

Art and Design at Norbury High

Overview

The art and design department places great emphasis on exploring traditional, modern and contemporary ideas of art throughout the curriculum. Each project aims to develop pupils' understanding of how certain traditions and genres of art have evolved through time to the present day, enabling students to have a clear understanding of the context and origins of artwork. We look at a wide range of artists throughout history who have explored themes relating to cultural, societal and political issues.

All artists chosen have made significant contributions to the development of art and design and support students in exploring their own ideas and experiences. This aims to give our students the ability to express themselves through their art work and to develop a greater understanding of the world around them. Projects are designed so that students get experience of a range of different media, techniques and processes and enjoy creating their own personal and meaningful artworks in response to the themes.

Key Stage 5 Art and Design

Year 12

In year 12, the department offers Graphic Communication, Fine Art and Photography A-level endorsements with Edexcel. Each course begins with teacher-led workshops on the theme of 'Structures' and builds on students' skills and confidence at the beginning of their A level course. There are opportunities for visits to Tate Modern and the V&A Museum to support students' contextual work. The course consists of two components. Component 1 is coursework and Component 2 is the Externally Set Assignment (ESA) to be taken in year 13.

Structures

Students from each endorsement explore the structures theme from September to February. They begin with teacher-led workshops on the below themes and then choose their own personal direction to explore under the theme.

- **Fine Art** — Natural and man-made structures — artists include Edward Western, Imogen Cunningham, Bill Brandt, John Piper and Ian Murphy
- **Graphic Communication** – Using grids and breaking the grid in design – design inspiration includes the Bauhaus art movement and David Carson
- **Photography** – Natural and man-made structures — photographers include Anna Atkins, Edward Western, Imogen Cunningham, Bill Brandt, Alexander Rodchenko, Paul Strand, Berenice Abbot and Miranda Lichtenstein

Personal Study

In the summer term, A-level students choose a theme or area they wish to focus on for their personal study. They research and develop analytical and essay writing skills in preparation for a 3,000-word essay on their chosen theme. They begin their practical work on their personal study area.

Year 13

In year 13 students continue with their chosen course and develop practical work on their chosen personal study area. The final part of the course is the Externally Set Assignment (ESA).

Personal Study

Students develop personal work linking to the theme of their personal study essay. Students explore a range of artists and develop their own ideas leading a final piece or series of pieces. Students hand in the final draft of the essay and body of work at the end of January.

Externally Set Assignment

The exam board gives students an exam paper with the theme for the ESA. Students receive this at the beginning of February.

Students develop and refine ideas leading to a final piece that is created in the 15-hour controlled assessment time period. The exam takes place in May and they present their work in an exhibition at the beginning of June.