THE WORTHGATE SCHOOL
CANTERBURY

COURSE DESCRIPTOR

GCSE ART AND DESIGN

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

GCSE Art and Design offers students the opportunity to explore and develop their artistic skills, creativity, and critical thinking. This course encourages students to express themselves through various art forms while fostering an appreciation for art history and contemporary practices. It is a comprehensive program that not only nurtures artistic talents but also encourages research skills, and the ability to express one's thoughts and emotions through various forms of visual art. It is a valuable qualification for students aspiring to pursue artistic endeavours or higher education in the field of arts.

Activities and enrichment offered in this subject:

- Visits to local and national art galleries and exhibitions
- Entry to regional and national art competitions
- Curate exhibitions
- Workshops with professional artists / guest lecturers

PRIOR LEARNING REQUIRED

Some prior learning is useful as well as an interest in and a desire to study art. Students must spend time studying independently outside of the classroom to be successful in this course. We aim to instil a deep interest in the subject, which can be maintained in courses of further education and beyond.

EXAM BOARD

OCR

COURSE CONTENT

GCSE Art with OCR spans two years and is divided into two components:

Year 1	Year 2
Component 1: Personal investigation	Component 1: Personal investigation Component 2: Externally set assignment

Component 1: Portfolio (60%)

- **Assessment:** This component involves a sustained project where students create a portfolio of artwork. It is internally assessed and externally moderated.
- **Content:** Students select a theme or topic of personal interest and work on a series of projects over an extended period, exploring various media, techniques, and processes.
- **Skills:** Develops artistic skills, research abilities, creativity, and independent thought.

Component 2: Externally Set Task (40%)

- **Assessment:** In this component, students respond to an externally set assignment provided by OCR. The work produced is marked by the exam board and assessed during a supervised session.
- **Content:** Students receive a choice of themes from which they select one. They research, plan, and execute a final outcome within a specified time frame.
- **Skills:** Encourages adaptability, time management, and the ability to respond to creative challenges.

ASSESSMENT

Paper	Length of paper	Weighting
Component 1 Personal investigation	N/A	60%
Component 2 Externally set assignment	10 hours	40%

TEXTBOOKS/REVISION GUIDES

Materials will be provided. However, students are encouraged to buy a selection of their own art materials to assist them in continuing their studies outside of class time. Relevant items can be discussed with the teacher at the start of the course. A coursebook is not required for this subject. However, there is plenty of material available for students to read prior to joining the course. Below is a list of websites that students can research which will help them decide if this course is suitable:

https://www.atxfinearts.com/blogs/news/why-study-art
https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/how-to-analyze-an-artwork
https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z6hs34j

HIGHER EDUCATION PATHWAYS

Visual art will enhance skills in critical thinking, creative problem solving, critical analysis, reflective practice, and a wide variety of creative practices and materials -based exploration, which are highly valued by universities and employers. Art is popular with students who wish to study a wide variety of subjects at university or enter careers in creative areas such as: architecture, graphic design, media, advertising, fine art, animation, fashion, 3D design, theatre set design, illustration, model making, costume design, photography, printmaking, textile design, ceramics, silversmithing, digital media, the list is endless. Even if students do not choose a creative pathway at university or in life, success in creative arts is extremely valued by university and future employers.

COMPLEMENTARY SUBJECTS OF STUDY

Art history, visual and media studies, film studies, marketing, advertising, philosophy, journalism, languages and literature studies.

CURRICULUM DIRECTOR

Ms. Jemma Jones