics, Display/Exhibitions.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Students or parents requiring any further details are most welcome to contact Mrs A Stonehill, Head of Art.