

Curriculum Intent Visual Art

The curriculum intent for Key Stage 3, is for all students to have a broad range of learning experiences to prepare them for GCSE Art and GCSE Photography. The Key Stage 3 curriculum has been planned so that all students have had experience with drawing, painting, colour theory, printmaking, ceramics and sculpture. Students can write critically and analytically about their work, and the artists who have influenced them. Each year is designed to build on the previous year with skills and techniques revisited, stretched and challenged. Year 7 is a foundation year, where students develop their drawing skills, understand colour theory, and learn about the proportions of the human body. These foundation skills are woven into exciting and challenging curriculum that encourage students to be creative and independent.

Year 8 builds on the drawing skills from the previous years. Students examine facial features and portraiture, develop clay building and sculptural skills with Marine Life and revisiting colour theory and composition in the contemporary Pop Art Packing unit.

Year 9 students further develop their clay building skills from year 8, using more complex and challenging clay building skills to create personal and meaningful final outcomes. Students create soap sculptures inspired by historic British artists (Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore) and the summer term students revisit drawing and composition skills to design a landscape motif that is then carved into lino and printed.

GCSE Art and Photography is planned to prepare students for A Level Art and Photography. Across the GCSE courses, Art students are continually developing their drawing, painting (watercolour, gouache and acrylic paint), etching, lino printing, screen printing, clay building, observational drawing, collage and mixed media. Photography students explore digital SLR photography; studio lighting, use of models, planning and creating sets, dark room photography and digital drawing. Students also experience collage, painting with light, mixed media and paper weaving. The aim is for students to have a varied and diverse range of experiences which they then focus, develop and refine in year 11. Students are encouraged to seek out contemporary artists and photographers that challenge and inspire them. Students are encouraged to be resilient and creative, to think for themselves and create personal and meaningful works.