



Backwell School

An Ofsted Outstanding School
A National Teaching School

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October 2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 11 Art, Craft & Design, Textiles and Photography main coursework project

Year 11 Art, Craft & Design, Textiles and Photography students are now working on their **main coursework project**. This project will represent the majority of their **coursework portfolio**, which accounts for 60% of their final GCSE grade. They will also be including their **mini coursework project** from the end of year 10, which they may have improved over the summer. They should by now have handed in their year 10 mini project to their teachers. Not only does this ensure that it is kept safely at school, but we also needed the work to assess and forecast for target reports this term. If you find any of their work at home we would be grateful if this could be delivered to school.

Students have chosen a starting point for their **main project**, which was given to them in the first week of this term on a hand-out that also includes all the lesson and homework suggestions to be completed by the end of term 2. This should be stuck into their books or found in their folders.

Art, Craft & Design, Textiles and Photography **projects** are the way students gain the marks for their coursework components and their Externally Set Assignments (exam component) by covering four Assessment Objectives. For both we give them 10 weeks of preparation time and a final outcome that is created in 10 hours of supervised time under exam conditions but in an art room so they have the facilities and materials to work with. We will arrange for a whole day off timetable at the end of December to give students an opportunity to start the final outcome and get an idea of what the silent exam sessions will be like in April. All work is marked together to produce their final grade. Therefore, it is important that the students understand how to create and present their preparation work and to plan and prepare for the final outcome.

Class work and home learning is now being used to create **preparation work** that will help them decide on their final outcome. Students will have purchased a sketchbook or folder to present their preparation work. Using the Assessment Objectives, they will need to demonstrate the inspiration for their idea, how they develop and refine it, how they record their thoughts and observations, as well as plan for creating their final outcome in the supervised session. All students, including Photography, must include writing and drawing in their projects, appropriate to the purpose. This can be annotations and diagrams. More information is available on Frog. Teachers will provide regular feedback and advice before the 10-hour sessions begin. All students are expected to work at least one hour outside of lessons in order to use their time effectively and respond to our advice.

The Art department is open during lunchtimes and we offer regular after school sessions for students to use our facilities and equipment. They are also able to arrange a time to discuss their work with their teacher for feedback and guidance. Many students use this opportunity to their advantage, often improving their grades just by completing extra work in these sessions.

We expect students to find the time to attend at least one lunchtime or after school session per week over these next two terms, and will need to also keep this up after they are given their ESA (Externally Set Assignment) in January. Any student who we feel is not making good use of their time outside of lessons or not completing regular home learning will be asked to attend catch-up sessions. In such cases, we will have contacted home in the last few weeks.

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Students will be given the dates of their 10-hour controlled sessions in the next few weeks. They will spend a full day off timetable for a full 5-hour session; the remaining 5 hours will take place in their Art or Photography lessons during the following two weeks.

All Art and Photography supervised sessions will take place in the Art Department or DT9 for Textiles, under exam conditions. Although their teachers will be supervising the sessions, they will only be able to provide technical support to students. Therefore, it is vital that students are fully prepared beforehand, as they will not be able to discuss work during the exam or use the internet. **All students must attend all sessions to complete the 10 hours.**

Students will have completed their main project by the end of December and will not have a chance to add to this once it has been marked. At the start of January they will be given the Externally Set Assignment (ESA), which accounts for 40% of their final GCSE grade. We hold the 10 hour supervised sessions after the Easter break which is where they work under exam conditions in the art rooms to complete their projects. They will use the last few weeks of lesson time in term 5 to revise for other exams.

| | SEPT | OCT | NOV | DEC | JAN |
|--|---|-----|-----|---|---|
| Main Project September to December included in portfolio = 60% of final grade | <p>Project choices given out and preparation work started – four weeks of teacher led lessons followed by independent work developing ideas for a final outcome.</p> <p>Preparation work - Students are advised to attend extra after school or lunchtime sessions as well as their home learning set each week. Home learning suggestions are set on Frog but will be personal to their projects. They are expected to show what has been completed once a week in a lesson.</p> | | | <p>10-hour supervised session: 5 hours in a whole day session during end of December - <i>dates to be confirmed</i></p> <p>COURSEWORK DEADLINES:</p> <p>11Y - Wednesday 19 December</p> <p>11W – Thursday 20 December</p> | <p>EXTERNALLY SET ASSIGNMENT PAPERS handed out – 10 weeks to prepare – 10 hours for supervised sessions</p> <p>40% of final grade</p> |
| Assessment | <p><i>Verbal feedback given in lessons and written on assessment objectives sheets (AOs).</i></p> | | | <p><i>Marked in January and not given back to work on again</i></p> | |
| Home learning | <p>1+ hour a week. <i>Recommended to also attend 1 after school or lunchtime session a week to add to preparation work.</i> Students not meeting the 1 hour a week minimum will come to catch up sessions after school with their teachers. Letters will be sent home to arrange the dates.</p> | | | | |
| Reporting | | | | TARGET | |

If you require any further information, please contact your son/daughter's Art or Photography teacher.

Yours sincerely



Judith Lewis

Curriculum Leader for Art and Technology