

Art & Design

Head of Department
Mrs L Waddell

Whether you love photography, graphic design, painting or any other art-related discipline, career options are limited only by your imagination. Art education propels people towards creative and unexpected destinations – many of which have not even been discovered yet! Even if you are not thinking of an Art related career there is a strong link between the arts, because of the creative thinking skills you develop, and educational success. GCSE Art and Design could lead onto A Level Art, Design or Photography, needed for art related degree courses, but also recognised for University entrance along with other A Levels.



GCSE Fine Art

Awarding Body: AQA

Possible Grades: 9-1

Course Outline

Year 9 students follow a structured programme of work. They start with a series of workshops to improve their technical skills in painting and drawing, sculpture, ceramics, graphics and photography. They then work on one extended unit of coursework.

Year 10 students continue to develop their skills, use of portfolios and ability to work independently.

Year 11 students have the opportunity to work in a specialist area on an extended personal unit.

Critical Studies

The study of both contemporary and past artists and work from other cultures forms the backbone to the course and students are expected to produce written work as part of their classwork and homework.

Assessment

Coursework 60%

Practical Examination 40%

Students are assessed on all work produced. Homework is directly linked to classwork and is submitted as part of their coursework units. Students should produce approximately two hours of homework per week.

At the end of the course the portfolio and the extended unit are submitted and students undertake a ten-hour practical exam, with six weeks preparation time. Students are graded on four assessment objectives: Recording from observation and imagination; analysing and evaluating images; developing and exploring ideas and media; realising intentions.

Specification link:

<http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/art-and-design/specifications/AQA-ART-GCSE-SP-2016.PDF>

Recommended textbook: None at present