



'Every child is an artist' - Pablo Picasso

Art and Design can play a vital and integral part of every student's educational experience, by helping to develop key life skills such as creativity, problem solving, independence and self-reflection. When communicating ideas and expressing themselves through the visual language students build their confidence and self-esteem, whilst gaining a greater understanding of themselves and the world around them. Through our wide ranging and continually evolving curriculum across the key stages we strive to provide lessons that inspire students to explore their own individuality whilst learning about artists, designers and craftspeople from different cultures and times.

Through a study of Art we aim to develop students that are;

- Able to thoughtfully express themselves visually, verbally and in writing
- Focused and engaged in their work
- Empathetic towards the opinions and experiences of others
- Prepared to make positive contributions to lessons and the wider school community
- More aware of their own and other cultures
- Aware of the importance of the visual arts in society
- Innovative and prepared to take risks in order to learn new skills
- Independent learners, who enjoy broadening their knowledge
- Problem solvers, who are willing to try new ways of realising their intentions

KS3 Art Curriculum Overview (Year 7 & 8)

At KS3 we have developed a varied course that follows the National Curriculum subject guidance. All students study Art in Years 7 and 8 and are taught by a team of dedicated specialist teachers. Students' understanding of the visual elements of art and design (line, tone, texture, colour, pattern, shape, and 3D form) is developed by providing an accessible and engaging curriculum through which we aim to enable each student to achieve their full potential. Drawing is fundamental to the curriculum and will regularly underpin both class and homework tasks. Teachers plan their own schemes of work based on agreed themes and techniques, and this approach allows staff to continually adapt and improve their teaching whilst providing an opportunity to share new ideas within the team. We regularly review our projects in order to ensure that the activities foster an enjoyment for the creative process, and broaden students' knowledge of art history.

YEAR 7

Students often arrive at Little Heath having had a varied experience of art at Primary School. To begin to address this, all Year 7 students will complete a foundation unit during the first term in which they will study the formal visual elements in art and design as mentioned above. This gives them the necessary skills to develop in all aspects of the subject and prepare them for future projects. Following the foundation period students complete a variety of projects based on a range of themes outlined below. Students are taught a wide range of processes and techniques such as drawing, painting, print-making and sculpture through the year, with regular references to artists and craftspeople to help the students broaden their knowledge and gain further inspiration.



Year 7 themes and techniques:

| THEMES | TECHNIQUES |
|---|--|
| <p>FORMAL ELEMENTS Line/ Tone/Colour/ Texture/ Form/ Pattern</p> | <p>DRAWING Pen, pencil, chalk and charcoal, pastel and oil pastel</p> |
| <p>HABITATS Ocean/ Rainforest/ Jungle/ Space/ Interiors/ Exteriors/ Cityscapes</p> | <p>PAINTING Ink, water colour and poster paint</p> |
| <p>NATURAL FORMS AND (OR) MAN MADE OBJECTS Machinery/ Fauna & Flora</p> | <p>PRINTMAKING Mono printing and poly printing</p> |
| <p>ART FROM OTHER CULTURES</p> <p>GRAPHIC DESIGN Stories/Illustration</p> | <p>SCULPTURE Clay sculptures, vessels Card Construction, Papier Mache</p> <p>TEXTILES Appliqué and fabric painting</p> |

YEAR 8

During Year 8 students revisit and build upon the knowledge and skills they have developed in Year 7, while aiming to produce artwork of greater creative diversity and complexity. Students study a combination of themes, techniques and contextual references which help to continue to develop their knowledge and understanding of the subject.

Year 8 themes and techniques:

| THEMES | TECHNIQUES |
|---|---|
| <p>PORTRAITURE Side / front profile</p> | <p>DRAWING Pen, pencil, chalk and charcoal, pastel and oil pastel, mixed media</p> |
| <p>ANIMALS & INSECTS</p> <p>STILL LIFE Natural or man made</p> | <p>PAINTING ink, water colour and poster paint</p> |
| <p>ENVIRONMENTS Structures/Architecture Perspective/ vanishing points/landscapes</p> | <p>PRINTMAKING Mono, Poly, Silk Screen</p> |
| <p>MYTHOLOGY Myths and legends/Fairy tales/ Gargoyles</p> | <p>SCULPTURE Ceramics, wire, card, Paper Mache, Assemblage</p> <p>TEXTILES Tie-dye, felt, silk painting</p> |



KS4 Art Curriculum Overview (Year 9, 10 & 11)

We follow the AQA specification for GCSE Art and specifically the Art, Craft and Design endorsement as this enables the students to explore a very diverse range of artistic disciplines. We believe that students should be encouraged to create a portfolio of work that reflects their own interests as this often leads to greater engagement and independence in their approach to the subject.

