

Art & Photography Department

About Us

Within the Art & Photography department there are three member of staff:

Mrs. L Coulman
Mr G. Houston
Miss L. Shore

Our passion for creativity is evident throughout lessons and our focus is to enable every student to aim high, achieve high and build on their creative skills.

We follow open dialogue and diverse viewpoints to drive student's portfolios forward.

Our vision is to inspire and encourage.

Our Lessons

Art lessons include a range of elements designed to develop artistic skills and understanding. This includes the fundamentals of art, art techniques, the history of art and creative expression. Photography lessons include key objectives for students to achieve, theory and hands on practice in which students will apply what they have learnt by taking their own photographs. This often involves going out to shoot or within our in classroom studio boxes. In lessons we will review and critique our work so that we can achieve higher.

Areas for development

Our main development areas for are:

- Higher uptake at GCSE, for our current year 10 GCSE art 24-26 we have had success with this, but next years year 10 cohort (25-27) we would like even more.
- Higher attainment at February and July assessment windows
- Incorporate even more media, materials and opportunities into lessons.
- A studio space in which students can showcase their work.

Our ambitious and inspiring curriculum for all

In KS3 art the students will explore three projects: Pop Art, Cubism & Architecture. Across the curriculum students will learn about the history of artists and famous paintings, which will inspire and influence their own creative response. The students will explore a range of materials and techniques, from painting to 3D making. They will encounter skills that they will re-encounter in KS4 photography & art lessons, and use their prior and new knowledge to create a portfolio of work that showcases an understanding of other artists and their own creative ambitions.

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Our curriculum intent

Our curriculum encourages the students to explore and express their individual creativity. Students will refine technical skills related to different mediums and techniques whilst enhancing their visual literacy by being able to analyse and critique other artist's work and their own. We encourage students to make decisions about their own work and how they can progress. Encourage cultural and historical awareness, this starts on their first lesson in year 7. Overall the intent is to provide the students an experience and environment to support their creative growth.

Marking and feedback

In KS3 feedback is given throughout the lesson when not in the independent learning zone through live marking. There are two points within the year in which students will be entered for their current mark and attitude to learning. This is graded based on their sketchbooks. In KS4 feedback is also given throughout lessons, however there are also points within the year that teachers will mark the work against the GCSE criteria.

Quality assurance

Throughout the year the department critique their own lessons, planning and the curriculum as a whole to see if there is any lessons that we can adapt. Lessons have embedded the learning cycle of I do, We do, You Do, ILZ.

Curriculum enrichment

We support curriculum enrichment by incorporating diverse resources by using a range of multimedia and technology to broaden students' learning experiences. There are opportunities for cross-curricular links which create a new learning experience and show the interconnections between different areas of study.

Art & Photography enables students to develop skills which are directly applicable to creative careers. Also enhances creative thinking and problem solving which could be used in advertising, marketing and media.

Intervention & Home Learning

There are opportunities for year 11 students to have lesson 6 throughout the year. GCSE students in year 10 & 11 (Art & Photography) are also given the opportunity to have drop down days to work on their portfolios.

We encourage all students from year 7-11 to create work at home and practice the skills they have been learning in lessons. Students in years 10 & 11 investigate their own artists / photographers, this can also be done at home by research and visiting galleries.