

Sixth Form Courses

A Level Art and Design

Why take this subject?

This is a fantastic choice for any student wishing to go on and study any Art, Design or Craft at a higher level and possibly university. The course will offer you the chance to take part in an exciting programme of visual study that will broaden the breadth and depth of your visual language. Broken into two stages the programme is designed to develop your knowledge, skill and understanding in creating a rich visual language within the context of selected ideas.

You will enjoy this course if you are keen to:

- acquire the skills and language (including techniques and processes) needed to create, develop and present quality work
- understand the methods and principles involved in Art and Design
- identify and utilise primary and secondary sources
- see how different creative areas are inter-related and influence each other
- explore working methods linked to industry practice

You will be keen to undertake creative and reflective experimentation with media and materials so you can explore the communication process independently and improve your own work over time.

What do I need to have studied at GCSE?

You will need to have gained a '6' grade at GCSE Art and Design in order to qualify for entry onto the course.

What will we study?

Students opting for this course will explore a range of approaches to their studies. They will demonstrate their understanding of the formal elements and creative skills and give visual form to thinking, feeling, observation, design and ideas. They will try to extend their own and others' ways of seeing the world and make personal responses to a theme. Students can choose to work in one or more disciplines within the unendorsed course such as painting, drawing, printmaking and sculpture and we encourage an interdisciplinary approach to working, combining skills and developing creativity.

In the second year students will research and present a contextual study which links to their practical work. Contextual understanding should be communicated through integrated images and texts that include a written element of no less than 1000 words. We expect independent working to become part of the students' work ethic at this level and it is expected that students spend up to 5 hours working on self-directed study each week.

How will I be examined?

You will be examined using the following criteria:

Edexcel's GCE in Art and Design comprises of two components.

Component one is the coursework element and makes up 60% of the total qualification- this is worth 90 marks, this includes 18 marks for a Personal Study (essay).

Component two takes the shape of an externally set assignment with a period of sustained focus (exam) at the end.

A Level Assessment objectives. Specification 2016

A01: Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.

A02: Explore and select appropriate resources, media, material, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops

A03: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress

A04: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements.

What super curricular opportunities will be available to me?

We visit galleries and museums and organise workshops with visiting professional artists.

What can this subject lead to?

When you successfully complete your GCE in Art and Design you could move on to study for a degree, BTEC Higher National Diploma or Foundation Diploma in Art and Design.