SUBJECT: Art and Design

EXAM BOARD: AQA



Students will be encouraged to pursue their own lines of enquiry informed by guided cultural, contemporary and historical references. They will explore different types of art in a range of mediums such as Fine Art, Photography, Textiles, Digital Art and Mixed Media 2D/3D. The style of work students produce will be exciting, creative and contemporary. Students will show evidence of trying to extend their own and others ways of seeing the world through individual thoughts, feelings and observations.

Year 12: Workshop led study

Year 12 provides students with an overview of a broad range of specialist areas within Art & Design and allows them to explore these in order to find their strengths and preferences. Students will create samples in response to workshops and put learn how to record their research and insights in response to a selected theme.

Students are able to experience a Mock Exam in May, which allows them to practice the development skills needed and gain an appreciation of the supervised time period within the ESA (Externally Set Assignment) project (Component 2).

Course Overview

Students will also have the opportunity to attend a trip to Galleries, from which they will generate work in response to primary source inspiration.

At least 2 specialist tutors deliver the A Level Art & Design Course, so that students experience different perspectives and expertise, to aid them in finding their own creative identity. Students are also encouraged to share ideas and advice with their peers and engage in critiques to facilitate this.

Year 13:

Component 1: Personal Investigation (60%)

Comprises of practical work (i.e. sketchbook work, samples, models etc.) and a written piece (1,000 - 3,000 words) which is marked as an integrated whole.

Students write their own question to provide a personal area of study, which they do in the final Half Term of Year 12. Their project must explore this question through their practical work; referring to artists and other sources of reference to inspire and provide a context for their ideas. They will develop on their strengths, discovered through their exploration in Year 12 and complete their project with a final outcome or series of outcomes which is personal to them and responds to their chosen question.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (ESA – 40%)

Students follow a very similar process to that of Component 1 to structure a project which responds to a topic set by the Examination Board (AQA) Students create preparatory studies in class and independently with support and guidance from tutors.

The final outcome or series of outcomes, is created in supervised time under examination conditions. Students get 15 hours over 3 days to complete their planned piece(s) and are able to access technical support only.

At the end of the course, students will have the opportunity to exhibit their work in the Summer Art Exhibition. Friends and family are invited to join students in celebrating their achievements, whilst students also gain experience in displaying work for an exhibition.

Pinterest is a good way to explore contemporary artists, techniques and other students work (websites

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A Level Art & Design Specification: https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design