

ART GCSE

What are the key features?

Art is an interesting and demanding subject that allows students to explore and express their own creativity. Students will build on the skills they have learnt at Key Stage 3 and experiment with a wide range of new materials and processes to extend and explore their visual language. Art GCSE requires open-mindedness, hard work and dedication. A real passion for the visual world and a curiosity about art and artists is also very important. It helps if drawing skills are good, and pupils should have a creative mind and be prepared to experiment with imagery, materials and ideas to produce ambitious and exciting works of art.

Students will develop the skills, knowledge and understanding of local, national and international artists to aid the development of their own work, but also be encouraged to find their own style and make personal responses to project titles.

How is it assessed?

Art is made up of two units. Unit 1 is a portfolio of work which will consist of 2 projects and is worth 60% of their final grade. Unit 2 is an externally set task (exam) and is worth 40% of their grade.

Each project is further divided into four assessment objectives: developing ideas, using resources, recording ideas and making a personal response.

Work is marked in school and moderated by the examining board.

What particular skills are required to succeed?

Students will need to be creative, enthusiastic and hard-working with strong observation, co-ordination and have good presentation skills.

Students are required to spend at least an hour and a half week on Art homework whether that be in school at lunch and after school clubs or at home.

Why study this course?

Students should study Art if they are committed to developing their creative skills and have a natural flair for drawing and painting.

What equipment is required?

Other than the usual stationery that is expected in lessons, students will need: a set of shading pencils, a set of acrylic paints, (with a large tube of black and white paint), a good set of coloured pencils, a set of 5 different sized brushes for acrylic paint, an A2 plastic folder and the use of a digital camera or a phone.

If I have any questions which teacher(s) do I ask?

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