

ART AND DESIGN

Type of Qualification: GCSE

How it is assessed: 60% Unit 1: Portfolio
40% Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment

Course Overview:

- The course takes the form of a series of projects, each taking approximately one term to complete. The first year of the course will be focused on building the necessary skills and exploring a variety of media, processes and techniques. Students will spend one term drawing and painting, another producing 3 Dimensional work and another working with photography in both darkroom and digital. This will then ensure students have the necessary foundation skills needed to produce their coursework portfolio in the second and third year of the course.
- Students choosing art need to have a passion for the subject and be willing to complete work at home. They need to be self-disciplined and organised.
- For their portfolio of coursework students will develop at least three main bodies of work relating to several different themes, one of which will be completed under exam conditions as a mock examination so that students can appreciate the format of the final examination project. Students will learn about the work of other artists and use this knowledge to make connections with their own artwork. Students will also see artwork when they visit museums and art galleries with the department.
- Most students follow a course that covers a wide range of two and three-dimensional media, but some may choose to specialise. If a student chooses to specialise in ceramics/sculpture, they will undertake the same projects as other art students, but all their finished work will be in clay or three-dimensional media.
- The examination consists of an externally set paper given out in the January of year 11, which students respond to over a period of 12 weeks, developing and exploring ideas culminating in a 10-hour final piece held over a two-day period.

Post 16 and Career opportunities:

The GCSE Art course will enable you to develop creative and practical skills as well as other transferable skills which are advantageous in many A Level courses.

Art and Design GCSE would be a key requirement to study Art at a higher level. Many of our students go on to complete A Level courses or a college course in a design specialism that suits them.

The GCSE course is an ideal stepping stone to art-related courses, which are widely available both locally and nationally. Art is a subject which can open many doors to a variety of courses and careers within areas such as: Fashion and Textile design, Graphic design, Spatial design, 3D design, Jewellery design, Fine art, Photography, Digital and multi-media and many more.

Art courses often followed = GCSE > A-Level > Foundation Course or BTEC > Degree > Masters

