

Art & Design

Year 7

Basic Forms: Students begin by developing an understanding of the formal elements as the building blocks to any artwork. Year 7 work from direct observation to create a range of still life pencil drawings exploring line, tone, texture, space and form. Paint is then introduced and students transfer their learning to wet media in greyscale.

Colour and Rousseau: The introduction of colour theory and investigation into the work of Henri Rousseau and the circumstances by which his work was made. Animal paintings are then created which bring together student learning throughout the academic year.

Year 8

Portraiture: Students explore individual facial features before moving on to a range of techniques and processes by which to draw the human face e.g. the grid method, to present a likeness and to apply the formal elements.

Cultural Masks: Year 8 explore a culture of their choosing and research traditions, artwork, symbolism, patterns and imagery relating to it. They use a range of media to create a composition that comprises some of their favourite imagery. Students then design and make a diverse selection of masks of their own creation celebrating key design features found in masks or other artefacts belonging to their chosen culture using papier-mache techniques and paint.

Year 9

Animal Heads: Students select an animal of their choosing and create a range of studies observing this animal from a variety of perspectives. This is used as a reference for their later sculptural work. Students then construct this animal's head using building techniques in bubble wrap and paper, inspired by artist Chie Hitotsuyama.

Surrealism: Students are introduced to Surrealist tools such as juxtaposition and dream-like imagery. They create the word 'Surrealism' through imaginative lettering designs. They then use collage as a medium to create a composition and enlarge this using ballpoint pen, applying appropriate tone and texture accordingly.

GCSE AQA - 8201

Year 10

Natural Forms: Composition, Site Specific Visit, Artist Research

Still Life: Acrylic Painting Workshop, Artist Research, Photo-shoot, Painting exploration

Portraiture: Graphite Workshop, Exploring Facial Features, Self Portraiture

Exploring themes and ideas, gaining inspiration and recording using photography to begin their personal project

Year 11

Personal Project continues: observational drawing, compositional planning, media sampling and Final Outcome. The work thus far accounts for 60% of the GCSE.

Externally Set Assignment (40%): Students produce a new project relating to their chosen topic from the exam paper released in January.

Outcomes are realised in a two day final examination.

A-Level AQA - 7202

Year 12

Portraiture: large scale studies exploring facial features in a range of media, oil painting workshop, artist research.

Landscapes: exploring artists, photography and developing oil painting technique further

Personal Investigation(60%): A self-initiated project exploring subject matter of interest to the individual student. This unit also comprises an essay to accompany the practical work outlining key concepts, context and content.

Year 13

Personal Investigation Continues: students follow individual journeys based upon their emerging ideas and intentions.

Externally Set Assignment (40%): Students produce a new project relating to their chosen topic from the exam paper, released in February.

Outcomes are realised in a three day final examination.