

A-Level Art and Design



Studying Art and Design at A Level will equip you with a set of transferable skills for life and vocationally. Art and Design is a fascinating and rewarding subject that enables you to use your imagination and creativity as you engage with the world in a visual and tactile way. This course allows you to explore a range of disciplines before deciding which area you want to study in the future, whether it be art related or not. Although many of our students' progress on to art related courses at degree level, some choose the subject to offer a balance and creative outlet against other academic courses.

Much of the practical work for this syllabus is studio based which sits alongside an exciting art programme incorporating artist workshops and visits, art focused lectures and visits to degree shows and art exhibitions. Here you can develop your abilities of observation and analysis of the visual world, using your growing technical skill, personal expression and imagination to build a portfolio of work. The course stimulates interest, enjoyment and personal enrichment as well as introducing artistic exploration, encouraging abstract thought and design rational.

Aims of A-level in Art and Design

The GCE examination board that we use is WJEC, as we believe that these new qualifications will challenge the students to be the very best they can be, both analytically and creatively. Students will develop an increasingly individual visual language within a supportive atmosphere. One to one tuition and regular assessment will allow students to take a progressively independent creative path, so that by examination time their personal outcomes reflect choice and opportunity.



What does the course involve?

Year One

During the first part of the academic year you will explore a variety of materials, processes and techniques through tutor led workshops, with the emphasis on developing practical skills and building up a diverse portfolio of work. This is in preparation for the individual Personal Project which begins towards the end of the first year.

Year Two

In the second year you will draw upon previous learning experiences to undertake and direct your own learning through your Personal Project. This involves assessed practical coursework and a written related study. These two parts count for 60% of the total A Level mark.

The remaining 40% of the marks are from the Externally Set Task (examination). Preparation for this starts in January and leads to a 15 hour exam. There is no separate written component for this unit.

- Your lessons will be split between the Art Studio in F4 and the Manor Studio M2. After the first term, all girls taking the two year course will be given a small studio space for the remainder of the course, where they will be encouraged to develop an individual creative presence.
- The two year WJEC GCE A-level Art and Design qualification will provide a solid foundation for your progression to Foundation Courses and HE degrees, whether in a creative field or not.
- You will generate practical work, ideas and research from sources. You will experiment with media, processes, develop and refine ideas, and present outcomes. You will explore a variety of Art and Design techniques and develop an individual coursework portfolio.
- There will be an exciting art programme and the possibility of a short residential European trip, dependent on numbers, later in the course.
- The entrance requirements are Grade A at GCSE in an Art and Design subject.

What can I do with an Art and Design A-level?

- **According to the Government's own figures - the Creative Industries are worth more than £87 billion a year to the UK economy. This is comparable to the financial services and construction industries.**
- (Source: <http://www.baccforthefuture.com/> June 2017)
- Students that have completed this course have progressed to university to study: Fine Art, Textile Design, Fashion Design, Graphics and Advertising, Photography, Multimedia, Architecture, Product Design, Illustration and studied at the respected UK universities. Many University courses are looking for a good mixture in what transferable skills you can bring to their course and an Art and Design A-level on your CV may make you stand out post University. The UK jobs market needs creative people!
- Recent creative pathways include Architecture at Nottingham and Oxford Brookes, Graphic Design at Birmingham, Media and Film at Leeds various Art Foundation courses including Leamington, London, Bournemouth and Brighton and Bristol.
- To help you plan your creative futures look at the following websites:
- www.thecreativeindustries.co.uk / www.creativechoices.co.uk / www.ucas.com

