

Course Title: GCSE Fine Art

Awarding Body: OCR

Further information available from: Mrs Van Daalen

The course offers students a wide range of creative and exciting opportunities to explore Art through a variety of media with reference to contemporary artistic practice.

This is a very successful course with high pass rates that lays strong foundations for post-16 students studying either Art or Photography.

Students considering Art at GCSE should have a real interest in the subject. They should be motivated and prepared to work hard independently, supporting class work with up to 1 hour of extracurricular study each week. The coursework portfolio is worth 60% of their final mark and an externally set portfolio task at the end of their second year worth 40% of the overall mark. Both the coursework and exam are marked using the same assessment objectives.

**AO1: (25%) Artist INSPIRATION** ideas through artist's research and appropriate responses.

**AO2: (25%) Media EXPERIMENTATION** with, and select, appropriate materials.

**AO3: (25%) Considered CREATION** ideas and observations through a selection of drawing, painting, printmaking, photography and video.

**AO4: (25%) Informed OUTCOME** a final outcome developed from work produced throughout the portfolio development.

#### **Coursework Portfolio**

For this, students produce a body of work that often takes the form of a sketchbook supported by larger drawings, paintings and 3D media pieces. They explore an idea or theme developing work in a way that reflects their personal interests or strengths until they reach a final outcome. Work produced should satisfy the Assessment Objectives above and demonstrate that they have researched and responded to artists relevant to their theme, experimented with different media, recorded relevant images and objects.

#### **Controlled Assignment**

The exam takes the same form as the coursework. Students will be issued with project titles in January from which they will select a starting point to develop ideas from. They will have time to produce preparation work that satisfies the first 3 AO's (just as they have done for their coursework) before they begin their exam outcome piece. This preparatory work is worth approximately 30% of the 40% of marks awarded for the exam. The exam outcome piece is produced in 11 hours under examination conditions, typically split into sittings of up to 5 hours. The focus in the exam is to produce a final outcome that satisfies AO4. Exams are likely to begin towards the middle of April and finish in the middle of May, although exact timings may vary. Coursework deadlines will coincide with final exam deadlines. Students have the opportunity to work in an increasingly independent way. They will explore ideas by looking at and responding to contemporary Artists, developing drawing, painting and recording skills and by experimenting in a variety of exciting and innovative media.

The course is structured to provide students with the opportunity to develop a wide range of skills, explore an exciting range of contemporary artists and express their own ideas. It is an excellent grounding for further study of art, design or photography or a career in any of the creative industries. It also develops good transferable skills including problem solving, researching, and creative thinking.