

ART

Art is an integral and unique part of a child's core education, developing curiosity, creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving skills through study, creation, and reflection.

Our mission is to prepare students to be appreciators and supporters of the arts as they become contributing citizens of the community. Students will be able to express ideas creatively using basic skills and knowledge at levels of expertise appropriate to their interest and development.

Art is an essential part of the education process. Knowledge about art, skills in creating art, and supportive attitudes toward the arts are necessary components for any civilization that wishes to raise itself above simple existence. Experience in the arts develops perception, critical analysis, creativity, process skills, and aesthetic awareness and appreciation. Art offers our students the opportunity to express their unique visions of the world, to discover divergent solutions to problems, developing personal wellbeing and resilience and reflecting upon the differences and similarities among people in positive ways.

Our aim is that students gain knowledge and understanding of the following.

- Understand the non-verbal language of art.
- Develop responses to visual phenomena and organize perceptions and conceptualizations both rationally and intuitively.
- Become familiar with and develop competence in a number of art skills.
- Make valid assessments of quality in works of art.
- Become familiar with the major achievements in the history of art, including the works and intentions of leading artists past and present.
- Employability skills are referred to in schemes of learning and referenced in recourses.

VISION AND PURPOSE

At Key stage 3 we believe it is essential that students understand and evaluate contemporary thinking. In art, craft and design, pupils explore visual, tactile, and other sensory experiences to communicate ideas and meanings. They work with traditional and new media, developing confidence, competence, imagination, and creativity. They learn to appreciate and value images and artefacts across times and cultures, and to understand the contexts in which they were made. In art, craft and design, pupils reflect critically on their own and other people's work, judging quality, value and meaning. They learn to think and act as artists, craftspeople, and designers, working creatively and intelligently.

During Key Stage 4 our learners will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of two-dimensional and three-dimensional media, techniques, and processes, including both traditional and modern technologies. They will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft, and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples which should be integral to the investigating and making process. Responses to these examples must be shown through practical and critical activities which demonstrate the learners understanding of different styles, genres, and traditions.

The themed projects are teacher led with plenty of opportunity for the learners to develop their own ideas independently. We encourage pupil independence and confidence through broad open-ended tasks that are set throughout the course. Interesting, well planned coursework tasks are vital to gaining a good final grade.

We encourage students to develop employability skills by being good communicators, and self-motivated meeting deadlines, as it is reliable professional practise and enables students to develop suitable time management and organisational skills which are essential in the creative industries and wider employment. There will be opportunities to visit museums, art galleries, artist workshops and other places of interest to enhance the learners' knowledge, skills and understanding in this subject area. Pupils take part in encounters with people from industry and employees who support subject learning and careers education.

All members of the art department have strong art and design knowledge and have a clear understanding of our schemes of learning. They are knowledgeable of the artistic journey pupils have already been on and continue to build on it, leading to good success at GCSE and beyond. All staff refer to employability skills and careers in lessons where appropriate