AQA GCSE ART & DESIGN Curriculum Intent

What the curriculum is designed to do

"Art, craft, and design embody some of the highest forms of human creativity. A high-quality art and design education should engage, inspire, and challenge pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of art, craft, and design. As pupils progress, they should be able to think critically and develop a more rigorous understanding of art and design. They should also know how art and design both reflect and shape our history, and contribute to the culture, creativity, and wealth of our nation." (National Curriculum Art & Design 2019)

How we deliver the curriculum?

AQA GCSE Art & Design Portfolio - Coursework

Students will complete three projects during Year 10 and Year 11, taking approximately 15 weeks to complete each project.

The first project is a teacher led and guided extended project which gives the students a complete body of work in either 2D or 3D and contributes towards their GCSE coursework. In the second project, students are given a starting point and are encouraged to work in 2D and think more independently. The third project concentrates on Sculpture and students work in 3D. In all three projects students will be using skills and knowledge learnt at Key Stage 3.

These projects form the 'coursework' (portfolio) element of the course and will be submitted for marking in the May of the final year.

The portfolio will form 60% of the final grade.

Set task - examination

In January of Year 11 students are given a choice of titles of which they select one. They have approximately 12 weeks to produce research, experiments and developments and 10 hours to complete an examination prior to the Easter holidays.

The examination forms 40% of the final grade.

The portfolio and set task will be completed by Easter of Year 11.

How we assess students

Students will complete at least one formative assessment per half-term to prepare them for the following assessments:

Component	Description of assessment	When does the assessment take place?
Project 1 – 'Hybrid'	20 % of final mark	February year 10
Project 2 – 'Food'	20 % of final mark	July year 10
Project 3 – 'Curves'	20 % of final mark	December year 11
Final external project/exam	40% of final mark	May year 11

How it benefits students learning and personal development

This qualification will enable students the pathway to either 'A' level Art & Design or BTEC level 3 Art & Design at post 16. They will have developed problem-solving skills and will be more able to work and think independently. They will also have knowledge and awareness of Art in a contextual sense and historically.