

GCSE Art and Design

Outline of course

Many of the skills that students gain through studying Art and Design will serve them well throughout their life. Their powers of communication and understanding of the many aspects of creative art and design work are a passport to an exciting world involving the use of colour, shape and pattern. Artists and designers use their imaginations to produce the designs of the world we live in. Art will combine with all other subjects and is important for any career where creativity and design is involved, including graphic design.

Specialist areas of study covered during the course include drawing and painting, three dimensional design, mixed media constructions, sculpture, ceramic design, graphic design printmaking and the study of other Artists and cultures.

Worksheets or workbooks are essential for the progress of students own ideas, thinking and research.

Art students at Kingsmead have an excellent record of success at G.C.S.E. and many of them continue to study Art and Design in the Sixth Form.

Special equipment required

4B and 2B pencils/soft rubber/water soluble pencil crayons, pencil sharpener/apron.
A2 folder (which can be purchased from school)

Coursework requirements

Students will have to complete one major portfolio unit of coursework, which will involve the research and development of personal ideas from a series of set brief. This represents 60% of the overall mark. The remaining 40% of your total mark is based on a final practical examination unit set by the examination board. A G.C.S.E. grade can not be achieved without the completion of both the coursework and the exam element.

Assessment is based on regular reviews of each a student's portfolio of work against the following objectives:

Recording observations and experiences visually, exploring ideas as visual studies.

Responding to the work of other artists/craftsmen and craftswomen.

Learning to safely, sympathetically and skilfully use materials to develop and modify their work.

To use supportive studies and research to realise their intentions and produce a final piece of Art work based on each assignment set.

Each student will receive verbal and written feedback after each portfolio review. At the end of the course the coursework portfolio and exam unit are assessed separately and receive marks which are moderated by an external moderator.

How parents can help at home

Parents can help by making themselves aware of each assignment that is being work on. A lot of the homework is research and preparation for the next lesson.

Parents can help by getting involved in discussions about their child's interpretation of a brief and the management of their preparation work.