

Syllabus: AQA GCSE ART & DESIGN 8201

Please consult: Mrs S Cotton

### What we aim to do

Art and Design enables students to develop their creativity and practical skills. The GCSE course encourages learners to investigate a broad range of materials, processes and techniques as they explore and develop ideas to themes set in school or by the examination board. The units studied are an excellent basis for further study at Advanced Level. There are countless job opportunities in Art and Design based industries including advertising, animation, graphic design, museum & gallery curation and education. Architecture and product design are rooted in creative thinking and problem solving. Fashion industries and textiles designers require a creative qualification. The film and television industry has many artistic aspects in its production from set design to photography. This demonstrates the breadth that art and design qualifications span. Many of the skills learnt on art and design qualifications are transferable and can be applied in other subject areas.

### What we study

There are two key units for the GCSE qualification. They are:

**Unit 1: Coursework:** Personal Portfolio in Art and Design, which is made up of various projects and themes across the two year course, enabling students to create a diverse range of work. They develop sketchbooks and larger pieces for their portfolio. At least one project will be completed under controlled conditions.

**Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment:** For this component, students are given an examination paper with a theme, which is set by AQA in January. They will have a set period of time to prepare for the examination, in which they produce a sketchbook full of research, drawings, ideas and experimentation. They will then sit a timed exam, creating a final piece during a period of ten hours.

### Skills needed

To have a keen interest in Art and Design and have a healthy curiosity to be creative in their studies. There is a strong emphasis on drawing skills in the marking criteria so we expect students to have some confidence and ability in drawing when they begin the course.

### How your work will be assessed

For the examination unit students are given roughly 13 weeks preparation where they complete a sketchbook with their research, drawings and ideas. The 13 weeks preparation culminates in a ten hour exam of sustained focused study in which candidates are expected to develop their own unaided work informed by their preparatory studies – often called a final piece. The period of focused study should take place under the conditions for practical examinations. The work is then marked and moderated internally and externally.

**Unit 1:** (Internally set projects including the Mock Exam) accounts for 60% of the GCSE qualification

**Unit 2:** (Externally set exam project) is 40% of the total qualification.

### What this subject can lead to when you finish Year 11 at The Hollyfield School

Students who complete the GCSE qualification and gain a grade 6 or above can progress successfully to the GCE Advanced Level Art and Design course in the Sixth Form.

### Possible careers

Fine Art, Film & Television production, Set Design & Theatre production, Graphic Design, Printmaking, Branding/Advertising: Communication Design, Product and Furniture Design, Vehicle Design, Fashion & Textile Design, Fashion Journalism, Jewellery Making, Accessory design, Shoe Design, Photography & Digital Arts, Interior and Spatial Design, Architecture, Animation, Illustration, Game Design, Website Design, Study of History of Art, Publishing, Marketing, Teaching, Curate Exhibition Design, Practising Artists & Artist in Residency, Contemporary Crafts, Gallery Education

### Additional information/special requirements

n/a

### Relevant website links for further information on the course/subject

Specification: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206>

Careers: <https://discovercreative.careers/#/>

