



Matravers School

Art & Design Department

The Design Arts Department has long been recognised as a strong creative hub of the school and has a strong tradition of academic achievement at both GCSE and A Level.

The Design Arts Department currently brings together all five elements of the Art and Design specification – Three-Dimensional Design, Fine Art, Graphic Communication, Textile Design and Photography, it is comprised of six full time teachers, several of whom can teach holistically across all specialisms. The curriculum area of Food is also delivered via the Design Arts department. The school is now looking to appoint an enthusiastic, ambitious and well qualified second in department who is able to contribute towards the delivery of these specialisms to help build upon the excellent standards already established.

The department consists of two specialist photography rooms, one consists of 28 PCs while the other has a full suite of MAC computers. There are two specialist Art rooms, one which houses the kiln and another that doubles up as the photography room. Two further rooms within the department are allocated for 3D work, there is one full equipped textile design room. The department also consists of two food rooms. The school is currently at a very exciting stage with the construction of a new, three storey building, within which will be housed a new, purpose built 3D workshop and further computer rooms.

Curricular Provision

Students in years 7 and 8 have 2 hours a fortnight allocated to Art and Design. They spend a term focusing on the different areas within the Art and Design specification – Fine Art, 3D Design and Graphic Communication. Each unit of work will focus on two assessment objects and a wide range of different themes. During year 9 there is the option for students to specialise in several aspects of Art and Design, including Photography. 4 hours and fortnight is allocated to the teaching of Art and Design in year 9.

At **Key Stage 4** we offer OCR Art and Design specification which includes a 10 hour practical exam. In **Key Stage 5** we offer AQA Art and Design Specification, which includes a written pieces which provides our A level students with skills required of them at degree level. KS5 also sit a 15 hours practical exam.

Extra-Curricular Provision

The department is very keen to offer the students cross-curricular opportunities. This is evident within our work on the school production working with Drama, Dance and Music. We offer afterschool clubs to Year 7 through into 6th form producing all the props, sets and costumes for the production. This has always been a strong pull for A level students who impress us with their talents and leadership skills.

Over recent years, we have developed our A level visit to London to develop our students cultural and critical understanding of artist work in the flesh. We also have used this trip to reward Yr10 Art and Photography students for outstanding commitments to the beginning of Yr10.

Within the last 2 years, we have acquired a 3D Printer and have set up small 3D printing group afterschool to introduce the 3D printer, Sketch up and Tinker CAD to students developing their understanding of the technology available in the wider world of work in Art and Design.

This year we have also reinstated photography field trips to various locations and would like to develop this further within the new school year, providing all Art and Design students with an out of school of Art and Design experience.