



ART



HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: MR MEADS
HEAD OF SIXTH FORM COURSE: MRS CUCKNELL
EXAMINATION BOARD: AQA

SPECIFICATION: FINE ART
QUALIFICATION: A-LEVEL ART

The creative and cultural arts industries express and reflect the importance of creativity and culture in our society. All around us artists create the world we inhabit, and contribute to a thriving and important industry which has a vast range of exciting career options and choices.

A strong Art training can also develop highly valuable transferable skills, including creative ideas development, problem-solving, contextual interpretation, and visual communication, as well as organisational, presentation and team-working skills, and independent thought.

During the course, students are given the opportunity to produce practical and critical/contextual work in one or more areas of study: drawing, painting, mixed media, sculpture, ceramics, installation, printmaking, moving image (video, film, animation) and photography.

COURSE DETAILS

The course is developed so that each student can reach their full potential at A-Level; much more time is given to exploring, experimenting and starting to develop their personal study in the Lower Sixth. The course also prepares them fully to move on to further education in art.

- Unit 1.** The foundation stage
- Unit 2.** The personal investigation
- Unit 3.** The externally set assignment

Unit 1. The foundation stage: The course starts with the residential art trip from which all work for this unit is developed from. All students will experience a wide range of workshops that explore different media, methods and ways of thinking. This work will link to the experience the students have during their residential trip. Students are helped to find their personal focus and direction which they will take into Unit 2.

Unit 2. The personal investigation: This is a practical investigation supported by written material. Students are required to conduct a practical investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material. The focus of the investigation must be identified independently by the student and must lead to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes. It must include evidence of the student's ability to research and develop ideas and relate their work in meaningful ways to relevant critical/contextual materials. The investigation must be informed by an aspect of contemporary or past practice of artists, photographers, designers or craftspeople. The written material must be a coherent and logically structured extended response of between 1000 and 3000 words of continuous prose.

Unit 3. An exam paper will be provided by AQA which comprises of around eight starting points from which the students have to select one. Students will be provided with examination papers on 1 February, or as soon as possible after that date. Preparatory period – from 1 February. Following receipt of the paper students should consider the starting points and select one. Preparatory work should be presented in any suitable format, such as mounted sheets, design sheets, sketchbooks, workbooks, journals, models and maquettes. Supervised time – 15 hours. Following the preparatory period, students must complete 15 hours of unaided, supervised time. In the 15 hours students must produce a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes, informed by their preparatory work.

WHY STUDY THIS AT TRURO SCHOOL?

Truro School has dedicated art teachers who are all practising artists. Due to the small class size, students have a lot more one-to-one time with their teachers.

Having four different teachers teaching during Lower Sixth gives the students a much wider skill base and greater depth of advice.

All teachers are highly skilled in a wide range of media ranging from painting (oils, watercolour and acrylic), printing (etching, lino and mono printing) photography, sculpture, textiles, ceramics and exhibition curation.

The students can also work with our ceramic's technician and artist in residence in a university style of working.



WHERE WILL AN A-LEVEL IN ART TAKE YOU?

Successful A-Level Art students can go on to study on a range of art and design foundation and degree courses, nationally and internationally, and train in their area of specialisation, before going on to become an artist, designer, architect, or arts professional in a broad variety of specialist areas, including; working in fashion, architecture, graphic design, ceramics, advertising, events design, sculptor, computer animation and graphics, web design, film industry, theatre design, gallery organiser, photographer, set designers, illustrator, medical artist or product design.

SUPRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

All students will have a chance to work with artists who exhibit in the Heseltine Gallery, enter into national art competitions, develop work for around the site.

SUBJECT EXTENSIONS

LIFE DRAWING
THE CHANCE TO WORK WITH ARTISTS
VISITS TO PRINT AND ARTIST STUDIOS

Students are offered outside workshops and are lucky enough to have our huge collection of Cornish Art (over 300 originals ranging from Peter Lanyon to Sandra Blow) housed in the school's purpose-built art gallery.

The Heseltine Gallery has an exciting programme of exhibitions and the students are given workshops and talks by the visiting artists. A two-hour life drawing class is offered for free once a week throughout the year.

TRIPS, VISITS AND FIELD WORK

It is vital that students can learn to work outside of the classroom. We take them on a residential two-day art trip to West Cornwall where they can immerse themselves into the landscape, visiting galleries and working 'en plein air'. In the Upper Sixth they have chance to take part in a two-day London art trip which includes a West End Show.

TOP-LEVEL FACILITIES

ART STUDIO

In the Upper Sixth the students have their own studio which is spacious and well equipped. They are given their own working space and they have the freedom to be adventurous and develop the space how they wish and work whenever they want.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

We are lucky enough to have an Artist in Residence who will work with students, talk through their ideas and be a resource to learn from.

CERAMIC DEPARTMENT

Well equipped with two kilns, one glass kiln, wheels and ceramic technician.

PRINT STUDIO

Etching room and press.



I loved art from an early age and having the opportunity to study it here at Truro School has been incredible. I had the freedom to pursue any aspect of art which really helped me to produce better creative work. Not only do we have a gallery on site, we also have a well-equipped studio in the Sixth Form to use as our own work space. I feel anyone who has a passion for art, or would like to pursue a creative career, will thrive here at Truro School.

JACK

