**THE VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT**

The Visual Arts Department offers students the chance to study GCSEs in Fine Art including sculpture, painting and ceramics and also lens-based media through GCSE photography.

The Department is recognised both within the Academy and by Ofsted for its outstanding provision where all students are making rapid progress in terms of attainment and achievement. Our outcomes are regularly on display at county and National level and we have national and international recognition through the Saatchi Gallery and students exhibiting with the Royal Society of British Artists National Students Exhibition in London. We regularly take students to experience professional art work outside of school including to the Tate galleries, Paris and Tuscany.

The success of our department lies in our inclusive personalised ethos where all students are inspired to achieve their true potential through the use of project-based learning. Knowledge, skills and understanding are underpinned by learning to think and feel like an Artist. This involves nurturing enquiring minds, creative thinking, reflective learning as well as promoting continual collaboration and sharing of ideas as a cooperative.

We believe every child has potential, and with the right personalised support tailored to the individual, they can and do achieve fully. We celebrate diversity, persistence, dedication and hard work in all its forms.

The department consists of three good-sized Art Rooms as well as a dedicated IT suite for the teaching of photography and computer aided art. The rooms interconnect and are used as a gallery space for the annual GCSE Art Exhibition.

During Key Stage 3 all students develop their knowledge skills and understanding comprehensively in crucial media and techniques using a theme-based approach. Staff adopt a flexible approach so that everyone teaches 2D, 3D, and mixed media skills to their classes. This continues into Key Stage 4 where students work towards their chosen GCSE according to the AQA specifications. The Art Department is open most days at lunchtimes and after school for GCSE students to work.

As an Option subject at GCSE, the Visual Arts are highly successful and popular. Approximately half of each KS4 year group 9-11 take either GCSE Fine Art, Photography or Textile Design. Our annual results across the Visual Arts specialisms are always in excess of 90% 4-9 and around 40% 7-9.

We seek to appoint an enthusiastic and ambitious teacher. The successful candidate will be passionate about teaching original and captivating lessons across a wide range of Visual Arts specialisms, whilst being committed to the department ethos and will help in the continued development of innovative and exciting new opportunities for our students.

**September 2019**