



ART & DESIGN

The main aim of the course is to impart a basic knowledge and understanding of Art and Design through the practise and study of the language, techniques and forms of the Visual Arts. The two areas of study on offer are Fine Art (painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, sculpture and video) and Photography (portrait, street, landscape, documentary and photo-journalism).

THE COURSE

This is personal, individual study where students will be given the responsibility for directing their own learning and project management as the course progresses. Emphasis is on the thinking essential to creative development. A wide range of materials are utilised in investigative, intellectual and expressive modes of working ranging from Drawing and Painting to Photography.

Critical Studies is a significant element with opportunities to visit galleries both in Britain and abroad. A four day field trip to a major European city in March/April for the external assignment and opportunities to visit Manchester, Liverpool and London. The Department has a very well stocked library of books, journals and DVDs housed in the ArtLab.

To complement the Fine Art Studio the students have access to a suite of iMac computers running Adobe software.

Students choose one of the titles below for study.

- Fine Art
- Photography

A-Level

Component 1: Personal investigation

- No time limit
- 96 marks
- 60% of A-level

Non-exam assessment (NEA) set and marked by the centre and moderated by AQA during a visit to the centre. Visits will normally take place in June.

Component 2: Externally set assignment

- Preparatory period + 15 hours supervised time
- 96 marks
- 40% of A-level

Non-exam assessment (NEA) set by AQA, marked by the centre and moderated by AQA during a visit to the centre. Visits will normally take place in June.

Component details:

Component 1: Personal investigation

This is a practical investigation supported by written material. 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.

The investigation must be informed by an aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, photographers, designers or craftspeople.

The written material must confirm understanding of creative decisions, providing evidence of all four assessment objectives by:

- clarifying the focus of the investigation;
- demonstrating critical understanding of contextual and other sources;
- substantiating decisions leading to the development and refinement of ideas;
- recording ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions by reflecting critically on practical work;
- making meaningful connections between, visual, written and other elements.

The written material must:

- be a coherent and logically structured extended response of between 1000 and 3000 words of continuous prose;
- include specialist vocabulary appropriate to the subject matter;
- include a bibliography that, identifies contextual references from sources such as: books, journals, websites, through studies of others' work made during a residency, or on a site, museum or gallery visit;
- be legible with accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar so that meaning is clear.

Students must identify and acknowledge sources which are not their own.

Component 2: Externally set assignment

Separate question papers will be provided for each title. Each question paper will consist of a choice of eight questions to be used as starting points. Students are required to select one. Students will be provided with examination papers on 1 February, or as soon as possible after that date.

CAREERS

Advertising and Information Design

Computer Animation

Exhibition Design

Fashion and Clothing Design

Film and Animation

Fine Art

Furniture Design

Graphic Design

Illustration

Industrial Design

Interior Design

Leather and Footwear Design

Painting

Photography

Printmaking

Sculpture

Textiles and Surface Pattern

Theatre Costume and Set Design

Every year students go on to Art-based careers from Kirkham Grammar School.