



CURRICULUM INTENT

Art & Design

- **Challenge** lies at the heart of our curriculum. It goes beyond what is statutory or typical; students are encouraged to deepen their understanding of the fundamentals of their learning at every opportunity.
- Our curriculum is fully **inclusive**. All students have access to a broad range of experiences for as long as possible, regardless of prior attainment or additional needs.
- Our curriculum is **knowledge rich**, with subject curricula designed to ensure that any 'powerful' knowledge and skills that are critical to future success are regularly re-visited.
- Our curriculum is **expertly planned** and is therefore sequenced to enable students to build their knowledge and skills towards ambitious agreed end points.
- Wherever appropriate our curriculum gives students the opportunity to **personalise** their experience, thereby facilitating enjoyment and success for all.
- The importance of reading and wider **literacy** skills is a key thread that runs through our curriculum. As well as broadening students' vocabulary, all subjects will develop students' subject-specific literacy, so they can speak, read and write as, for example, a Historian, an Artist or a Physicist.
- A carefully considered and inclusive **extra-curricular** programme supports broader and deeper understanding of the taught curriculum, as well as developing the cultural capital our young people need to be global citizens.
- Students' **personal development**, including careers education, is central to our curriculum, through all subject areas, as well as PSHE lessons, tutor time, assemblies and off-timetable activities.
- Homework and summative **assessment** tasks are strategically designed to promote the concepts of regular review and spaced practice, therefore contributing to a long-term retention of knowledge and skills.

All students, including those with SEN are taught the entire KS3 curriculum, as well as the GCSE elements in Yr. 9 for those who choose to study art in Yr. 9. From Yr. 9, art, craft and design is an optional subject.

All students are encouraged to study art context through researching and annotating the work of others, as well as showing a clear design process. This is further supported by identifying and implementing taught skills through their art practise which covers a range of techniques, processes and materials, through historic and contemporary practices ensuring inclusivity for all. All students are provided with the opportunity to follow a challenging, supportive and varied learning programme to suit their individual needs and to promote independence. At GCSE students can choose from 3 titles within the art, craft and design suite and at A Level students can choose from 5 titles.

The study of art, craft and design develops student's life skills in creativity, critical thinking, problem solving, decision making, communication, research and discussion which are relevant to other subjects. From Yr 7 formal skills are taught and are regularly revisited through schemes of work. This promotes knowledge and understanding of the subject and supports long-term retention. This is achieved through discreet tasks as well as regular assessment and is used in a formative way to inform future learning. Homework is also set which requires students to practice such skills. Students are taught and encouraged to see how key skills and concepts cross-over between each year as well as impacting on access to GCSE and A Level.

All students are taught to engage confidently with art, craft and design, and can problem solve with confidence, communicating their reasoning practically as well as using appropriate language and terminology. Through a variety of art and design activities, they learn to make informed value judgements as well as aesthetic and practical decisions, exploring ideas and meanings in the work of artists, designers, craftspeople and designers as well as learning about the diverse roles of the functions of the subject in contemporary life, and in different times and cultures. This approach provides them with access to the curriculum effectively, prepares them for post-18 qualifications as well as the world of work.

Access to extra-curricular opportunities is important to assist students in developing their knowledge and understanding beyond the taught curriculum, and to help see the range of applications within the world of work and beyond. It fuels innovation and imagination, developing lifelong skills that help their perception, understanding, productivity and wellbeing. Participation in, in-house, regional and national competitions are encouraged to support their artistic development. Residencies are used to broaden their use of media and cultural trips are organised to give students an insight into what aesthetics and traditions a culture values, and in turn, inspires them to reflect on their own cultural artifacts and cultural values.