



Art and Design at Woking High School

The Department

The Art and Design department is a strong department which has a proven record in examination success achieving 94% (9-4) and 31% (9-7) in 2018 following the EDUQAS (WJEC) specification. The art team are hardworking, creative individuals that have a passion for the arts and education. As a department we work collaboratively adapting Schemes of Work and teaching resources yearly for all abilities and capabilities within each art group. We follow a multi-cultural and multi-disciplinary syllabus from years 7 – 11 building on KS2 skills and ultimately progressing them beyond KS4 ability. The KS3 curriculum is designed to support student's skills across the school as well as preparing them for their GCSE studies. The Art and Design Department are involved with whole school initiatives including an active role in the Day 11 programme in the school. This includes inviting outside creative speakers and collaborating with the other arts subjects promoting, 'Art in Industry' teaching students about the variety of career opportunity that the arts can offer as a career path. Our curriculum is designed to build students' confidence facing challenges whether it is their practical skills, opinions about the art world, technically growing in precision or identification. Each step in the art programme is establishing their base knowledge and provides new and exciting challenges.

Statement of intent

The students at Woking High School develop their creativity and imagination through sustained Art activities. These help them to build on and master their practical and critical skills, extending their knowledge and experience of materials, processes and practices. They engage confidently in Art and Design in the contemporary world and from different times and cultures. They have become more independent in using the visual language to communicate their own feelings, ideas and meanings.

Our aim is to give students the confidence and technical expertise to develop and express their ideas in an individual way. All students are expected to undertake and investigate a wide range of work, which will give more scope and variety to their projects. The course develops students' knowledge and understanding of Art and Design and its role in past and contemporary societies and cultures.

Literacy

In accordance with the National Curriculum guidelines and GCSE syllabuses students are taught to use correct spellings and punctuation and follow grammatical conventions. They are encouraged to utilise an art based vocabulary, using specialist and technical terms and descriptions. We believe it is important to involve students in speaking and listening through such activities as discussion tasks (introduction and summation of lesson). Students are encouraged to listen to others' opinions and responses and to build ideas and views in a positive teaching environment. Students are encouraged to use specialist terms with confidence and understanding.

Homework

As a department, homework is regularly set to all groups of students of all ages and abilities. It is intended to reinforce the general skills, concepts and good practice that are endemic to the department. We believe that homework is an extremely important aspect of any Art and Design course; it gives the students the opportunity to:

- Develop the ability to make efficient use of private and independent study
- Extend and consolidate the learning activities experienced during lesson time
- Provide the opportunity to research and use this information in lesson time
- Promote co-operation and involvement between the student and parents at home
- Make use of their immediate environment and experiences

Although we teach mixed ability groups, students are set common tasks that accommodate differentiation, by outcome. We are sensitive to the needs of the weaker as well as the more able pupil. Tasks are set that provide reasonable scope for all abilities. This is reflected through careful marking and use of constructive comments.