

Art & Design

Qualification: GCSE

Equivalent to: 1 GCSE (grade 9-1)



Art & Design is an ideal subject if you enjoy art lessons and want to work in the creative industry later in life. You will learn a wide range of techniques, processes and methods that allow you to expand your levels of creativity and realise your ideas in visual form.

Course Content

Each project develops the core skills such as tone, texture, composition and colour whilst challenging aspects of art, craft and design. Our aim is to provide all students with a taste of a range of techniques so that students are able to determine their own strengths and weaknesses. They can then make creative choices that play to their strengths as the course progresses. Students should not expect to 'free draw' whatever they choose. The early stages of the course are teacher led with increasing freedom to make their own choices as students approach year 11 and confidence develops.

Assessment

The course is split into two units: coursework and exam.

The coursework covers three different topics through year ten and half of year eleven. These are marked separately but eventually awarded one overall grade at the end of year eleven. This counts for 60% of the total GCSE.

The exam, which is a 14 week project during which students are almost entirely independent, asks students to respond creatively to one title from a list of eight. This should be seen as a chance to show off their best skill sets. This counts for 40% of the total GCSE.

Who would enjoy and be successful on the course?

The course is best suited to those who enjoy their Art lessons, are enthused by imagery and have a pro-active work ethic. Students who have excelled in the past draw, paint, design, make things or take photographs because they enjoy it and take pride in displaying or presenting their work. Successful students are not afraid to take risks, believe that practice pays off and can manage their time well. Students should be aware that Art homework can be time consuming and therefore must be prepared to work at home. Students should avoid Art if they think it will be 'easier than other subjects'.

Progression – Sixth Form / Further Education / Careers

A good Art GCSE grade is required for A-level Art and A-level Photography, both of which are popular courses. Many of our A-level students move on to an Art Foundation Year and/or to a creative degree. Art can lead to a vast range of potential careers, from advertising to product design to animation to architecture to web design.