

Study Programme

A-Level Product Design

QUALIFICATION

A-Level in Product Design

WHY SHOULD I CHOOSE THIS STUDY PROGRAMME?

Design and technology is part of everyday life and is constantly evolving. This creative and thought-provoking qualification gives students the practical skills, theoretical knowledge and confidence to succeed in a number of careers, especially those in the creative industries. Students will investigate historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic influences on design and technology, whilst enjoying opportunities to put their learning in to practice by producing prototypes of their choice.

Students will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought in higher education and by employers. This single A-Level qualification is modern and relevant, so students can learn about contemporary technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices. The qualification will place greater emphasis on understanding and applying iterative design processes. Students will use their creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values.

WHAT WILL I STUDY?

Depending on your chosen specialist area, you will follow a programme of either fine art or textile design.

A-Level art and design is a practical course in which you learn by doing, so you will be able to create imaginative, personal work. You will find out about a whole range of media, techniques and processes. You will develop your creativity and independent thought, learn to express yourself visually and let your imagination flourish.

You will:

- Enhance your investigative and analytical skills through research, recording, development and refinement of ideas
- Build confidence in creative and practical skills through consolidated studio-based studies
- Understand the relationship between intellectual ideas and resolved artworks
- Respond personally and meaningfully to stimuli, including historical and contemporary artists and designers, across a wide range of techniques and media
- Develop a range of transferable skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, information synthesising, project management, organisation and presentation skills.

WHAT COULD THIS QUALIFICATION LEAD TO?

This qualification builds on the skills, knowledge and understanding developed through studying art and design at GCSE. At the end of the A-Level course you will have the knowledge and understanding needed for higher education courses in this subject area.

This qualification carries UCAS points. However, if a student wishes to pursue a degree in an area of art and design, it is generally expected that students will progress to a one-year Foundation diploma in an art and design course at further education level. Here students will build their portfolio for further study in their chosen art specialism at degree level.

Some providers may accept students onto degree courses immediately after their A level course but learners should always check the entry requirements for degree programmes with specific higher education providers.

WHAT WILL BE EXPECTED OF ME?

- Attend every lesson.
- Keep well organised files for each topic, recording notes from lessons and your reading of text.
- Discuss with your teachers, your ideas and how to achieve the best results.
- Produce drafts and act on feedback provided to develop your analytical skills.
- Engage with fellow learners in lively debates and discussions as we interpret history.
- Complete home learning tasks to develop your own research and knowledge of topics.
- Meet deadlines
- Keep a record of the work you have completed, including the grades you have been awarded.

WHO WILL BE INVOLVED?

The subject teachers are responsible for planning lessons, preparing resources, assessing your classwork and making sure that the units are completed on time.

Your teachers will also guide you as you complete your course work and assist in ensuring you have access to a sufficient range of resources.

All exams are assessed by external examiners as is coursework.

FURTHER INFORMATION

How will you be assessed?

Each component will be marked using four assessment objectives with a maximum of 24 marks for each. The marks are then added together to produce a total mark out of 96.

These numbers translate into grades so your work will be assessed using grades A* to E.

AS Component 1 is worth 60% of your total AS marks

AS Component 2 is worth 40% of your total AS marks

A-Level Component 1 is worth 60% of your total A-Level marks

A-Level Component 2 is worth 40% of your total A-Level marks