

Head of Department: Miss E Ford

At Phoenix Academy, we place great value on the study of art. The creation of visual art is one of the very things that makes us human, and has been a part of human culture since the prehistoric period. Our expert art department helps to guide their students in developing multiple artistic skills and processes, in exploring themes, in expressing themselves through visual media, and in developing a passion and enthusiasm for art that will last them a lifetime.

Key Stage 3

All Key Stage 3 students study art. In Year 7, students focus on the formal elements, proportion and pop art. In Year 8, they focus on abstract art, still life paintings and the art of Japan. The aim of the abstract art module is to challenge students' perception of art and aesthetics. In Year 9, students learn about art that is man-made and natural in the autumn, before going onto to study architecture and design in the spring term. In the final term, students are given a GCSE-style extended project, which provides a useful introduction into the GCSE specification for students pursuing art at GCSE.

Key Stage 4

Art and Design is an optional GCSE course. Key Stage 4 students at Phoenix Academy follow the Edexcel Art and Design specification. They explore forms of identity and nature, as well as natural form. Students study historical and social aspects of art, with artists studied might include Jasper Johnson, Barbara Kruger and Barbara Hepworth. They also create their own art, inspired by their personal response to these artists, and learn the skills of critiquing and refining their own work. They also complete an externally set assignment.

Creative iMedia (Key Stage 4)

Creative iMedia is a Cambridge Nationals Course, equivalent to a GCSE. Students might study project planning, graphic design, website design and game design.