



ART & DESIGN

STAFF

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(SL)

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SUPPORT

The Art Department operates an 'open-door' policy to our Sixth Form students. There is a dedicated workspace specifically for sixth form students to use to complete work when not in lessons. This space is used only by art students and you are free to use in your free periods as well as before college, break, lunch and after college.

INTRODUCTION

Heckmondwike Art Department are not only used to students working with students from a wide range of other schools, we embrace the diverse range of art experiences and creativity that this brings into the studio space. We run the Art, Craft and Design endorsement with AQA that enables personal investigation into any area of art production of your choosing, meaning that we facilitate your personal artistic journey as opposed to limiting it. This study commences in February of year 12. In order to ensure that our teachers are able to support you to be the very best that you can be, you will create an initial teacher led project in the first term of the A-Level. This project theoretically and practically explores the History of Modern Art and aims to ensure that everyone has a similar level of knowledge and understanding from which to move into Project 2. Alongside practical skills workshops you will develop your research skills and skills of critical analysis as you investigate the work of a range of other artists. You will need to apply your growing knowledge of techniques and materials as well as your contextual and critical understanding to practical situations when you carry out your own visual work.

WHAT TO BRING FOR YOUR FIRST LESSON

Please complete the following bridging work and bring it with you after the summer holiday. Please note: this work will be 'baseline' assessed and will go on to form part of your coursework portfolio.

You must select from one of the following themes:

1. People.
2. Architecture
3. Landscape

Please visit at least one art gallery and look for artwork that depicts your chosen theme (as above).

Then complete the following:

1. Research/analysis pages on at least 1 piece of artwork that you observe in the gallery. The artwork must link with your chosen theme. The page must include:
 - Visual evidence of the visit (photographs of the work taken by you - not from the internet).
 - Analysis of the work in which you discuss the ways in which the artist uses visual language in order to communicate and why you selected that work to research.
2. 10 printed primary source photographs that showcases your skills and that match the subject matter of your chosen theme.
3. One A4 drawing of one of your photographs in a media of your choice - it can be a larger scale piece if you prefer.

Please present all work on A3 sized paper.

CLASSWORK, HOMEWORK AND INDEPENDENT STUDY

Lessons will most frequently include directed practical work. This will involve an array of art activities - exploring new and varied techniques. At all times, your practical work should be informed and inspired by the work of others in order to create a clear visual connection to your contextual studies and a cohesive journey. Students who make the most creative and grade progress are the ones that embrace experimentation and engage in a genuine exploration into all things artistic, who drive their own creative investigations and are able to make independent decisions about the development of their work. In order to best do this, it is recommended that you conduct independent study into all things artistic – visual arts, film, music, theatre and dance can all inspire your projects. This independent study is in addition to your directed study time.

Art requires a consistent work ethic and a drive to make consistent improvements to your work. You will therefore be expected to continue work during your free periods and utilising your provided work space will enable this to happen. This helps to maintain a good pace through your project work. Extended 'directed' learning may involve activities such as completing unfinished work, researching project themes or associated artists, taking your own photographs to support your ideas, editing or manipulating images or carrying out detailed observation work. It is clearly evidenced in grade outcomes, that students who complete additional 'independent study', such as gallery visits and exploring idea and media experimentation in addition to the work set by teachers; perform better overall in their A-Level studies.

RESOURCES

You will be given an A3 sketchbook that you should bring with you to each lesson. The department will also provide a selection of high-quality art equipment for day-to-day/lesson usage. However, it is always recommended that you have a supply of equipment at home for your personal study tasks.

The department is very well resourced with specialist equipment:

- Printing press to be used for lino printing, etching, collagraphy etc.
- A ceramics kiln to be used for 3D modelling, slabbing, pottery etc.
- Textile's materials and equipment such as felting, tailoring, mixed media, embroidery, Tyvek, angelica fibres, beading etc.
- Painting and drawing equipment such as watercolour, gouache, oils, brusho powders, inks, alcohol pens, posca pens, high quality watercolour pencils, coloured pencils, graphite, charcoal and many more.
- Photoshop on all PC's.
- Access to a designated, purpose built sixth form work space used only by art students.



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