



# Art & Design

## Aims

- To promote students' individuality and creativity.
- To develop students' abilities to articulate and evaluate work.
- To develop the ability to think and act independently.
- To develop students' confidence.
- To develop students' visual awareness and sensitivity to the environment.
- To encourage knowledge and understanding of the great artists and designers from our own and other cultures throughout history.
- To develop an understanding of the creative process in art.

## Objectives

- To train the students in basic skills enabling them to handle two-dimensional and three-dimensional media with confidence.
- To show students how to relate to the work of great artists and designers and thus be influenced in their own work.
- To give students an appreciation of the development of ideas and styles throughout the ages.

## Organisation

The department consists of the Head of department, a full-time Deputy Head of department, one full-time teacher, three part-time teachers and a technician. It is well resourced in terms of covering the range of easel painting, printing, silk painting, textile work and metal sculpting. There is a silk steamer, two sewing machines, two computers, two digital cameras, a television, a video, a slide projector, a scanner, a black-and-white photocopier and a colour copier. The Art department has its own extensive and growing library of books, videos and slides. Three specialist art rooms for the lower and upper school are based in Caldecote Towers.

## Who studies what and when?

### Years 7-9

During one period a week all students are taught the basic skills of drawing, painting, collage work, printmaking, 3D work and art on the computer. They study great artists and designers and learn how to relate to their work. Cross-curricular work, gallery visits, painting scenery and making props are all part of the programme. Pupils keep a hard-backed logbook throughout the three years.

### Years 10-11

In this two-year course art specialists take the subject to a high level. Emphasis is on individual expression. Students are encouraged to use a wide range of media, including silk painting, textiles, clay and plaster. Gallery visits and artists' workshops are arranged. Students make studies of artists and designers of Western and other cultures, including the work of Jewish and Israeli artists. Every student must have a logbook which records thought processes, visual ideas, the development of technical skills and the students' personal engagement with great art. Students sit Art and Design GCSE.

### LVI and UVI

Building upon the skills and knowledge acquired at GCSE, the student further develops his/her art, sustaining personal enquiries at a much higher level. Strong drawing skills are required. Knowledge and understanding of the works of the great artists and designers should inform a student's activity, whilst a personal study of considerable depth is a course requirement. This will involve visits to workshops and galleries.

By the end of the course students should have fully developed, independent thinking skills, a high level of skill and a sophisticated technique. An individual, mature and personal style should emerge as the outcome of two years' sustained study. The work produced for AS and A Level includes painting and drawing, printmaking, some textile work, silk painting, sculpture and mixed media. There are opportunities for students to become involved in designing the scenery for the drama productions.

## Art Club

Year 7 has an optional Art Club session once a week.

## Public examinations

GCSE EDEXCEL SYLLABUS: ART AND DESIGN

AS/A LEVEL OCR SYLLABUS: ART AND DESIGN (FINE ART)

## Benefits

Using the activity of art, students have the opportunity to express their feelings about the world through the medium of their visual sense. In so doing students learn about themselves as human beings: "know thyself". The study of art helps the student to understand that great art elevates and enriches the spirit and that it also reflects the nature of society. Artistic activity develops a student's confidence in his/her ability to look objectively at the world, make decisions, develop ideas, solve problems, take risks and find creative or unusual solutions. Universities and employers value evidence that a student has developed the creative and human skills gained in the practice of art and thus has developed a rounded personality.