

KS4 Art & Design - GCSE course

Course Specifications

Exam board: Pearson Edexcel

Course type: GCSE

Course Description

We are an Arts Specialist School so you will be in good hands. The UK is at the top of a global market where the creative industries represent a multi-billion pound growth sector.

It is beneficial to balance academic subjects with creative subjects because it will develop you as a whole person and will also help you in the actual study of the academic subjects.

Study of a creative subject alongside academic subjects will help you develop the following academic and life skills:

- Skills of Creativity and Imagination- beneficial for further studies and careers in the fields of Maths, Science, English, Languages, Humanities, Medicine
- Skills of Dexterity (hand-eye coordination) – beneficial for further studies and careers in the fields of Medicine (e.g., Surgery, Dentistry)
- Skills of Problem solving – beneficial for further studies and careers in the fields of Science, Maths (e.g. Statistics, Accountancy)
- Skills of Resilience - beneficial for further studies and careers in any field and walk of life
- Knowledge and Understanding of different cultures, histories and movements - beneficial for further studies and careers in the field of Humanities
- Appreciation of Historical, Cultural, Ethical, Religious and Spiritual aspects of humanity - beneficial for further studies and careers in the field of Humanities.

Year 10 – Manmade Structures: internally set, internally marked, externally moderated

Year 11 – Unit 1 Identity: internally set, internally marked, externally moderated

Skills & Abilities

Art is very successful at Alperton Community School due to a well-balanced course, excellent teaching and support, and above all, the effort and commitment students put in.

Ideally you will be at grade 4 by the end of year 9, have shown commitment and enthusiasm and behaved well in lessons. You must have a love and passion for Art and Design, be self-motivated, and be prepared to work at home. If you opt for Art you will be given the opportunity to develop your creative ideas through a widening range of media and techniques. You should want to learn about Art from other times and cultures. The Art department teaches ideas and techniques through themes, and all projects involve some written work through annotation of ideas and research into artists and art styles.

You will have the opportunity to widen your knowledge through gallery visits and a field trip to London. You must also visit galleries in your own time as this will develop your awareness of other artists, craftspeople and designers, as well as improve your knowledge of Art and how it should be viewed.

You will be required to maintain 2 sketchbooks (portfolio) of work that shows your thoughts, working process and skills for each project. The sketchbooks and your final outcomes of work during year 10 and

year 11 make up your Unit 1 coursework. Unit 2 (ESA) is set for the second part of Y11. You will create the 3rd sketchbook and a final outcome for this unit.

Assessment

Unit 1

Year 10 – Manmade Structures: internally set, internally marked, externally moderated

Year 11 – Unit 1 Identity: internally set, internally marked, externally moderated

Assessed by coursework and a final outcome in the Summer of Year 10

Assessed by coursework and a 10 hour final outcome at the end of Year 11

Unit 2

ESA (Externally Set Assignment) exam unit is set by the exam board and each year it is a different theme.

Unit 2 is completed from January to May of Y11.

Careers & Progression

Progression

On completion of your GCSE Art and Design course, you can progress to GCE (A Level) Art and Design, Textiles or Photography courses at Alpertown with the EDUQAS specifications.

Careers

You can turn your passion for art and design into a professional career that can provide a life of fulfilment and success. Britain's leading industry is its Creative Industries. They are also the fastest growing sectors in the UK economy.

Possible Careers

Artist, Designer, Architect, Computer Game Designer, Crafts Person, Fashion Designer, Publishing Designer, Photographer, Illustrator, Animator, Interior Designer, Art Acquisitions Specialist/Art Investor, Art Director, Art Gallery Curator, Commercial Artist/Layout Artist.

See this excellent resource on creative careers: <https://creativejourneyuk.com/>

Guidance & Advice

Further reading:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/art-and-design-2016.html>

<https://www.theartcareerproject.com/careers/>

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/talking-point/why-study-art>

<https://www.cwjobs.co.uk/salary-checker/average-creative-salary>
