



GCSE Art and Design

The GCSE Art and Design course is about learning how the creative process works. The emphasis is on developing skills involved in making art, but integral to this is art criticism and theory. The subject expects students to develop as independent learners and is structured around thematic projects. It involves research and development skills from early on and is excellent preparation for the challenges of higher education and the workplace.

We are delighted to offer specialisms in Fine Art as well as Textiles Design; these are both taught and assessed in the same way.

In **Fine Art** there is a strong emphasis on drawing as well as skills in both 2D and 3D media. Students have the opportunity to explore a wide range of materials including paint, plaster, printmaking, photography, and digital media. Written annotation to accompany practical work is a requirement.

Textile Design explores creative processes, surface design, print, fashion, textile art through the medium of textiles techniques. These also involve the exploration of drawing, photography, 3D, and digital media. Written annotation to accompany practical work and artists is required.

Students taking Art will learn to express themselves and communicate with an audience in both visual and written forms, guided and supported by their teacher through individual tutorials. Art is hands-on and creative, suiting both visual and practically-minded people. However, a good command of English and the ability for abstract thought are also essential attributes for success. You will be encouraged to challenge yourself and be experimental with your work and ideas. This requires self-motivation, the willingness to study independently and, above all, the ability to manage time effectively.

Exam board

Fine Art OCR J171 or Textile Design OCR J174

Assessment:

Coursework = 60%

Exam = 40%

The practical exam is carried out at the end of Year 11. The exam project theme is set by the examining board (OCR) but gives each student the chance to explore a theme that interests them. The exam project runs from January of Year 11 to April. The 10-hour exam, which is the final piece of the project, takes place under controlled conditions and is unaided. Teachers set portfolio themes for coursework.

Art GCSE builds on skills and knowledge gained through Years 7-9 to enable learners to progress with greater depth and sophistication.

