

The Art & Design Department

The Art and Design Department offers courses from the AQA Art and Design Specifications including Graphic Design, Photography, Art, Craft and Design, Textile Design and 3D Design. All subjects are taught by specialist teachers at Linear A Level.

The department comprises eight full time teachers and one part time(0.80), together with two full time and one part time technicians. 3D Design comprises one full time Subject Leader/teacher and one shared full time teacher with Graphic Design, the subject is supported by one of the full time technicians for 3D Design on a full time basis (with responsibility for offering a creative projects opportunity to other college subjects). It is taught in a well-equipped wood working workshop and computer suite. The workshop has a heat treatment room and also a CAD/CAM room equipped with Laser Cutting and 4D router CAD equipment. The students use a combination of materials including woods, metal and plastics. Textile/Fashion Design is taught by the Head of Department/full time teacher and one shared teacher part time teacher with Photography and supported by a full time Art and Textiles technician in a combined sewing and computer suite. The room is equipped with Janome sewing machines, a Janome Computer Embroidery Machine, a Janome Embellisher Machine and an A3 Sublimation Digital Printer and also a Heat Press to allow students to print onto fabric. Graphic Design comprises a full time Subject Leader and two teachers that are shared with 3D Design and Photography and is taught in a Computer Suite in the department, using the computer programmes Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. Graphic Design is supported by the part time Graphics and Photography technician. Art, Craft and Design has two full time teachers who share the responsibility equally (50% each) as Subject Leader (Shared) and one full time teacher shared with Photography. Art, Craft and Design is supported by the full time Art and Textiles technician and it is taught in two rooms one of which is equipped as a Ceramics room. Photography is taught by the three Art, Craft and Design teachers and a specialist full time Photography teacher and part time specialist Photography teacher and is supported by the part time Photography and Graphic Design technician to keep the dark room and photography room equipped. Photography is taught in a Computer Suite using the Adobe Suite of software including Lightroom. Both of the Art, Craft and Design teachers have shared responsibility for leading Photography (50% each).

As a natural enhancement to their 'timetabled' learning, students are able to take extracurricular life drawing classes, and the department also organises visits to galleries and museums in Manchester, Liverpool and London and includes a residential visit to Barcelona. There are day visits to local degree shows and to shows such as the Design Manchester, The Create Your Future Exhibition and New Designers in London to introduce our students to the next steps they could take. We also reach out to other groups of students including visiting students from Europe. The Aquinas India Project is actively supported, and children in Mumbai have been able to benefit from lessons taught there by several of the department's teachers. We work in collaboration with Stepping Hill Hospital and Stockport Mersey way Shopping Centre to provide artwork for display on a regular basis. Particularly successful is our contribution to the college's Adult Centre. The four classes we offer across painting, crafts, textiles and ceramics are very popular year on year.

Our students' achievement is high and each June an exhibition is held and organised by our students with our support, to celebrate their work.

The Post

Art and Design: Full time Design & Technology Technician (37 Hours)

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and dedicated Design & Technology technician who is experienced in working with wood, metals and plastics. The candidate should have a knowledge of how to maintain all machine tools - lathes, pillar drills, sander, polisher, band saw, heat treatment equipment, circular saw, planer, CAD /CAM machines etc., to ensure that they are maintained in full working order. This includes cleaning dust extractors and keeping maintenance logs. The candidate should have an awareness of the Health and Safety requirements of a workshop. The candidate will provide creative support for projects to other college departments, for example Physics, Performing Arts and facilities. The candidate should be willing to work closely with students on a one to one basis or in small groups. Candidates must be eager to work as a team with staff and it is desirable that they have worked with children and young people in an educational setting.