



Mount St Mary's Catholic High School

Educating The Individual For The Benefit Of All

Why Study GCSE Art?

Current employers put "Creativity" as the most important leadership competency for the successful enterprise of the future. Creative thinking is now included alongside maths, science and reading in the global PISA test. The future is creativity and the Art course is a fantastic course to explore your creativity and further develop your creative thinking skills. The course allows for students to study more than one of the different specialisms under Art before deciding which one to focus on.

The different specialisms covered by the Art course are:

- *Fine Art* (painting in different styles with different mediums)
- *Graphics Communication* (digital art and graphic design)
- *Textile Design* (designing fabrics and manipulating fabric to create art as well as create garments)
- *3D Design* (developing skills for designing and making products for function or aesthetics)
- *Photography* (creating art through capturing and editing photos, film or digital, still or moving)

The Art course is suitable for a wide range of students, from those who wish to pursue a career in creative industries, to those who want to develop their capacity to think creatively and critically about the world we live in. Art is also a great course for those students wishing to balance academic and practical subjects as well as those students who just really enjoy Art.



Further Study and Future Prospects

Art GCSE provides the perfect spring board for students to progress to A-Level and University. Studying Art at GCSE can help you to learn and develop key creative thinking and application skills that help you stand out when applying for colleges, universities and jobs.

GCSE Art

Career Options

The creative industries in the UK are rapidly growing. They contribute £115 billion to the economy and employ over 3 million people. People with creative skills are highly valued in a rapidly changing world of work. There are hundreds of specialisms to choose from and a GCSE in Art can be the first step on this career path.

- Costume designer
- Product design
- Theatre design
- Film director
- Architect
- Cartoonist/Comic art
- Illustrator
- Medical illustrator
- and many more
- Exhibition design
- Teacher
- Creative Art Director
- Game design
- Art Therapist
- Community arts facilitator
- Make up/Hair design
- Events Management

What you will study

This is a broad skill-based course exploring practical, critical and creative work through a range of specialisms. GCSE Art gives you the skills and knowledge to create personal and imaginative work. You can choose to focus on a specialist area of study from a variety of exciting processes and media to suit your individual interests and abilities. This can result in A-level or degree opportunities and careers ranging from architecture and photography to, graphic design. If you have an adventurous, creative and enquiring mind, and are excited by practical work and exploring the creative world, then Art is the course for you.



How is the subject assessed?

AQA Art GCSE is split into 2 units

- Unit 1 is worth 60% of the overall GCSE
- Unit 2 is worth 40% of the overall GCSE

Unit 1

This unit starts in Year 9 with students trying lots of different specialisms within Art such as photography, printing, ceramics, painting techniques and digital art. Then as part of Unit 1 students complete a full project specialising in one of these areas with a final piece created at the end of Year 10. At the start of Year 11, students work on developing an area of their choice in a mini project before starting Unit 2 in January. Unit 1 is all coursework and students need to submit a portfolio of work which consists of one complete project from one of the above specialisms, as well as a selection of supporting work from one other specialist area.

Unit 2

This is an externally set unit, in January of Year 11, AQA release 10 different titles and students choose one of these titles to study. Students then choose one specialist area and create a final piece at the end of the project.

For further information contact:

J. Greaves (Joint Curriculum Lead - Creative Arts & Technology) - j.greaves@mountstmarys.org



