

A LEVEL ART

Exam Board: AQA

Where do I start from?

You will need to meet the School's minimum entry requirements. Please also refer to the Sixth Form Minimum Entry Requirements information sheet. For this subject you will need to have studied Art at GCSE and have gained a minimum Grade 7. A minimum of Grade 4 is required in Maths AND Grade 5 in either English Language or Literature. If you have an aptitude for art or if you are creative you should have the basic skills to succeed. A Level Art is not an easy option and you must work hard to develop your abilities.

What will I study?

The course will explore the development and significance of Art as a means of visual expression and communication. Practical coursework will cover a wide range of skills, techniques and processes through thematic exploration. You will then be given a title from the exam board to respond to and produce a final piece in a timed practical examination.

How will I be assessed?

There are termly assessments and internal examinations throughout the course.

Component 1 is worth 60% of the A Level: Portfolio or Personal Investigation: Students are required to conduct a practical investigation, into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by the student and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes. It must include evidence of the student's ability to research and develop ideas and relate their work in meaningful ways to relevant critical/contextual materials.

The written material must confirm understanding of creative decisions, providing evidence of all four assessment objectives. It must be a coherent and logically structured extended response of between 1000 and 3000 words of continuous prose.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment exam, based on a theme supplied by the exam board which will be completed in 15 hours over a number of days.

How will I study?

The skills you will develop will be varied. You will develop knowledge of materials, practices and technology in Art and learn how to interpret your ideas and feelings. You will develop your creativity, and your experimental, analytical and documenting skills. You will be required to keep a sketchbook and work journal for each unit of work.

Home Learning will reflect the wide range of learning opportunities. You will be expected to make full use of your non-contact time. Extra practical work can be done in the studio, research and reading in the well-stocked reference sections both in the Art Department and the Library. Audio-visual and computer software is used to enhance learning.

Great importance is placed on preparation and experimentation. Direct observation and personal experience are strongly emphasised. Your progress will be monitored by individual and group tutorials.

What does the subject combine well with?

Not only other personal study based subjects, such as Design, Drama, English, History, Music and Psychology, but also many students study Art with Mathematics, Modern Languages and the Sciences.