



Introduction:

The Edexcel GCSE Art and Design course aims to stimulate, encourage and develop personal expression, imagination, observational skills, conceptual thinking, an awareness of different environments and cultures and an ability to identify and solve problems in a visual and tactile form. A large variety of media and materials will be used – these will range from painting and drawing, print making, collage, charcoal, experimental mark making and photography. Selected Artists will be studied to develop critical thinking, artistic language and the ability to respond to them in a personal way.

A visit to a museum in Madrid will be an integral part of the course.

Pupils receive four 40 minute lessons per week.

Content:

The Edexcel GCSE (9-1) consists of two internally assessed and externally moderated components.

Component 1: Personal Portfolio in Art and Design: 60%.

Students will work within the title FINE ART and will be expected to: develop and explore ideas, research primary and contextual sources, experiment with media, materials, techniques and processes, and present personal responses to the set themes.

Component 2: Externally Set assignment: 40%.

The ESA is released on 1 January each year.

Students will have preparatory time prior to the 10 hour sustained focus period where they will develop and explore ideas, research primary and secondary sources, experiment with media and processes and present a personal response to the externally set theme.

Skills:

The skills to be assessed are grouped under the following headings:

- Knowledge and understanding
- Interpretative and Creative Purpose
- Personal Investigation and Development

Homework:

There will be a wide variety of homework tasks set each week. Students should be prepared to get 'out and about' in Madrid to find relevant sources which will enable them to research their chosen brief.

Assessment:

Continual internal assessment, externally moderated.

Digital usage in this subject:

iPads are used constantly for investigation, as a drawing tool and for making photoshoots for coursework projects. Some might create digital artwork.

Average time spent each homework:

Students are expected to spend 2 hours 20 minutes per week on homework.

Resources and Materials:

Individual Equipment:

- All students need basic drawing and painting equipment for working at home: set of acrylic paints, paint brushes, 2B and 3B pencils, coloured pencils, A3 plastic folder.
- A high quality digital camera is today an essential tool for primary research.
- The Art Department possesses a well-stocked, continually updated library of books which form an integral part of the course and supplement the internet.

