

Both pathways

What is Fine Art?

Fine Art is the study of Art across different times and cultures, where pupils work creatively and intelligently, exploring visual, tactile and other sensory experiences in relation to their world. There is a focus on drawing skills and an in depth approach to visual enquiry, including reflective annotation. Pupils are taught and encouraged to work independently, to develop their own ideas and to produce personal outcomes in a range of media.

Course Content:

Pupils who opt for Art at GCSE will undertake work which is varied, exciting, challenging and personal. They must be enthusiastic about the subject and be willing to experiment with a wide range of materials and techniques, e.g. drawing, painting, ceramics, print-making, sculpture and mixed media.

Assessment:

This consists of:

Unit 1: A Personal Portfolio of work, undertaken from September in Year 10 to the end of December in Year 11.

Unit 2: Externally set assignment 40% of final mark from January (in Year 11) to the end of April, culminating in 2 school days (10 hours) of independent working.

Trips, Resources and other opportunities

The study of other artists, historical art movements, cultures and contemporary art is an integral part of the course. Gallery trips are organised whenever possible to support learning, especially after the release of a past paper project in Year 10 or the external assignment in Year 11. We encourage pupils to develop their interest in museums and art galleries – through online research as well as in person. Workshops are provided after school hours to enable students to continue with their work or seek extra help and guidance.

Pupils will also need a compulsory materials pack, including a sketchbook and portfolio purchased through the department for £30.

Also, the department requests a voluntary contribution of a further £15 to cover the cost of a wide range of specialised resources such as clay, print and specialised paints. These materials enable pupils to work in more ambitious ways than otherwise could be resourced.

Pupil Quotes:

“Art is a very time- consuming subject and you have to have a lot of patience if you want good results. It is also very rewarding when you see how you have progressed over the months.”

“I personally love the subject and am interested in continuing Art in the future.”

“My personal opinion on Art is that it is nothing like any other subject; there is no right or wrong and you totally express yourself, experimenting with a variety of materials and finally discovering your unique style.”

Subject Leader: Emyr Williams (Key Stage 4)

Exam Board:

Subject:	Board:	Syllabus Code:	Examination/NEA/Coursework
GCSE Art and Design	AQA	8202	Portfolio 60%, Externally Set, Task 40%