

KS4 GCSE – Art and Design

Course Specifications

Exam board: PEARSON EDEXCEL

Course type: GCSE

Course Description

The Art and Design curriculum is designed to provide engaging, challenging, meaningful learning experiences that supports the development of creative practice. Our rewarding and immersive programme of study broadens experience, develops imagination and technical skills, fosters creativity and promotes personal and social development. The focus of the curriculum is to nurture an enthusiasm for Art, Craft and Design and to develop critical, practical and theoretical skills that enable students to gain a holistic understanding of a range of practices and contexts in the visual arts, crafts and design fields.

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.

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 need to 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 should have a love of the subject and feel motivated to develop your visual skills and express your ideas in working through assignments. You will need to commit to the course and the expectations for engagement with the subject outside of lesson time.

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.

Assessment

Component 1-Personal Investigation: [60%] Organic Structures and Identity

Assessed internally and moderated by Pearson Edexcel. 10 hour practical making for final outcome.

Component 2-Externally set assignment: [40%] ESA

Assessed internally and moderated by Pearson Edexcel. 10 hour practical making for final outcome.

Careers & Progression

Art is a popular and successful subject at Alperton Community School. Many of our students go onto foundation courses or other art related courses at some of the best Art and Design Universities.

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/student-advice/what-to-study/art-and-design-foundation-diplomas>

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/textile-design>

<http://creativejourneyuk.org/>

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 Alperton 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

<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>
