

ART (EDEXCEL)

A-level Art at St Michael's encourages a broad approach to the subject, allowing students to continue and develop their understanding of the genre on a critical and highly experimental level.

The course builds on the knowledge, skills and understanding acquired by candidates taking Art at GCSE level. Candidates with a good GCSE pass rate will have developed the sufficient understanding and skill required for their programme of study. The course forms the ideal basis for further study at Art Foundation and Degree level, and many students go on to careers in interior and industrial design, architecture, fashion, photography and computer animated design and other arts related degrees and careers.

Students explore and refine a range of ideas, skills and materials to develop their own visual explorations on the theme of the Human Condition and the Abstract. Particular focus is given to drawing with a vast range of media, contextual analysis and critical reflection. Students go on to develop their initial ideas through experimentation with media and refinement within their own practical outcomes. To coincide with this, their contextual awareness is manifested within the form of a written personal study: a critical essay.

Assessment is frequent and rigorous so as to identify areas for development and provide information to design individualised support for pupils beyond the lesson.



Trips to Galleries both teacher-led and independent form an integral part of the course, enabling heightened critical analysis and cultural awareness. We encourage students to get involved in the art world beyond the classroom including programmes run by the major galleries in London e.g. Royal Academy of Arts ATTRACT Programme. This is an invaluable opportunity to make links with industry professionals and practising artists. All students are supported to discuss and talk about art and are entered for the Articulation public speaking competition run by the National Gallery. Pupils regularly succeed in obtaining places on Foundation and Degree courses. All pupils wishing to apply to art colleges are given support with portfolio preparation and interview guidance.