Art and Design

“I am always doing what I cannot do yet, in order to learn how to do it.”

Vincent Van Gogh

Art and Design at Noel Baker Academy

Art has the power to transform, to illuminate, to educate, inspire and motivate. Art lessons help children with the development of motor skills, language skills, social skills, decision-making, risk-taking, and inventiveness. The arts provide challenges for learners at all levels. Art Education connects pupils with their own culture as well as with the wider world.

Key Stage 3

Year 7: Theme – Celebrations. In Year 7 students undertake two main projects during the year which are split into smaller projects, each of which are Knowledge, skills and technique based. In the first project, pupils will learn about the Formal Elements of Art by producing a series of drawings from direct observation, the project then develops into learning about the artist Vincent Van Gogh and students will produce a painting influenced by Van Gogh. In the second project students will focus on Aboriginal Art, they will learn about its ancient, indigenous past and work on a practical project based on Aboriginal Art.

Year 8: Theme – Contrasts. In Year 8 students will undertake two main projects during the year which are split into smaller projects, each of which are knowledge, skills and technique based. The first is looking at natural forms with a focus drawing seashells. Pupils will then develop the project by looking at the artist Georgia O’Keeffe’s artwork and produce an outcome influenced by her work. In the second project pupils will develop an understanding of Pop Art by focusing on the artist Roy Lichtenstein and will produce Poly-print works of art influenced by his still life work.

Year 9: Theme – Layers. In Year 9 students will undertake two main projects during the year which are split into smaller projects, each of which are Knowledge, skills and technique based. The first will focus on landscape painting, with a particular focus on the artist Claude Monet. The second project will enable pupils to explore Picasso’s cubist style work, students will learn a range of cardboard attachment techniques and explore the qualities of cardboard to create their own Picasso style portrait.

KS4 GCSE Art

Two folders are created throughout the course, a coursework folder and an examination folder. The coursework folder is developed throughout year 10 and one term of year 11 and constitutes 60% of the overall grade. The examination folder is started in the Spring term of year 11 and follows a theme given by the examination board, the folder constitutes 40% of the final grade and culminates in a ten hour practical examination. Both folders contain investigation of the artwork by established artists and artwork produced by the students. Students must also produce written work exploring the theme, analysing artwork and explaining their personal response to the project.

Key topics taught

- Drawing from first hand and second hand sources using a range of mark making techniques.
- Experimentation with a range of materials and techniques.
- Development of painting skills with an emphasis upon use of materials with the aim of producing large pieces of work to a high standard.
- The study of key themes in Art, for example, portraiture and landscape a exploring these themes within the contexts of culture, history and contemporary practice.
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The course consists of 60% coursework and 40% externally set assignment. Each component of the examination consists of four assessment objectives.

Assessment Objective One is concerned with developing student's awareness of Critical and Contextual studies. A range of established Artists and contemporary artists are studied throughout the two year course. Work is produced visually with supporting text.

Assessment Objective Two is concerned with developing student's understanding about ideas and the uses of different materials. They are encouraged to use a wide variety of materials with confidence.

Assessment Objective Three is concerned with developing students recording skills. We encourage all students to record from a range of experiences.

Assessment Objective Four is concerned with final outcome.