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**Course highlights:**

The course is designed to offer our students a wide range of creative, exciting and stimulating opportunities. Students will be encouraged to actively engage in the process of Art and Design, in developing effective and independent learning, critical and reflective thinking skills.

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**Learning styles used:**

The course uses a range of teaching styles to develop a creative, confident and successful learner. Students learn to actively engage with the experience of working with a broad range of media. Materials and techniques include both 2D and 3D media such as observational drawing, painting, and mixed media based work, textiles, ceramics, tin, construction and new technologies. Detailed briefs support the completion of the projects and outline how to cover each assessment objective successfully. Techniques are taught through teacher demonstrations and lessons are supported with PowerPoint presentations looking at high standard exemplar and the work of artists, designers or crafts people to help inspire the students' own ideas. Regular group and 1 to 1 discussions help to develop the students' communication skills and their personal projects. The students are fully supported throughout the course with continual feedback on how to improve the quality and standard of their work.

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**How is it assessed?**

Component 1, the portfolio, is internally set and counts for 60% of the final mark. The other 40% is component 2, which is an externally set task by OCR, a period of preparation time is followed by 10 hours of sustained focused study which is held under exam conditions. Both components are internally assessed and externally moderated.

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**Other Information:**

The Art and Design Portfolio is an important element of this course as it counts for 60% of the final mark. Students will produce a portfolio of work developed from a set starting point. The unit is designed to expand the students' creativity and imagination, developing practical skills for communicating and expressing ideas, feelings and meanings in art, craft and design. The students will also develop their ideas through investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and cultural understanding. Students will refine their ideas through experimenting and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes. They will record ideas, observations and insights relevant to their intentions in visual and other forms. These explorations will inform the students' personal response in realising a final outcome for their unit of work.

The OCR set task counts for 40% of their final mark. It is set by the exam board; the question paper is issued at the start of January in year 11. It provides the students with a choice of several starting points. There is a set time for the students to produce preparatory studies on their chosen starting point. This is followed by a 10 hour exam where the students create their final response. All work for both units must meet all the assessment objectives set by OCR.

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**Sixth form pathways & careers available from this course:**

We run a very successful course for students who wish to develop their interests and enthusiasm for creative activities in Art, Craft and Design, also laying strong foundations for their post-16 studies.

This course is broad in its content and has clear links to the 'A' Level Art and Design course offered at Fairfax. Art and Design has direct links to any career within the creative industries, such as all types of designing, media and fashion, but also careers demanding practical and creative skills such as in engineering, architecture, fashion, hair & beauty and building industries.

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**Course combinations:**

This course complements GCSE Music and GCSE Drama.

Please see **Miss Whitehouse (A1)** to discuss this course.