

The Art and Photography department at Felpham Community College

The art department is a vibrant and exciting place to work. We have three dedicated art rooms and 4 staff. We teach both 2D and 3D and we are lucky enough to have a kiln, and clay work is integrated into the schedule of work in all year groups. Key Stage 3 students have three lessons of art each fortnight and are taught in tutor groups. Photography is not taught as a standalone subject until Key Stage 4 when we offer that along with art and design. We offer fine art and photography at KS5. Throughout, we aim to give the students a broad and creative curriculum, fostering an understanding of the visual world with an emphasis on the ability to look, observe and interpret with increasingly secure skills.

KS3 aims to introduce and build on skills. A lot of students have little experience of art when they arrive so we start with the basics and use the first term to introduce mark making and drawing using a variety of materials and techniques. We introduce clay and we look at colour, colour mixing and painting. In year 8 we build on these skills, revisiting and broadening skills in painting, drawing and making. In year 9 we build on observational skills, the ability to research effectively, painting, sculpture and beginning to encourage a more independent and individual approach to work. Throughout KS3 students gain insight into how to use a sketchbook and present work well so they have the confidence to use those skills at GCSE.

GCSE art and design is a broad based art course including 2D and 3D and the use of photography, usually involving 2 projects for component one. A Level fine art begins with workshops and broadening skills in drawing, printing, painting, 3D and photography encouraging students to be more independent and individual in their approach to their personal portfolios.

Photography at GCSE starts with an introduction to the use of a camera and light and the possibilities of Photoshop. It is a future digital course. At A level the use of the camera and the digital possibilities of Photoshop are broadened and deepened and the students become more independent in their work and are encouraged to explore the world in a more visually independent way.

We currently follow Edexcel for both GCSE and A level. We are looking for an individual with highly creative ideas and skills in both art and photography who can also demonstrate the flexibility to foster an enthusiasm in the students that will continue to move the department forward. We require someone with a highly creative approach who is able to demonstrate commitment and flexibility to ensure all students achieve their potential in this department.