

Subject – Art & Design (including Photography and Graphics)

Subject Leader: Mrs Owen

Subject teachers: Mrs Williams, Mrs Moore and Miss Savigar

Department aims:

Art and Design provides students with a wide range of creative, exciting and stimulating opportunities to explore their interests in ways that are both personally relevant and developmental in nature.

We aim to encourage all our students to fulfil their creative potential here at Birches Head Academy. Students will be provided with opportunities to work with a range of materials and techniques in investigative and experimental ways. They will also have the opportunity to work on larger scales. We aim to ensure that art is both a challenging and enjoyable experience.

KS3

In year 7 there is a focus on developing good drawing and painting skills as well as learning three-dimensional skills in a variety of materials. These skills are assessed at regular intervals and built on each year. Sketchbook work is also introduced and will continue to be built on throughout Key Stage 3; playing an important part as a core document of recordings, observations, experiments and research. The majority of class tasks and homework will be contained within it. Students will also study and analyse the work of a range of artists, craftspeople and designers from a variety of cultures and eras, documenting their findings, thoughts and opinions with an emphasis on unique and dynamic presentation skills.

In Year 8 observational drawing and painting remains a core element of project work. During this year we include a relevant recap of colour mixing, tone, texture and pattern. Students will also continue to study and analyse the work of others to inform their own ideas. New processes will include textiles, print and three-dimensional design. An element of more independent research will be embodied, designed to broaden student's knowledge of a range of pattern and images from a wider variety of cultures and create opportunity for them to personalise their learning.

During Year 9 it is important for students to build up a more sustained approach to project work, so that a set of work is produced rather like a GCSE unit. This will prepare students well, for GCSE coursework the following year. Schemes of learning are structured around the 4 GCSE assessment objectives and assessed using the framework provided by the examination body. In the case of art this is AQA

KS4

KS4 students will also be following the AQA's GCSE course. Students in Year 10 will produce component work which consists of 45 hours of work which the students have to complete unaided in class time. Additionally sketchbook work and larger scale pieces will be produced on a topic that will change each year. In Year 11 students focus on completing the component portfolio work and preparing for the externally set assignment.

Throughout each unit students be assessed against:

- The ability to develop ideas through investigation informed by art historical, multicultural and contemporary art, showing understanding and meaning.
- The ability to refine and develop ideas through experimenting with and selecting materials, media and techniques.
- The ability to record ideas, observations and insights relevant to the visual elements and other forms.
- The ability to present a personal, informed and meaningful response making connections between visual or written ideas and their presented work.

How can I help support my child's learning in Art and Photography?

Starting in September from 2.45 to 4pm we will be offering GCSE students the chance to extend the quality of their portfolio work, by attending regular P6 sessions on photography, drawing & Painting and the use of adobe Photoshop. All welcome. Further GCSE support sessions will be offered on either a Monday, Tuesday or Thursday lunchtime.

Weekly homework deadlines MUST be met, otherwise it will be difficult to cover all the expected tasks and there is a risk of not achieving target grades if this happens. The department staff offer extra support sessions for GCSE during lunchtime clubs and Weds after school till 4pm. Students are asked to check weekly with staff if they are expected to attend week 1 or week 2. All homework can be found on the gateway.

Useful websites

- BBC videos on GCSE bitesize or class clips
- Wiki Paintings
- www.tate.org.uk
- www.studentartguide.com/
- www.nationalgallery.org.uk
- www.saatchi-gallery.co.uk
- www.vam.ac.uk
- www.guggenheim.org
- www.africanart.org
- www.textilExamrts.net
- www.craftscouncil.org.uk
- Art finder website