GCSE Art and Design

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| **Course Details** | **Edexcel GCSE Art and Design** |
| **Exam Details** | The exam board has finished its consultation over how to manage the exam unit this year, but has not yet made an announcement declaring if it will go ahead as in normal years.  The exam unit is usually 40% of the final mark and involves a 10 hour practical exam (2 days in the Art Room). The theme is set by the exam board in advance and students have around 3 months to research, develop their ideas, and practice for it.  Should the exam board repeat the same approach as last year however, and cancel Unit 2 because of Covid-19, then Unit 1 would be worth 100% of the final grade. We will keep you up to date with any announcements.  There will be a full mock exam during Year 11 in preparation for the GCSE exam. Work completed over this two-day exam will form part of the real coursework unit (Unit 1). We also run a 1 day drawing exam, usually in year 10, the work from which again counts towards Unit 1. |
| **Other Assessments** | One unit of coursework (Unit 1) over two sketch books and covering two different titles. This work exists across 2 sketchbooks and a variety of outcomes, by a date we will set which is usually in April of Year 11. |
| **Subject Support** | Targeted sessions for catch up and coursework guidance are run Wednesday and Fridays after school in the Art Department. |
| **Useful Websites** | [www.nationalgallery.co.uk](http://www.nationalgallery.co.uk)  [www.art2day.co.uk](http://www.art2day.co.uk)  [www.studentartguide.com](http://www.studentartguide.com/articles/creative-photography-ideas)  [www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk) |
| **What can I do?** | Help with ideas from the themes given and aid with research tasks. The best questions being “What decisions has the artist made? What is the impact of these decisions?”  Maybe visit a gallery or exhibition when safe to do so.  Ensure your daughter has all the equipment she needs.  Provide a quiet space to do Art work preparation.  Encourage her to stay after school for extra art. |
| **What does your daughter need to do to succeed in this subject?** | She should keep up to date with all the work that her teacher sets. She should be independent in her working practice and use the research of other artists to inform her own ideas. It is advisable to practice and develop her drawing regularly with dedicated sessions, perhaps with calming music on in the background if possible. Recognise that, while she doesn’t need to revise for Art, she should pencil in appropriate time into her revision timetable to continue to make work. |
| **What does your daughter need to do to excel in this subject?** | Put in the time to ensure that her ideas are well-explored and researched. Use her teacher’s expertise and not be afraid to ask for help and advice. She should be open to taking creative risks and apply the skills learnt throughout the course. Visiting galleries when safe and possible, and trying to see work “in the flesh” as much as possible is always useful. To excel, real care needs to be taken over the finish of each artwork, and that materials and processes are used appropriately to meet the intent of their ideas. |