

SUBJECT: ART

QUALIFICATION: AS & A Level

QUALIFICATION LEVEL: ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY & ADVANCED LEVEL

AWARDING BODY: AQA

CATEGORY: ART, CRAFT & DESIGN

Qualification Accreditation Number (QAN): AS 500 26598, A 500 26604

DESCRIPTION

If you are creative and wish to gain a greater understanding of the environment and its diverse multicultural contexts, then Art is the choice for you. Art is an excellent subject to take if you have lots of ideas and imagination and enjoy discovering new ways of expressing your perceptions through a wide variety of materials and techniques.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

AS level consists of two units of work:

Unit 1 Coursework portfolio - no time limit

- 50% of the total AS marks (25% of the total A Level marks)
- Candidates will produce a collection of material which exemplifies work carried out during the AS course.
- All the work submitted for this unit will be marked as a whole – set and marked by staff and moderated by AQA by visit to the centre.

Unit 2 Supervised time – 5 hours

- 50% of the total AS marks (25% of the total A Level marks)
- AS Externally Set Assignment – candidates select one of five starting points.
- Candidates may produce preparatory work and a finished piece or pieces or work of a wholly developmental nature.
- During this period candidates complete 5 hours unaided, supervised time, in which they focus on developing ideas, the first 2 hours of which should be consecutive. Work produced during the examination period, including that produced during the 5 hour period will be marked as a whole - set by AQA, marked by the centre and moderated by AQA by visit to the centre.

A2 Level consists of a further two units of work making four in total.

Unit 3 Coursework portfolio – no time limit

- 25% of the total A Level marks.
- Personal Investigation based on an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by a written element of no less than 1000 words and no more than 3000 words, leading to a finished piece or pieces.
- All the work submitted for this unit will be marked as a whole – set and marked by staff and moderated by AQA by visit to the centre.

Unit 4 Supervised time 15 hours

- 25 % of the total A Level marks.
- A2 Externally Set Assignment – Candidates select one of eight starting points. Candidates should produce preparatory work and a finished piece or pieces.
- Towards the end of this period candidates complete 15 hours of unaided, supervised time, the first 3 hours of which should be consecutive. Work produced during the examination period, including that produced during the 15 hours, will be marked as a whole – set by AQA, marked by the centre and moderated by AQA by visit to the centre.

WHAT ARE THE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

- GCSE Art - grade C or above
- Commitment, determination, creativity and enthusiasm

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Units of coursework are set by staff and assessment is seen as an important element of the course. There is studio space available in the Art Department, which enables pupils to organise their study time and spend extra time on class work if they so wish. Development of the individual is a main aim of the Department and students are required to work on their own initiative with maturity and commitment to the subject. The Controlled Tests are set by AQA and all units are internally assessed and moderated externally.

Students are assessed against four objectives in the areas of skills, knowledge and understanding. These have been grouped into four practical and conceptual domains of learning.

WHAT ARE THE COSTS?

Art Materials, sketch books, A1 folder, trips to galleries & museums.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES?

A large number of our students go on to study Art at University whilst others use A Level Art to gain University entrance in other academic areas. Most students will follow their A levels with a one year Art Foundation course at Wirral Met. Or West Cheshire College. This course will then lead them to a BA HONS. On an Art degree course of their choice. Some examples of these are: Graphic design, Fashion and Textiles, Fine Art, Photography, Sculpture, Product Design, Surface Pattern Design, 3D studies, Illustration, Ceramics, Installation Art, Theatre/Set design, Window dressing, Theatre make up, Television, Animation, Media, Video, Computer games etc. etc. etc.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Drawing and painting form the basis of AS and A level Art at Pensby whilst students gain experience in a wide range of materials and techniques. Critical and contextual studies are at the core of practical work and the department has close links with local galleries. Workshops are arranged at the Tate and Williamson Art Galleries and Wirral Metropolitan College.

Throughout the course students gain knowledge and understanding of contemporary and historical works and are able to discuss these in relation to their own work. Pupils have been on trips to Florence, Venice, London and Barcelona in the Autumn term in order to further their studies of European Artists.

During the course students are encouraged to experience and explore a wide variety of media, processes and techniques. Students are introduced to a range of Art craft and design from the past and recent times, including European and non-Western examples. This is integral to the investigation and making processes. Responses to these examples are shown through practical and critical activities, which demonstrate the candidates' understanding. Students will explore drawing using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. Underpinning the work will be the use of sketchbooks, workbooks and journals. Along with drawing and painting and mixed media, the department offers printmaking, sculpture, ICT and creative textiles.

For further information please contact:

Mrs T Kellaway or Mr G Colquhoun