

TEXTILES

A LEVEL COURSE DESCRIPTION

This two year creative and thought-provoking A Level course will appeal to those students who wish to develop their design, development and practical skills to succeed in a number of careers. The course is intended for those who enjoy being creative, who like drawing, experimenting and modelling ideas as well as making the final product.

While following the AQA Art & Design: Textile Design course you will explore a variety of different materials, processes, historical and contemporary developments including styles and genres, whilst enjoying opportunities to put your learning into practice by producing prototypes of your choice. You will gain a real understanding of what it means to be a designer, alongside the knowledge and skills sought by higher education and employers.

ENTRY REQUIREMENT

Students need to have a passion for Textiles and be creative and imaginative in their approach.

Students should have at least grade 6 in either GCSE Art & Design, GCSE Design and Technology or equivalent before commencing the course.

Students will be assessed on individual merit/suitable portfolio of work if GCSE has not been taken in Design and Technology or Art and Design related subjects.



Progression

Did you know the fashion industry is one of the fastest growing industries in the world? Currently worth over £26 billion and 800,000 jobs to the economy making it the UK's largest creative industry. The study of textiles is more than clothes; it's about ideas, society and the way we live. Having followed the Textiles A-Level course there are a huge variety of courses and careers available to students, including fashion design, knitting, woven and printing pathways, graphic design, costume design, fashion marketing, branding, retail buyer and teaching.





ASSESSMENT

Component 1: Personal Investigation (60%).

Students develop work based on an idea, issue or theme of their choice. They will investigate a range of different artists, designers, photographers or craftspeople, experimenting with different decorative techniques and processes. Students will use sketchbooks and samples to refine their ideas before presenting a final outcome. As part of the project they will be required to submit a written piece of work of 2500 words which supports their final outcome.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%).

Students respond to a brief provided by AQA and produce work which evidences their technical ability and independence. Students will receive guidance to ensure they develop a personal and meaningful response which demonstrates their ideas, intentions and leads to a finished outcome or a series of related finished outcomes.

DEPARTMENTAL ENRICHMENT AND STUDENT SUPPORT

Students studying Textiles have the opportunity to attend a variety of accompanied visits, including to galleries and museums, New Designers exhibition and the Knitting and Stitching show. There are also opportunities to enter a variety of competitions including the Young Designer of the Year and FAD competition.

The Textiles department is highly equipped and we wish to provide an equal opportunity to all students in order for them to be successful learners. Students will be offered after school study support, as well as personalised tutorials. They will have access to an open door policy for the use of equipment, including sewing machines and computers within the school day. Within the department we are able to offer students access to:

- Over 20 state of the art sewing machines with computer control panels and adjustable speed settings.
- 2 Bernina sewing machines that can be used for free machine embroidery
- Several overlockers for strengthening and neatening edges
- 4 punch needle sewing machines
- Industrial computerised sewing machine that can embroider any pattern it is programmed to
- Heat press for transfer and sublimation printing
- Screen printing facilities
- Mannequins
- Laser cutter to engrave and cut on to fabric, plastic and wood
- A wide selection of fabrics for sampling
- Light boxes for design work

“When you have a passion for something then you tend to not only be better at it, but you work harder at it too”

Vera Wang

Routes for Success - Arts

The Routes to Success Programme is designed for ALL students in Year 12 at St Angela's Ursuline 6th Form. The ARTS programme aims to offer students opportunities to work with both industry and universities, opportunities will include links with; Pitch It, The British Museum, The National Gallery,

Central St Martin's, Central School of Speech and Drama, London College of Contemporary Fashion, The Royal Academy of Music, Trinity Laban and London Contemporary Dance. Summer school opportunities will include links with; Liverpool Hope, Holts and Ravensbourne.

Please note- All Year 12 students will select one main 'Route for Success' from these in order to experience a specialist enrichment and learning support programme. It will, of course, be possible to select a subject/subjects from another route on your timetable. We base our Routes to Success Programme on the university curriculum structure and university links are not exclusive to one route, so can be accessed by all students.

