GCSE Art and Design

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| **Course Details** | **Edexcel GCSE Art and Design** |
| **Exam Details** | The exam unit is worth 40% of the final mark and involves a 10-hour practical exam (two days in the Art Room). The theme is set by the exam board in advance and students have around three months to research, develop their ideas, and practice for it. This is launched in the Spring Term 1 of Year 11.  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 however (component 1). We also run a one-day drawing exam, usually in year 10, the work from which again counts towards component 1. |
| **Other Assessments** | One unit of coursework (component 1) over two sketch books and covering two different titles. This work exists across two sketchbooks and a variety of outcomes, and is due by a date we will set, which is usually in April of Year 11.  Both the Component 1 (Coursework) and Component 2 (Exam unit) are marked holistically to the 4 Assessment Objectives. |
| **Subject Support** | Targeted sessions for catch up and coursework guidance are run on *Wednesdays* and *Thursdays* after school in the Art Department. But students can work in the art rooms after school on any day if a teacher gives permission. |
| **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?”  Visit exhibitions  Ensure your child has all the equipment they need.  Provide a quiet space to do Art work preparation.  Encourage your child to stay after school for extra art. |
| **What does your child need to do to succeed in this subject?** | They should keep up to date with all the work that their teacher sets. They should be independent in their working practice and use the research of other artists to inform their own ideas. It is advisable to practice and develop their drawing regularly with dedicated sessions, perhaps with calming music on in the background if possible. Recognise that, while they don’t need to revise for Art, they should pencil in appropriate time into their revision timetable to continue to *make* work. The course is 60% coursework so the day-to-day work produced is hugely important. |
| **What does your child need to do to excel in this subject?** | Put in the time to ensure that their ideas are well-explored and researched. Use their teacher’s expertise and not be afraid to ask for help and advice. They should be open to taking creative risks and apply the skills learnt throughout the course. Visiting galleries when 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; highly specific Artistic Vocabulary needs to be used when discussing insights into Art works; materials and processes should be used appropriately to meet the intent of their ideas. |