Art & Design at National 4

Why Art and Design?

This course is designed to give opportunities for self-expression and to work creatively with a variety of materials in a satisfying and enjoyable way. It provides an insight into the world of the Visual Arts and Design and helps to develop many skills such as research, problem solving and the development of technological skill through a range of cultural, social and historical contexts.

Aims

- identify the creative development potential in their work
- confidently use selected art and design materials, techniques and/or technology expressively and creatively when responding to an expressive theme/stimuli and design brief
- produce and critically reflect on the final piece of expressive art and the design solution
- present their work for assessment
- to develop an understanding of the social and cultural influences on artists and designers and their work.

This course is suitable for all pupils with an interest in Art and Design, as well as creative individuals. It is suitable for pupils with a general interest in the subject, and for those wanting to progress onto further levels of study. This qualification will allow pupils to consolidate and further extend their Art and Design skills developed through the experiences and outcomes.

There are two mandatory units: Expressive Activity and Design Activity

Expressive Activity

- The initial expressive idea, research and further development work in 2D and/or 3D formats, showing the candidate's ability to respond to an expressive theme/stimuli
- A final piece of expressive art in either 2D or 3D format as appropriate, which shows the candidate's ability to realise their idea and produce a piece of expressive art work
- An evaluation of the expressive folio, reflecting on the impact of the candidate's creative choices and decisions.

Design Activity

- The initial design idea, research and further development work in 2D and/or 3D formats showing the candidate's ability to respond to the requirements of the design brief
- A final design solution in either 2D or 3D format as appropriate, showing their ability to realise their design idea and produce a design solution
- An evaluation of the design folio, reflecting on the impact of the candidate's design choices and decisions against the requirements of the design brief.

Assessment

- At National 4, both Expressive and Design units (research and development) will be internally assessed on a pass or fail basis.
- Added Value Unit (final solution and evaluation) will be internally assessed on a pass or fail basis.

Homework requirements

Pupils will be expected to continue to study artists and art practices though research tasks to consolidate and enhance class work.

Possible progression routes

Passing at National 4 may lead to entrance to National 5.

Further advice and information is available from the Art Department or Mrs Barrie.