

HIGHDOWN SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM CENTRE

Frequently Asked Questions



ART DEPARTMENT

What do students' study at KS3?

There are 3 projects a year.

In year 7 Formal Elements in Art, Culture, and Identity

In Year 8 Culture, In a Different Way and Pop Art

In Year 9 Political Art, Architecture and Free Choice Project

Art movements and Artists are covered within each project, in chronological order, and paired with more current Artists.

Careers is built into each project.



What skills do students learn at KS3?

Projects cover all sorts of skills & processes in Art, Craft & design. From Painting, Clay, Posters, drawing, printing and more.

How many lessons of Art do students get at KS3?

Year 7 & 9 get 1 lesson per week

Year 8 get 1 lesson per week

GCSE classes get 5 lessons over the 2-week timetable.

ALEVEL get 10 lessons across the 2-week timetable.

When do students choose their options?

Students choose their options in Year 9 and start their GCSEs in Year 10.

Are there any after school clubs?

Yes, we run an Art club open to all, every year and it is very popular.

The Art department is also open every day after school for upper school students to do their coursework.

When can Students take photography?

Photography is built into KS3 projects and after school clubs sometimes, and students can take it as a subject from GCSE.

What GCSEs do you offer?

GCSE Art, Craft and Design (one GCSE)

GCSE Photography

GCSE Graphic Communication

GCSE Textiles (under D & T)



What ALEVELS do you offer?

ALEVEL Fine Art

ALEVEL Photography

What facilities do you have in Art?

We have 4 Art classrooms and a 6th form room. We have a kiln for clay work and a small studio for Photography.

How is work marked?

At KS3 we use What Went Well, Even Better If, My Response Is. And Upper school is marked using the exam board assessment objective criteria.

Which exam board are you with for?

AQA.

Both GCSE & ALEVEL is 60% coursework & 40% Exam Project.

What school trips do students go on?

There are different trips for upper school to London and Oxford. We have been to the V & A, The National Portrait Gallery, Kew Gardens, Ashmolean, Tate Britain and Tate modern.