GCSE Art & Design: Art, Craft & Design

Examination Board: AQA
Contact: Miss F Whinn



The aim of the course is to develop creative and technical skills whilst providing pupils with a broad understanding of the nature of Art & Design. The course teaches pupils to make connections with and relate their work to that of other artists and designers in historical, social, cultural, political & economic contexts. Pupils will be given the opportunity to acquire and apply knowledge, skills and understanding through:

- Making appropriate use of colour, line, tone, texture, shape and form, rhythm, scale, pattern and structure
- Using different approaches to record images and ideas.
- Analysis, expression and imagination.
- Showing in their work an understanding of the conventions of representational and abstract/nonrepresentational imagery and genres
- Investigating different ways of working, as appropriate to their chosen areas of study within art, craft and design
- Providing evidence of an understanding of spatial qualities, composition.

Course Description:

Pupils will explore a range of techniques and media required for the confident use of visual language. They will then develop both creative and technical skills and techniques to produce work in two and three dimensions. Pupils will gain the skills needed to produce a creative sketch book which will support practical work.

The course is divided into two main parts comprised of both practical & written work — Coursework: 60% of the final marks and Externally set Examination (practical): 40% of the final marks.

How will I learn?

You will begin by developing skills using a range of media and techniques, while being guided through the process of creating artwork. You will explore a variety of media e.g. pencil, pastel, charcoal, paint, printmaking, photography, computer aided design & 3D materials such as clay. You are also required to study the work of other artists & document your studies both visually and in writing. As you progress through the course you will complete 2-3 coursework projects with increasing independence and freedom to direct work according to your individual skills and interests. In each project you will be required to complete in depth research and experimentation with a variety of materials as well as to review and modify your ideas in order to produce a final piece. All work from the start of the course, completed in and out of the classroom is important and will contribute toward your final grade!

Possible Career Pathways:

An Art & Design course in Sixth Form such as AS/A2 Advanced Art & Design, Fashion, Photography, Graphics or 3D Design. These courses will allow you access to Higher Education courses in Art Foundation & Degree level at University. The main employment areas within Art & Design are: Graphic Design, Fashion & Textiles, Film, Photography & Video, Fine Art, Theatre Design, Architecture, Product Design, Interior Design & 3D Craft. All skills are transferable to everyday life.