

The subject curriculum at Five Acres High School

In Art, we learn different creative skills and techniques so we can express ourselves positively.

Intent

Why should all pupils learn this subject?

In Art, our intent is to guide students to discover and nurture their own identity through the appreciation and making of art. We encourage them to consider different art forms, artists and disciplines to further challenge/enhance their own perceptions and opinions about the world they live in.

Studying art enables students to solve creative problems, a skill much desired by many employers today. There are many Colleges and Sixth Forms that offer tailored courses in a range of art disciplines with many leading to opportunities to develop subject specific skills at University or working within the creative industries. The UK economy benefits immensely from the diverse and expanding field of art including careers such as illustrators, graphic designers, photographers, art historians, museum & gallery curators, animators, fashion designers, art therapists and architects to name just a few. Apart from these different career paths, studying art is also hugely important in developing cultural capital which aims to develop a student's character, promote diversity and mental well-being.

What is the core knowledge in this subject?

Core knowledge in Art can be broken down into the following components:

Formal Elements & Composition

- Line, Tone, Colour, Texture, Pattern and Shape & Form.
- Different compositional arrangements such as fore-, mid- and background but also extending to how the formal elements are arranged and used to convey intention and meaning.

Techniques & Processes

- Colour Theory including primary colours, secondary colours, tertiary colours, complementary colours and analogue colours, as well as tints and shades.
- Drawing - using methods such as the grid method to accurately record observations including scaling images up or down.
- Drawing - observation of accurate levels of tone and textures to convey realism.

Verbal & Written Analysis

- Using visual language (formal elements) to analyse different artists work through discussion and written form
- Make connections between artists' intention and the wider world e.g. historic, social and political.

Implementation

How is this subject taught at FAHS?

Art projects are structured around a specific theme. Within each project students will develop ideas by exploring different artists, experiment with different materials/techniques and record information through drawing or written annotations. At the end of each project, pupils apply their learning to create their own final piece in response to the theme.

What are the key ways students practise in this subject?

- Identifying and analysing formal elements within artists work (verbal & written)
- Identifying and explaining processes and intentions within artists work (verbal & written)
- Applying artists techniques and processes
- Experiment with a wide variety of materials and techniques and refine approaches and outcomes as skills progress
- Create tonal drawings that consider proportion, accurate levels of tone and increasing levels of realism.
- Plan and develop own ideas by considering and adapting elements of artists work and other contextual studies
- Create own final outcomes in response to the theme.
- Evaluating outcomes at different stages to consistently and proactively develop ideas to realise own intentions.

Impact

What does assessment look like in this subject?

Teachers assess pupils' understanding during lessons. Each lesson begins with a mini quiz, designed to revisit key knowledge from previous lessons, units and year groups. These quizzes provide further formative opportunities to assess learning over time. End-of-unit assessments consist of marking their entire sketchbook/ project to ensure that students progress is marked over time as well as assessing all key assessment objectives. Therefore, it is vital that students continuously work hard in lessons as well as taking ownership of developing their skills at home.