ART AND DESIGN PROVISION

College Background

Xaverian is a Catholic Sixth Form College situated in Rusholme, two miles south of Manchester city centre. Xaverian College was founded by the Xaverian Brothers. Although the College is now under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Salford, the Governing Body continues to base the College's mission on the ideals of the Xaverian Brothers and their Mission Statement from which the College Aims are derived.

Students enrol at the College from over 100 schools across Greater Manchester and beyond. The College has close links with Catholic schools in the surrounding area as well as with several non-Catholic Manchester high schools.

The College had a very successful Ofsted Inspection in March 2023, receiving outstanding for Overall Effectiveness and all key indicators.

Art & Design at Xaverian

This outstanding department consists of Fine Art, Graphics, Photography and Textiles, all of which are taught at A level. (AQA specification) The subjects sit in Division A. Included in this division are the following subject areas: Ancient History/Classical Civilisation, Criminology, Film, History, English, Media Studies, Law, RE and Sociology.

There are currently 8 members of staff who contribute to the delivery of the Art and Design subject areas. The academic staff are supported by two full-time technicians. The department benefits from positive working relationships between the curriculum staff across art and design in which all students are valued. We look positively on all students and cultivate an atmosphere of mutual respect and equality.

The department achieves consistently excellent exam results and is a very popular destination for students. There are currently 491 students studying across the art subjects. There are purpose built Fine Art, Graphics, Photography, Textiles studios. The basement studios have recently been reconfigured providing further studios, a workshop/drop in, and a large screen print room. There is also an Art Technician room, a dark room and outbuildings (The Stables") which are used for storage, Art Installation/workshop space and a Kiln.

We work strongly as a collaborative team and our focus is on constantly improving our teaching through reflection, self-evaluation and exploring evidence informed practice. The team prepares all its own teaching resources, and these are discussed and reviewed continuously. Many extra-curricular opportunities are provided for students within and outside of college. Gallery and museum visits locally, nationally and outside the UK have provided rich opportunities for students. We have excellent links with the Whitworth art gallery and have close university links with the art departments of MMU, UAL and UCA. Visiting speakers provide information and workshops about pathways and creative careers.

The annual Xaverian Art Exhibition each June is a true community event. It is a culmination and showcase for the talents of our students to be seen by a wider audience of family, schools, colleges and Universities, college Governors, college staff, and a welcome to prospective students.

It is expected that the successful applicant will be able to work well leading the other members of this dynamic and supportive team and will make an active contribution to the Division's quality systems and to the continuous improvement in teaching, learning, assessment, and student performance management that is central to the Division's shared objectives.