



G C S E ART and Design: Fine Art

Examining Board AQA

#### THE COURSE – BROAD OUTLINE

The Art Department is very clear in its objectives. Ultimately we want our students to achieve the best grades but we also want them to develop as artists both in the academic sense and in their practical abilities. The GCSE course is structured to allow each individual to flourish and find a way of working that suits their strengths and interests. Students can choose to work in a wide range of materials from dry point etching to large oil paintings and from A0 size to clay work. When the student arrives at the externally set task they will know what their strengths and weaknesses are. There are trips to Art galleries so that students can see work first hand and can begin to develop an opinion on 'what is art?' The study of art gets our students to really think about the world around them and how they 'see' it creatively. Our broad syllabus is each of our student's ideas and each year we are really teaching eighty separate courses.

#### UNIT 1: PORTFOLIOS OF WORK

The Department sets two topics which are carried out in sketchbooks. The sketchbooks record the creative journey including looking at artist work and experimenting with techniques and processes. The assessment objectives are applied to the portfolio submission as a whole. Evidence is understood to be both in the sketchbooks and in any 'final pieces' submitted.

The work presented is marked internally by Art Dept. Staff and externally moderated by AQA.

#### UNIT 2: EXTERNALLY-SET TASK

Students respond to a starting point chosen from a list set by the Examination board.

This unit is marked out of 80 and is worth 40% of the total marks.

10 hours under supervised conditions to complete a personal response.

The work presented is marked internally by Art Dept. Staff and externally moderated by AQA.



UNIT 1: 2 PORTFOLIOS of Work.

Over the two year course students will undertake two main projects.

**Portfolio 1:** *Running from the autumn term to the end of the Easter holiday.*

The inspiration for this piece should be based on the students own research and experience, show evidence of looking at the work of other Artists and cultures and have a high level of first hand observation and expertise in its execution.

**Portfolio 2:** *Running from the summer term to the end of the autumn term.*

The outcome should again show the students own first hand research and evidence of an investigation into the work of other Artists and cultures.

**Levels of control for portfolio submission.**

Candidates work for the portfolio will be carried out under informal supervision that is under a sufficient level of supervision to ensure that the contribution of candidates can be recorded accurately, that work can be authenticated and that plagiarism does not take place. Teachers must be able to authenticate each candidate's whole work with confidence.

Candidates must ensure that they provide evidence of meeting all four assessment objectives. All the work submitted for this unit will be marked as a whole.

Unit 2: Externally set task.

*The titles for this unit will be given to the students at the beginning of the Spring Term in January.*

Students elicit a personal response from one starting point or project brief.

Students will spend the first half of the Spring Term gathering research material, developing ideas under the guidance of teachers.

The personal outcome for this unit must be completed within a 10 hour period starting after the half term break and be completed by the end of the Spring Term.

Six hours of this will be done on the inset day in mid-March with the remaining the following Friday.



#### LEVELS OF CONTROL FOR EXTERNALLY SET TASK.

- During the preparatory period teachers may discuss starting points with candidates and give them general guidance on the choice of materials, how to carry out preparatory studies or how to begin research on their chosen starting point.
- Candidates' work during this period will be carried out under informal supervision, that is to say a sufficient level of supervision to ensure that the contribution of candidates can be recorded accurately, that work can be authenticated as the candidate's own and that plagiarism does not take place.
- The ten hours allowed for the final piece will take place in the studios under examination conditions with the work kept locked away in between sessions. A log of time spent by each student will also be recorded.
- All the work selected for assessment for this unit will be marked as a whole.
- Any unsupervised work of a higher standard than is normally achieved by a candidate will be
- checked to ensure that it is the candidates own work. If necessary, candidates will be asked to complete the same work again under our supervision
- Work produced for both the Portfolio and the Externally Set Task will be displayed for marking during the first half of the Summer Term.

#### ***End of the Course.***

After the course has finished the few remaining timetabled lessons are used for revision.

The Department hosts an Annual Exhibition of student's work every summer which all students and their family are invited too. The work is displayed on the Art Dept. Flickr pages as well as displayed around the School.

The school reserves the right to display students work for a year.