

Art

Examination board: WJEC Eduqas (Art, Craft and Design)

Overview

In A Level Art, we aim to develop pupils academically and technically whilst broadening their cultural awareness. Pupils will explore a variety of processes, materials and media with imaginative confidence and with the freedom to take risks. Moreover, they will gain a knowledge and understanding of the wider contexts within which their work is placed, learning about a number of different artists, designers, movements and genres. Pupils' investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills will be challenged and developed to enhance their aesthetic understanding and critical judgement.

A Level Art and Design provides a useful preparation for anyone wishing to go into a career in the visual arts. Future employment opportunities are extremely varied; they include fashion design, architecture, illustration, ceramics, print making, teaching, art therapy, film, media and graphic and computer-aided design. The analytical and practical skills developed during the course enable pupils to demonstrate to future employers an ability to make divergent links and to find creative solutions.

Content

The course is divided into two components. Component 1 (coursework) forms the basis of study for the first four terms; Component 2 (externally set task) is undertaken in the final two terms of the course.

In Year 12, pupils embark on a thematic enquiry which sees them explore a range of processes and techniques as they develop personal ideas and outcomes. This is followed by an internally set assignment, culminating in a mock examination. In Year 13, pupils refine and modify their personal projects and realise intentions by producing several final outcomes informed by the development of ideas in their work journal. Pupils then undertake an

externally set assignment issued in February of the final year which culminates in a 15-hour timed examination.

All work produced throughout the two-year course contributes to a final summer exhibition.

Component 1: Thematic Enquiry

This component allows pupils opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcomes.

Pupils will develop practical skills across a range of formal elements including line, tone, colour, pattern, shape, texture, form and composition through:

- Observational drawing
- Sculpture
- Dry point engraving and lino printing
- Painting
- Ceramics.

This component is worth 60% of the total qualification and comprises three major elements: supporting studies, practical work and an illustrated personal study consisting of a minimum 1000 words of continuous prose.

Component 2: Externally set task

This component is worth 40% of the total qualification. It incorporates two major elements: preparatory studies and the 15-hour period of sustained focus under examination conditions. The externally set assignment allows pupils to draw together all the knowledge, understanding and skills developed throughout the course. It consists of one broad-based thematic starting point to which pupils respond by developing a portfolio of practical work and final outcome(s).