



KING EDWARD VI
SCHOOL LICHFIELD

ART AND DESIGN DEPARTMENT

The King Edward VI School Art and Design department is a well-established, enthusiastic and innovative department. We are a strong and supportive team that pride ourselves on creating engaging and contemporary lessons across the key stages.

Our main belief is in our subject – we believe in Art & Design and the capacity of the subject to broaden a student's horizon, to get them to think more openly and to challenge the world around them. We take pride in building our student knowledge and traditional skill set, alongside we encourage the students to explore ideas knowing that they will learn to be more independent because of it. We hope to provide students with an enjoyable and creative learning experience using a wide range of mediums to ensure students' meet their potential whether this is lesson by lesson or with a more long term focus.

Art and Design has a long tradition of being a popular and successful subject within the school and when measured against the national statistics we always outperform. We teach mixed ability lessons across all years in Key Stage 3. In Year 7 we assess, embed and build on our student's prior knowledge and skills in a fixed project entitled 'Baseline skills', ensuring we have given each student the same opportunity at the expected KS3 skills. We then build on this in year 8 and 9, staff create projects from two broad themes; Year 8 'Self and society,' and Year 9 'The Everyday.' This allows our art teaching to remain culturally and socially up to date and allows our staff to be creative in their own practise. Each term students will work on a new project relating to the theme. These projects will differ from teacher to teacher but all students have the opportunity to develop and refine the same skills.

At Key Stage 4 the current curriculum follows the AQA specification for Art and Design. This is a broad course exploring practical and critical/contextual work through a range of 2D and/or 3D processes and new media and technologies. It is an unendorsed course where candidates can work in appropriate art, craft and design materials and processes.

At Key Stage 5 the current curriculum follows the AQA specification for Fine Art. During Y12 the students take part in projects that really hone and extend their skills and knowledge, it's about refining, trialling and finding their strengths and work ethic/process ready for their coursework project and Exam in y13. Students work with a wide range of materials and techniques with the purpose of helping them to express ideas, concepts, beliefs and opinions. The work of contemporary designers and artists as well as those from other times and cultures are an important and integral part of the course. The most important skill is, independent learning and thinking. Each student can control their own pathway through their coursework in a largely personal investigation helped by one to one negotiation with teachers.