

A Level Art and Design

Examination board & syllabus: AQA Art and Design

Minimum Entry Requirements: GCSE Art and Design Grade 5/6

Course Outline:

The main purpose of any course in art, craft and design is to develop the ability to appreciate the visual world, to respond in a personal and creative way and perhaps even contribute for the benefit of everyone. In this course students will develop the skills to interpret and convey ideas and feelings using art, craft and design. They will improve their imaginative and creative powers and experimental, analytical and documenting skills. A specialist vocabulary and the knowledge and understanding of the place of art, craft and design in history and in contemporary society are acquired throughout the course.

This course is modular and designed to develop the necessary skills and understanding in:

Painting

Drawing

Mixed media

Three Dimensional Studies

Art History

Theory

These skills will be developed over the course through: open-ended experimentation based around themes, structured academic studies, compositional work, residential visits and observational work where students will be encouraged to work live from a model. They will experiment with a wide range of materials and ideas and improve the quality of their work through regular individual and group discussion sessions.

Assessment:

Students are assessed through a coursework portfolio combined with externally set controlled assignments.

Exams:

In February of year 12 there will be an internal trial exam; this trial exam will coach students through the exam process in preparation for the final year 13 A level exam. The final exam constitutes 40% of the final mark at A Level and will take 15 hours to complete. Students will spend six intensive weeks preparing for the trial and final exam.

Equipment required / Approx Cost:

The cost is around £60 for A3 Sketchbook, drawing equipment, a canvas, paints and brushes.

Independent Study Tips:

Use the 6th Form art studio for at least 5 hours per week for independent study.

Higher Education Progression:

Art lays the foundation for a wide range of careers and higher education courses, just a few of which are listed here: Fine Art, Ceramics, Computer Graphics, Graphics, Illustration, Fashion, Textiles, Industrial Design, Product Design, Architecture, Interior Design, Theatre Design, Photography, Teaching.

At present most students wishing to take art, craft or design further, will go on to do a one year 'Foundation' course at an art college or college of further education before applying to degree courses in more specialist areas of art and design.

Useful websites:

www.nationalgallery.org.uk

www.world-arts-resources.com