

## Principles and Purpose of the Art Curriculum

Our intention is to use a broad approach to Art and Design, Textiles and Photography. We aim to provide an interesting, challenging, relevant and accessible curriculum. Students are encouraged to develop their curiosity and creativity in an environment that aims to be visually exciting. Our curriculum is broad - students explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales, and work with a variety of media, including 2D, 3D and textiles. Students also explore the potential for the use of colour, tone, line, pattern and design.

Students will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design. They will also look at topics and themes from the local area, such as the textiles industry in Manchester and Salford or the buildings in the local area as part of an architecture project. They will also learn from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. Students respond to these examples through practical and critical activities that demonstrates their understanding of distinctive styles, genres and traditions.

### Our key principles are as follows:

#### Entitlement

Regardless of their starting point in Year 7, or whether they take the subject onto GCSE, the curriculum allows pupils to produce creative work, explore ideas and develop the confidence to excel in a broad range of artistic techniques. Students will learn about artists and cultures from across the world, locally and from different time periods. The materials available to students includes 2D, 3D, the use of clay, mixed media, painting and a range of drawing materials. Textiles is also an integral part of the art curriculum and students gain the opportunity to experience a wide range of different techniques with the use of fabric materials to help prepare them for the necessary skills at KS4.

#### Coherence

The curriculum is carefully sequenced according to themes, ideas, and concepts. Taking the National Curriculum as its starting point, pupils develop mastery of the formal elements of art through progressively challenging themed topics. While all lessons have elements of art theory, there is a strong emphasis on practical response.

#### Mastery

The opening unit of key stage 3 introduces pupils to some of the formal elements focussing on colour and shape. Whilst the remaining formal elements are covered throughout the year are tone, texture, scale, and proportion. These formal elements are revisited in the 12 units that follow, enabling pupils to develop and apply their skills with increasing technical proficiency. We plan that all skills in art and design are revisited a minimum of 2 times over the period of KS3, this is to allow for the building of prior knowledge and mastery of all the skills.

#### Adaptability

Our art curriculum resources are developed to encompass all abilities and scaffolded to allow all students to access the full curriculum. Whilst we cater for differentiation, we also teach to the top and expect all pupils to strive for their best. We aim to build on our curriculum and bring it to life through the resources, activities and materials to enrich our students' offer.

## **Representation**

Our Art curriculum draws inspiration from a range of countries, continents, and cultures. As well as established figures from the world of art, both modern and through the ages. Pupils will encounter contemporary artists from the local area and across the globe. We will explore the context in which the art was produced and consider the full breadth of human experience and expression through art and its place in history. We have developed our curriculum to ensure diversity in the study of Artists throughout History, including equally representing gender and different cultures.

## **Education with character**

We aim to develop students' creativity and develop aspects of character such as resilience, confidence and risk taking. Through the curriculum, students are given many opportunities to share, reflect and learn about each other's experiences whilst recognising the things we have in common. Extra-curricular clubs provide students with an enrichment of different techniques and ways of working, supporting a love for the subject and developing a greater understanding of artistic methods. Our Arts award helps to promote independence in Year 9, and confidence in Art through the sharing of skills and artist inspirations chosen by the students.

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