



Sandwell Academy

Advanced General Certificate of Education (A Level) ART & DESIGN

WHY ART & DESIGN?

Studying Art and Design at A Level will provide many opportunities that can be transferred into the workplace or onto a higher level course such as a degree in Art and Design or a related subject. It is particularly important to study Art and Design for those who wish to pursue a career in the Arts. This is a two year programme of study.

This course will provide opportunity to go into the following fields of work:

Ceramics	Textiles and Fashion	Product Design
Teaching	Interior Design	Curating
Theatre Design	Television	Graphic Design
Advertising	Architecture	Publishing
Printmaking	Illustration	Photography
Galleries and Museums	Buying	Game Design
Set Design	Make-up artist	Fine Art
Sculpture and Painting	Painting conservation	

The Art and Design course at Sandwell Academy allows students to gain a range of skills such as independent thinking, an interest and enthusiasm for the Arts and a wide range of experiences of working with a range of media including sculpture, ceramics, textiles, photography, digital art, painting and drawing. In addition, students develop their skills and knowledge further by working with visiting artists, going on visits and following a thought provoking and enriching programme of study. Students will have the opportunity to undertake two full days in a specialist Art and Design workshop with a still life artist.

SPECIFIC ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Grade 6 or above in a GCSE Art subject
- A distinction at BTEC level (or an interview with a portfolio of work)

COURSE DETAILS

Under the new OCR course launch of Fine Art in September 2015, Year 1 and Year 2 are now linear courses. Therefore, Year 1 is a standalone course; the grades achieved in Year 1 do not contribute to the final grade.

You will study 2 components each year.

6.1

Component 1: Coursework Portfolio

In this first unit you will develop your skills through a variety of tasks. You will develop your technical drawing and painting skills, learn large scale drawing and printing methods. The theme for the body of work will be 'Light and Dark' with a focus on Portraiture; this will be the inspiration for the development of ideas and final outcomes. This unit is marked for final assessment in the Winter term of your second

year and will contribute (along with other work developed in Year 2) to 50% of your overall A level grade.

Component 2: Year 1 externally set assignment- MOCK

The Controlled Test acts as a mock examination.

The Controlled Test is worth 100% of your Year 1 grade and does not count towards your final A level grade.

You are required to create a response and a body of work from one question and use this as the basis for your research and development.

The Controlled Test is made up from two separate activities:

- a period of development work when you carry out your initial research and investigations and identify artists, designers and craftspeople whose work you wish to make connections with and develop ideas- usually around 10 weeks.
- a controlled 10 hour unaided test when you are required to produce a final realisation.

You are required to demonstrate your ability to respond to a given stimulus within the specified time limit. You will have 10 hours to produce a final piece.

6.2

Component 1 CONTINUES: Coursework portfolio with written element

What would you say is your specialist area in Art and Design? You will continue to develop your project further personalising and underpinning with meaning. During the summer break you will be asked to gather resources for your project development of work from 6.1.

The unit is made up of two components. A practical unit of investigation, where you will develop visual ideas into a final piece and a 2,000 word article which should provide wider understanding and ideas around the theme of your practical work.

You should also look at the work of artists that relate to your chosen theme. There should be a clear influence from the work of artists you have researched and you are expected to arrange external visits to view work first hand.

Component 2: Year 2 Externally Set Assignment

Similar to component two in Year 1, you will prepare and produce a piece of work for your final exam using the controlled paper from OCR. This is worth 50% of your A level in Art and Design grade.

The paper has eight titles with introductions. You are required to select one question and use as the basis for your research and development.

The Controlled Test is made up from two separate activities:

- a period of development work when you carry out your initial research and investigations and identify artists, designers and craftspeople whose work you wish to make connections with and develop ideas- usually around 8 weeks
- a controlled fifteen hour unaided test when you are required to produce a final realisation.

You are required to demonstrate your ability to respond to a given stimulus within the specified time limit. The exam is a 15 hour final piece.