There are two main components to the course; a coursework portfolio (Unit 1) which is worth 60% and an externally set assignment (Unit 2) which is worth 40%. The coursework portfolio consists of a range of different units of work which are designed to build students' abilities in a number of areas, and create a broad range of work for assessment. Smaller 'satellite' units in Year 9 lead onto extended projects in Years 10 and 11, which are designed to continually develop students' understanding of the different genres of art whilst building their confidence, knowledge, experience and skill. The timings and details of the project work students undertake over the three years are outlined below.

YEAR 9

| Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 | Term 4 | Term 5 | Term 6 |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------------------|
| <p align="center">Satellite Units (1 per Term) Individual projects exploring a range of themes and techniques Teachers can choose from: Drawing/ 2D Skills, Printmaking, Graphic Design, 3D skills, Textiles and Painting</p> | | | | | Thematic CWK Project |

Satellite Units

At the start of the GCSE course five smaller projects, each spanning a single term, are taught. Each project covers a different theme and technique, giving students a broad and experimental experience. These initial projects are designed to introduce the students to the wide range of options the subject has to offer, so that they can make informed choices for future work.

YEAR 10

| Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 | Term 4 | Term 5 | Term 6 |
|----------------------|--------|--------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Thematic CWK Project | | | Self-Reflection and Planning | Final Major CWK Project | |

Thematic Project

In the final term of Year 9 students begin the first main unit of coursework (Thematic Project) from a selection of given themes. All four assessment objectives (set by AQA) are covered throughout this project, and the students gain a greater understanding of how to respond to them successfully in their work. Through supportive teaching



students create a range of observational work, reference artists and finally develop their own ideas into a personal final piece.

YEAR 11

| Term 1 | Term 2 | Term 3 | Term 4 | Term 5 | Term 6 |
|-------------------------|--------|--|--------|--------|-------------|
| Final Major CWK Project | | Externally Set Assignment – AQA (Unit 2) | | | Study Leave |

Final Major Project

Students start work on their Final Major Project after the Easter of Year 10. This project is based on past exam style questions in order to help students understand how AQA composes the starting points for the externally set assignment. Students complete a similar range and quantity of work as their Thematic Unit, in a similar format. Students are encouraged to focus on key strengths at this stage, and complete a final outcome in a ten hour exam in order to gain valuable experience for the final phase of the course.

Externally Set Assignment - AQA

In the January of Year 11 students are given the Exam Paper from AQA and will complete a range of preparatory work before their final GCSE exam in April/May. These projects are similar in nature to the final major coursework unit, and culminate in a final ten hour exam.

KS5 Art Curriculum Overview (Year 12 & 13)

A level Art is a linear subject taught across Year 12 and 13. Similarly to GCSE, the course consists of a coursework portfolio (Unit 1) worth 60% of the overall grade and an externally set exam project (Unit 2) that accounts for the remaining 40%. The coursework element of the course runs from September of Year 12 to December of Year 13, so there is a significant amount of time to create a wide ranging and extended body of work. The externally set project follows the same format as GCSE, however it culminates in a fifteen hour exam. We follow the AQA Art, Craft and Design endorsement which we believe allows us to run an exciting, varied and challenging course during which teachers can encourage students to explore the many varied opportunities that the subject has to offer.

Students are given a range of starting points to choose from, and are able to study any genre of art and design that interests them such as architecture, portraiture, wildlife and landscapes. Experimentation is encouraged and students respond to their chosen theme in a wide range of techniques such as drawing, painting, sculpture, graphics or any combination of these. Teachers support and guide students throughout the course both technically, and with their exploration of more complex ideas. We find that our approach enables students to become truly independent enquirers, who develop their ability to appreciate and understand the visual world whilst responding in a personal and creative way. Students can adapt their experience of the subject in a highly



personalised way, and have the opportunity to follow a creative pathway that they may wish to go on to study at University.

Enrichment Activities

We know that students benefit greatly from continuing their learning outside of the classroom. With this in mind, we offer a range of additional enrichment activities throughout the key stages, such as visits to galleries and museums to help broaden students' cultural understanding of the visual arts. We run popular after school art clubs in Key Stage Three, and there are regular House competitions that the students can participate in. The department also run a series of calendared enrichment activities at key points during the year for GCSE and A Level students in order to maximise their potential in the subject.