

ART AND DESIGN

Course Outline

The department of Art and Design is led by Mr Hyde and there are three more specialist Art teachers. All pupils are taught in mixed-ability classes. The Department has programmes of study which cover the National Curriculum for Art and Design in Key Stage 3, the AQA GCSE Art and Design and the EDEXCEL B/TEC First Diploma in Art and Design which if passed with merit is valued as four GCSEs.

We believe our schemes of work offer all our pupils the opportunities to develop their creativity, imagination, practical and critical skills to a high standard using a wide range of 2-D and 3-D media.

Key Stage 3

Pupils receive a one-hour lesson each week throughout the year. They can expect to be drawing, designing, painting, printmaking, making collage, sculpture and ceramics. They will study the work of artists and designers to inspire and inform their own work. They will also be asked to use and understand codes, symbols and conventions from other cultures and religions. There are nine units of work 'Self-image', 'Objects and Viewpoints', 'Landscape', 'Shared View', 'Buildings', 'Animating Art', 'Life Events', 'Change your Style' and 'Public Spaces, Private Places'.

Pupils are taught how to use media, tools and techniques skillfully and safely. They are expected to work to a high standard.

All pupils are given sketchbooks which they must look after and take a pride in. Most of their acquired knowledge and understanding is evident in these books and they are essential for teacher assessments. Pupils are asked to keep a sketchbook at home to record their own work or to work on separate sheets and bring them in to include in their class books. They should bring their home book in once every Half Term for their homework assessment.

Key Stage 4

Art and Design is optional at Key Stage 4. The Department offers GCSE Art and Design. Unendorsed which means pupils can present work in any 2-D or 3-D media. They have to present three coursework units and one exam unit of work. In September 2007 we began the B/TEC First Diploma Course, this Summer four students gained Distinction, which is equivalent to 4 A grades at GCSE.

Beyond the classroom

The Art rooms are open for pupils to work most days after school and there is a Key Stage 3 Art Club and a Gifted and Talented Art Club.

Parental Support

The Department does not often charge for materials for the course but pupils will be asked to pay for a KS4 sketchbook and a replacement KS3 sketchbook if they lose theirs. Overalls are available in all the Art rooms for pupils to wear if they are using particularly messy media. It is not compulsory to wear these and it is inevitable that some pupils may get the odd splash of paint on their clothes. Most of the media we use are washable. We do ask for your understanding in this. (We do use acrylic paint in Key Stage 4 which is not washable when dry but can usually be removed with a spirit based thinner!).