



# A-Level Course Information



**Qualification:** Advanced Level Art & Design

**Exam Board:** EDUQAS

**Subject Leader:** Mr Joseph

## Entry Requirements:

### Minimum Entry Requirements:

5 x 5s

4 in English and Maths

### Subject Specific Entry Requirements:

6 in Art at GCSE

## Why study Art & Design?

We live in a highly visual world. Skilled and knowledgeable artists are ideally placed to interpret and analyse the complex languages of art and design. By learning what it means to be a creative individual and responding to ancient civilisations and contemporary cultures, we hope our students will become immersed in a world of creativity and experimentation that will lead them towards a greater understanding of art and culture.

## What can I do with Art & Design after A-Level?

A Level Art and Design is strongly recommended if you wish to study at foundation or degree level. This can lead to careers in Fine Art, Illustration, Architecture, Animation, Furniture Design, Interior Design, Graphic Design, Fashion and Textiles, Photography, Digital and Print Media. The course is designed to foster and encourage individual creativity and inspiration as well as involving it's students in building their facility to research and analyse as they seek to interpret and change the world around them. All of these are fantastic life skills and would be essential to many other less obvious career paths like Science for example. The possibilities are endless!

## Art & Design Extras

In addition, advanced printmaking skills are a major part of our Year 12 curriculum. This includes handmade books, screen printing, etching, lino and woodcut and involves a financial contribution towards professional quality materials of around £75 for the full year. There will be study trips to European cities like Madrid as well as regular visits to London museums and galleries of contemporary art such as Tate Modern, the V&A and The National Gallery.

# What will I study?

The Art course at Comberton is well-equipped to give students the best possible start to their potential career in the world of art and design. Our grades are among the best in the sixth form and we have recently out-performed the other main sixth form colleges in the area. Many of our students have gone on to study Art and Design subjects at foundation and degree level and we regularly have students accepted by London art colleges.

The Art A Level course is split into three components:

1. Foundation Skills
2. The Personal Project
3. The Exam Project

## Foundation Skills

Pupils will develop advanced skills in oil and acrylic painting as well as extending their skills in drawing and printmaking. They will also experiment with photography and mixed media to help them develop ideas imaginatively. There is no house style and students are encouraged to find a path that suits their passions.

Once the foundation stages of the course are completed, students are encouraged to combine what they have learned with their own personal passions in art and design to develop projects that suit their individual approaches. As the work advances, you will start to explore artists and contexts that you find inspiring and explore your own interests in particular genres of art and design. This leads to...

## The Personal Project

This is your major coursework project and is worth 60% of your mark. You will begin in the third term of your first year and continue through the first term of the second year. This is a chance to explore a style of art and individual artists working in specific media, in great depth. You will explore relevant techniques, analyse context and develop imaginative responses of your own based on what you learn. The learning at this point will involve individual tutorials and personalized skills-teaching for your chosen style. Alongside this there will be further opportunity to attend an after school life drawing class to further develop your technical skills.

## The Exam Project

This is a project that begins with a list of possible start points from the exam board (EDUQAS). You are encouraged to interpret these towards your own interests and goals as you explore and develop new styles. The project is worth 40% of the whole mark and culminates in a three day timed test. There will be a residential trip as part of the project. Recent years have seen us visit London, Paris and New York. All students exhibit their work each year for moderation at the end-of-year show. Your best work will be presented alongside your sketchbook and portfolio based work that documents the background work to your final pieces. Each year, a selection of work is chosen by NADFAS for an annual exhibition of artwork by local A level students at Cambridge Central Library.