

What do we do?

In Art, students are exposed to a wide range of Art styles, techniques and process. Students are given the freedom to express and articulate their opinions on art works whilst becoming increasingly independent in their decision making as they progress through each year of Art study.

How does Art equip students with powerful knowledge?

Art equips students with powerful knowledge in two domains. Practical knowledge, how to use materials skilfully and to adapt to different styles and contexts. In addition to theoretical knowledge that is rooted in exploring artist, art movements and the overall contextual knowledge surrounding key themes in Art history and contemporary practice.

What skills and cultural capital do students gain in Art?

Students learn about the diversity of art and the artist who create visual imagery, that have had and continue to have impact on their audiences around the World. Art is a unifying visual language accessible to all. Students are taught about communication through visual forms, discussing a different piece of art work every lesson, they are taught to be accepting of everyone's views and how to articulate their likes and dislikes when viewing artworks. In year seven students will specifically learn about the power of pattern and how different countries and their heritage are shown through pattern. Students can access a range of opportunities outside of the classroom in art including, one off workshops, coursework support sessions, taster sessions and the community art elective.

How do we support literacy in Art?

Students will analyse artists and their practice throughout the art curriculum. They will research and reflect on artworks to add greater depth to their project work whilst showing visual understanding of compositions through drawing and painting. Students are encouraged to be reflective upon outcomes that they and their peers create during each cycle of work. Evaluating outcomes is also built into all year groups to encourage critical thinking about outcomes and the visual impact that personal work holds.

How is the Art curriculum designed?

The curriculum is designed to build confidence with materials and allow students to make choices that will impact their creative work. The diversity of materials increases as students establish strong foundational skills in drawing and seeing to further advance more experimental and artist lead themes in each cycle of study.

How do you use spaced practice / retrieval practice?

Key themes are revisited in all year groups these are underpinned by the seven elements of art; tone, line, form, space, texture, colour and shape. These key art concepts are covered overall in year eight but explored in every cycle from year seven. At GCSE students are given skills to develop projects to feel supported and confident in their ability to create sustained independent coursework and to complete the overall exam component at the end of the course.

What content do you cover and how is this delivered over time?

A core set of materials are deeply rooted in the art curriculum with a vision to make all students proficient in using the following; drawing, painting, 3D work and mixed media. These materials are threaded throughout all years of art study for students to be able to make advised decisions on which areas they would like to explore at GCSE and beyond.

What content do you not cover (that others might) and why?

Retrieval testing at the end of each cycle is not implemented in the same way in art. Students are not asked to remember knowledge but create a final piece that shows their learning. Practical knowledge of the materials studied throughout the cycle and reflect through the form of an evaluation on their successes and journey in their personal sketchbooks.

How do you sequence the curriculum so that new knowledge and skills builds on what has been taught before?

Drawing is at the heart of all projects in art and is revisited in every cycle, students are encouraged to experiment with mark making and tone in relation to a wide range of art movements. This is advanced through diversifying the materials and the way in which these two key techniques can be translated into lots of different styles and how they are altered through, application, surface and personal perspective.



Key concepts

