**Welcome to the ART department at**

**We would like to tell you a little about our department and how we work.**

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| **Staff** | We currently have 2 part-time art specialists. The Expressive Arts department is made up of 1 Drama teacher and 1 Music teacher and the 2 part time Art specialists. |
| **Working Environment** | We have 2 dynamic and spacious classrooms, that offer students all the resources they need for their lessons. There is also a working kiln for pottery projects. Students are passionate about Art at Casterton, and we have an excellent up take for GCSE. |
| **Curriculum/Syllabus** | KS3 students have a lesson once every 2 weeks, this allows teachers to embed subject knowledge through both practical exploration and opportunities for artist research and assessments. Students are encouraged to explore all types of Art skills throughout KS3.  We are currently offering AQA for GCSE. |
| **How we work together as a team** | As a department, we are resourceful, encouraging, and approachable. We benefit from good professional relationships within the department, colleagues in other departments, and pupils. Working collaboratively is a key facet of our ethos and allows us to support each another at every turn. Our collective aim is to always ensure that our students enjoy Art and that their knowledge and skills develop and progress as much as possible during their time with us. |
| **How we support ECTs** | NQTs are assigned a formal mentor from within the department to assist them through their first year, although the whole department are accustomed to lending their support whenever needed. The probationary year is also overseen by the Subject Leader and a Senior Teacher responsible for Teacher Training. |
| **Uptake of Subject and Results** | We have had strong outcomes in our results over the last 3 years and hope to continue this. Art is popular with 63 students currently following GCSE Art in Years 10 and 11. |
| **Extra Curricular Activities** | Part of our continuing success is due to the commitment and dedication of the department who regularly, consistently, and willingly support students out of school hours. We also have a track record of providing extra-curricular activities to enrich the curriculum including:   * Art intervention sessions * Community Projects * Whole school shows * Expressive Arts concert and showcase * Art trips |

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