

Creative Arts:

- A-Level Visual Arts: Art/Photography/
Craft/Design
 - A-Level Media Studies
- BTEC in Performing Arts (Acting)

Standard Entry Guidelines

5 GCSEs with a mixture of grades 9-5 in a least 5 different subjects including English Language and Mathematics

A-Level Visual Arts: Art/Photography/Craft/Design

Exam Board: Edexcel

Entry Requirements:

Standard plus grade 5 in GCSE Art or a Level 2 BTEC Art at Distinction.

What will I study?

This exciting, multi-disciplinary course explores Fine Art, Photography, Design, and 3D/Ceramics.

In Year 1, you will develop core skills across all areas before completing a thematic project, combining disciplines to create innovative outcomes.

In Year 2, you will specialise through a Personal Investigation, producing a practical portfolio and a written study, followed by an externally set exam project.

How is the subject Assessed:

- **60% Coursework** – Personal Investigation (portfolio + written study)
- **40% Exam** – Externally Set Assignment (including 15-hour practical exam)

Work is assessed on your ability to:

- Develop ideas through research
- Experiment with materials and techniques
- Record observations
- Present a final outcome

Is this subject right for me?

This course is ideal for creative, curious students who enjoy experimenting across a range of media, can work independently to develop their own ideas, and are interested in pursuing careers in art, design, photography, or architecture.

What Next?

A-Level Art & Design leads to creative degrees and careers such as architecture, product design and sculpture. Through practical projects and artist research, you'll build a strong portfolio and develop key creative and technical skills for your future.

A-Level Media Studies

Exam Board: Eduqas

Entry Requirements

Standard plus grade 5 in GCSE Media Studies (if taken) or a Level 2 BTEC in a related subject at Distinction.

How is the subject assessed?

Exams: Two written exams at the end of Year 13 (70%)

Coursework: A practical media project plus written evaluation in Year 13 (30%)

You will be assessed on:

- Analysing media and how meaning is created
- Using media theories and concepts
- Researching and planning productions
- Creating and evaluating your own media work

What will I study?

You will explore film, TV, advertising, music videos, radio, video games, and online media. You will learn how media industries work, how audiences respond, and how different groups are represented. You will also create your own media products such as film marketing, magazines, or digital content.

Key areas include:

- Media language and representation
- Media industries and audiences
- Set texts across film, TV, advertising, music videos and online media
- Practical media production

Is this subject right for me?

This subject is ideal if you're curious about the media and enjoy analysing how it shapes the world around us. You should be prepared for at least 2 hours of independent study each week, including research, analysis, and coursework planning. An interest in current media, politics, representation (such as gender and ethnicity), and creativity is essential. The more media you engage with, the stronger your work will be.

What Next?

This qualification can lead to university courses or careers in media, film, television, advertising, journalism, digital marketing, content creation, and the wider creative industries.

BTEC in Performing Arts (Acting)

Exam Board: National Extended Certificate: Pearson

Entry Requirements

Standard. Please note you do not need to have studied GCSE Drama or BTEC Performing Arts, but taking part in school productions or drama clubs will be helpful.

How is the subject assessed?

- **Unit 1:** written exam (30%)
- **Unit 2:** practical performance with logbook (20%)
- **Unit 3:** practical exam with performance (30%)
- **Optional Unit:** practical performance with logbook (20%)

What will I study?

You will explore the performing arts industry and build core skills in communication, performance and creativity. These skills are transferable to many other areas and help develop confidence, teamwork and presentation ability.

How am I assessed?

Mandatory assessment:

- **Unit 1:** Investigating Practitioners' Work
- **Unit 2:** Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance
- **Unit 3:** Group Performance Workshop

Optional unit (choose one):

- Interpreting Classical Text for Performance
- Acting Styles
- Developing the Voice for Performance
- Variety Performance

Is this subject right for me?

This subject is right for you if you enjoy a variety of creative activities and are interested in the performing arts. It's ideal if you want to develop as a performer, designer, and informed audience member. You'll need to take part in live performances, attend rehearsals outside lessons, and watch live theatre.

What Next?

This qualification earns UCAS points and can lead to a wide range of university courses. You'll also build key employability skills—problem-solving, teamwork, communication, adaptability and self-management—valued by both universities and employers.