

# Art & Design

**Examination board** – Edexcel Component Code 9AD01 (Art, Craft and Design)

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The Art department aims to develop students academically and technically whilst broadening their cultural awareness. Our aim is to enable students to think divergently and employ their visual language skills to explore a range of issues, ideas and ideologies. Students learn to respond to a diverse range of influences in their work, exploring a variety of processes, materials and media with imaginative confidence and the freedom to fail. A knowledge and understanding of the wider contexts within which their work is placed is key to meeting the assessment criteria. To these ends, students learn about various artists, designers, movements and genres. Students' investigative, analytical, experimental, practical, technical and expressive skills will be challenged and developed to enhance their aesthetic understanding and critical judgement.

## **Future Careers**

A Level Art and Design provides a useful preparation for anyone wishing to go into a career in the visual arts. Future employment opportunities are extremely broad and include fashion design, architecture, illustration, ceramics, printmaking, teaching, therapy, film and media, and graphic and computer aided design. The analytical and practical skills developed enable students to demonstrate to future employers an ability to make divergent links and find creative solutions.

The course is divided into four component themes. Components 1 and 2 form the basis of study for the Lower Sixth Year and themes 3 and 4 form the basis for the Upper Sixth year.

In the Lower Sixth year, students embark on a thematic enquiry which sees them explore a range of processes and techniques as they develop personal ideas and outcomes. This is followed by an internally set assignment, ending with a mock examination. In the Upper

Sixth, students decide which project to refine and modify. This leads to a series of outcomes and an exhibition. Finally, students undertake an externally set assignment culminating in a 15 hour timed examination.

## **Component 1: Thematic Enquiry**

### **Working title: 'Food'**

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s).

Students will develop practical skills across a range of formal elements including line, tone, colour, pattern, shape, form, composition through:

- Observational drawing
- Sculpture
- Perspex engraving and block printing
- Painting
- Ceramics

## **Component 2 – Centre set task**

This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s) in response to a set theme.

This will be issued to students in late January in the first year of the course. Students will produce preparatory work which covers all four assessment objectives, leading up to a mock examination. This task is internally set and internally marked.

### Component 3 – Personal study

This component is weighted 60% of the total qualification. This component incorporates three major elements: supporting studies, practical work and a personal study of a minimum 1000 words of continuous prose.

### Component 4- Externally set task

This component is weighted 40% of the total qualification. This component incorporates two major elements: preparatory studies and the 15-hour period of sustained focus. The Externally Set Assignment represents the culmination of the GCE Qualification, allowing students to draw together all the knowledge, understanding and skills developed throughout. The Externally Set Assignment consists of one broad-based thematic starting point, to which students respond by developing a portfolio of practical work and final outcome(s).

### Assessment

### Entry Requirements

Grades 7 – 9 at GCSE is usually required to take Art and Design at A level, but students will be considered with a lower grade pending a portfolio review and interview with the Head of Department.

Students must		% In GCE
<b>A01</b>	Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding	<b>25</b>
<b>A02</b>	Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops	<b>25</b>
<b>A03</b>	Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress	<b>25</b>
<b>A04</b>	Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements	<b>25</b>

Component	A01	A02	A03	A04	TOTAL
Personal investigation	15%	15%	15%	15%	60%
Externally set task	10%	10%	10%	10%	40%
Total	25%	25%	25%	25%	100%