

Art & Design

ART DEPARTMENT

Head of Department: Miss J Gear

Why choose the subject? A level Art & Design offers you the chance to develop your skills and creative ideas, and increase your confidence in self-expression and visual awareness. It provides a solid foundation for the following career opportunities:

Television, Film, Architecture, Interior Design, Illustration, Advertising, Publishing, Photography, Theatre and Expressive Arts, Fashion, Graphic Design, Art Education and Therapy, Art Galleries and Museums, Conservation, Arts' Administration, as well as professional artist or sculptor.

Who is eligible? Students who have completed GCSE Art and Design; it is essential that you achieve a grade B or above and a minimum of 6 in English Language to enable written work in sketchbooks and the related study component to be completed.

A LEVEL QUALIFICATION

Year 2017/19 Advanced Level Award Examination Board: OCR	Description of Subject Content	<p><u>Personal Investigation</u></p> <p>Element 1: Practical Portfolio Students develop a personal response based on a particular project or theme, (practical but with supporting contextual research), which is sustained from April/May of Year 12 to the following February of Year 13.</p> <p>Work should include sketchbooks, research on artists, exploration of ideas, techniques and media, final piece and evaluations.</p> <p>Element 2: Related study (minimum 1000 words.) Written and illustrated.</p>
	Weighting	60% of total A level mark
	Nature of Coursework	Internally set and marked, externally moderated. 120 marks.
	Description of Subject Content	<p><u>Externally set Task from 1st February:</u></p> <p>Work submitted: Sketchbooks, observational and preparatory studies, development of ideas, exploration of media, final piece and evaluations.</p>
	Length of Exam	15 hours (plus approximately 10 week preparatory period)
	Weighting Nature of Exam	40% of total A level mark Externally set and moderated. 80 marks

STUDENT VIEW

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"Art A level has definitely been my favourite subject to study these past two years. I got endless support from the teachers who would be more than happy to see me in their own time to provide advice and guidance on my projects. Their creative insight and devotion to their pupils is unique to the subject and I'm very appreciative of all the motivation and effort they've provided during my time in the sixth form.

The freedom to go in any direction you feel like in A level has got to be one of the greatest values of the whole subject, though the three-day trip to Cornwall, featuring a visit to Tate St Ives & the Barbara Hepworth Gallery, may have to win overall. Battling the elements to scribble down depictions of the crashing waves on pages practically blowing away from my grasp, my hair near vertical and my glasses askew, has got to be my favourite memory. Joking aside, this was a fantastic trip, enabling us to learn about the contemporary and 19th century artists inspired by Cornwall's rustic harbours and vast cliffs.

At A level we have complete control over our topic title and the way we approach it, which lead me to pursue 'Zodiac', resulting in a three-faced floating head, adorned with a crab-shell hat, black and white wings, levitating jugs of water and other whacky subjects, executed with a surrealist flair, naturally. I may be biased as I've already accepted art as my life-choice, but I thoroughly recommend this course!"

Emily Larcombe and Sofia Angus

