

ART DEPARTMENT

The art department currently comprises three full time subject specialists, two part-time specialist and an art technician. The Head of Department is Mr Daren Hazael who was appointed in September 2001. The other members of the department are, Mrs Kirsty McWhirter, Miss Ros Porter, Miss Beth Moxham and Mrs Sarah Leach. Teaching takes place in four excellent studios (in one dedicated block).

All the studios have PCs, web cam and data projector. We have our own colour laser printer which has proved to be an enormous asset. The department enjoys an excellent rapport with students and places a strong emphasis on the contextualisation of their own work in-order to promote understanding. The department firmly believes that if you can instil confidence in students and equip them to take risks then in turn, they can achieve complete ownership over their work. We actively encourage students to research into both contemporary artists and the more conventionally favoured.

Key Stage 3

We teach mixed ability groups in Key Stage 3 and see it as very much a time of skills building. In Y7 the students will learn about mark-making, drawing, ceramics and painting and begin to question why artists make work in the way they do. By Y8 students will be investigating the context of art and be looking at art from different cultures. During Y9 the students look at the expressionistic quality of Art and begin to use their acquired skills to produce more personal work.

Key Stage 4

Art is popular at this level with a large proportion of students opting for it. The students follow a comprehensive study of different approaches to making art and are encouraged with the support of staff to be courageous with their work and not to put ceilings on their achievement. Students have access to a range of expertise including both 2D and 3D work. The continued excellent results are testament to this.

Key Stage 5

The uptake for art in the sixth form is healthy. Currently we have around 80 students taking A level modules, either in fine art or photography. The students are encouraged to use the studios during their study periods and make full use of the facilities that we have. The students pursue work which makes full use of their skills/potential whether conventional-strong drawing and painting - or a more contemporary approach.

The department has had outstanding examination success at both GCSE and A-level.

This is an exciting department to join in a very friendly school. The students are responsive to learning and excited by the opportunities offered to them. We continue to develop as a department and are fully supported by an effective senior management team. If you are passionate about art and would relish the opportunity to grow with us then we look forward to welcoming you on board.

Daren Hazael
Head of Art
May 2022