



# The Art Department

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## General

The Art Department is part of the SPA Faculty (Sport, Performance and Arts) which comprises of Art and Design, P.E., Music, Dance and Drama.

## Facilities

The Art Department is housed in a purpose built wing of our 'state of the art' school. This wing contains four large, purpose built classrooms including a specialist Ceramics room, an ICT suite and two Drawing & Painting/General Purpose Art rooms. All classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards and digital projectors. We also have a central resource/gallery area where students work is exhibited, along with a number of display areas throughout the building. We also have 2 other classrooms in that are used for KS3 Art and KS4 Photography, as well as access to a wide range of other learning environments. In addition to the main staffroom, Art staff share the SPA PPA (Planning, Preparation and Assessment) room with other members of the SPA faculty, which has full access to digital, printing and other resources.

## Staffing

This is an exciting opportunity to join an outstanding Art and Design Department, which is well resourced with excellent facilities. There are currently 5 full-time and one part time Art specialists that work as a team, in the delivery of the Art curriculum. We also have a technician that works 5 days per fortnight to support staff and students within the department. The temporary post is to cover a maternity leave within the department. We are looking to appoint a teacher of Art that can offer a broad range of specialist skills at both Key Stages. The ability to teach AQA Art and Design to GCSE is essential. Sufficient experience and knowledge to teach GCSE Photography and the ability to offer subject knowledge of digital techniques such as Photoshop is desirable.

## Curriculum

### **Key Stage 3**

All students follow a two week timetable and in Art they have three lessons over the course of the two weeks, which is equivalent to 6% of all curriculum time. Groups rotate at the end of each term, on a carousel basis so that students spend time in the specialist areas of Drawing & Painting, 3D Ceramics, Mixed Media, ICT or Printing/paper cuts with our specialist staff. Student attainment and progress is recorded and tracked carefully through their Progress Booklets as well as our Assessment Point Tracker.

Students in years 7 and 8 are following the National Curriculum guidelines for the key stage and are taught in mixed ability groups. Unifying schemes are used with both years, that is, the same theme being used simultaneously, as a starting point in each specialist area. For example Line and Shape is the first theme in Year 7. Drawing from



direct observation and the integration of critical studies are key elements in all units of work. Homework is set on a weekly basis for Key Stage 4 and fortnightly basis for Key Stage 3.

### **Key Stage 4**

In this key stage, all students in years 9, 10 and 11, who have opted for an Art & Design course, are following the AQA GCSE Art and Design in Fine Art or Photography. Year 9 students are provided with a 3-year course, which enables them to achieve the very best grades.

The groups at Key Stage 4 currently are:

- Year 9:** GCSE Art & Design Syllabus B – Fine Art - 5 groups  
GCSE Art & Design Syllabus B- Photography- 2 groups
- Year 10:** GCSE Art & Design Syllabus B – Fine Art - 4 groups  
GCSE Art & Design Syllabus B- Photography- 2 groups
- Year 11:** GCSE Art & Design Syllabus B – Fine Art - 5 groups  
GCSE Art & Design Syllabus B- Photography- 2 groups

Students are placed in groups of 18 – 25 based on ability.

### **Examination Results**

Historically GCSE results in Art at the school are outstanding, with a large number achieving top grades on both KS4 courses.

#### **Results August 017:**

**GCSE Fine Art: A\*-C = 90%** (15% above National Average) with **44% A/A\*grades** (22% above National Average).

**GCSE Photography: A\*-C = 100%** with **26% A/A\*grades.**