

Art - Fine Art

Examination Board: OCR

Qualification: A level (H201 and H601)

Teacher Contact: Miss Noakes

Entry Requirements: You need to have a passion for images and it is important that you like recording in a visual way what you think or what you see. This is a demanding and time-consuming course; students need to be prepared to do at least six hours of unsupervised work per week in addition to allocated lessons. If the subject has been studied at GCSE a grade 5 is required for this course, although 7-9 grades at GCSE would be beneficial.

Although this is a reformed A level, in order to track progress, all students will be entered for an examination at the end of Year 1.

What will I study?

YEAR 1

During the first part of the course you will explore and learn various techniques and skills that you may have touched on at GCSE level but you will have the chance to extend your knowledge and learn new ways of working. You will produce practical work in the form of drawings, sculptures, paintings and prints. Much of your time will also be spent looking at the work of other artists and sharing your ideas with your fellow students. This work will be given feedback by your teachers but it will not form part of a formal assessment. This learning will prepare you for the externally set task.

Externally Set Task - 100% of the total for Year 1

The examination board sets themes and presents these as a formal examination paper that is published on 1st January. You will choose one theme to work from and then explore it through experimental work in a sketchbook. From this you will plan what your final outcome will look like and then this is produced in a formal 10-hour examination.

YEAR 2

Personal Investigation - 60% of the total A level

You select your own theme and then develop your investigations in an ideas book before planning and creating a final piece. You also submit a written analysis of an artist's work that connects with your practical theme.

Externally Set Task - 40% of the total A level

The examination board sends a set of themes in the form of an examination paper; you select one to work from. The question is explored through a series of ideas' pages and drawings; this work is usually done in an ideas' book. The formal examination time in which the final piece is produced is 15 hours.

How will I be assessed?

Your teacher marks your work using four assessment objectives; the marks are checked by an Examination Board Moderator who comes to the school to look at an exhibition of the work and check that marking is in line with national standards.

Is there anything else that I need to know?

All materials you need for this course will be provided but you may wish to build your own supply. We will expect you to be resourceful and gather and collect things that may help you with your work.

Am I suited to this course?

- You will be well suited to this course if you are;
- interested in looking at images and recording special or unusual things
 - keen to learn to develop your practical skills with paint, print, 3D materials, and drawing tools
 - interested in making statements using images.

What other subjects does it complement?

Art links well with all subjects as it encourages you to look at things in a much more analytical way. It complements subjects such as History, Media and Photography especially well.

Where can it lead?

You may wish to pursue a career in fashion, graphics, illustration, animation, ceramics, theatre design, product design, architecture, interior design, painting or printmaking.

The examination board told us that;

'Candidates had followed a stimulating course', 'candidates presented stunning, thorough investigations that satisfied all assessment objectives', 'all work was carefully crafted and well annotated', 'candidates clearly understood subject-specific terminology and used this to articulate their thoughts about the work of others', 'students engaged creatively with a lively and well-taught course'.