

## Buckler's Mead Academy

### Art and Photography - Subject Information

***Before a child talks they sing. As soon as they stand they dance. Before they write they draw. Art is fundamental to human expression - Phylicia Rashad***

The Art Department at Buckler's Mead Academy provides students with a high-quality arts education to inspire creativity and extend their cultural knowledge of the world around them taught by specialist teachers. We deliver an inclusive experience for all students so they can explore the art world. Our curriculum is ambitious, we want students to see the importance of learning about art, be able to express their imagination, emotional reaction or interpret their art by mark making or any other expressive means. Students will be able to read and interpret imagery; developing creative problem solving skills and the pure joy of making using their hands using a wide range of materials & techniques. This is all part of a child's experience and learning through visual and tactile means. Teachers are specialists and they share their own passion for art by practising their own artwork and sharing this with the students.

Our curriculum aims to develop the three stands: substantive knowledge – practical (Procedural - knowledge of skills); substantive knowledge – theoretical (knowledge of art and artists) and disciplinary knowledge (Art interpretation of the elements, how they can be used and combined in order to create a specific and desired effect.) It is also the critical evaluation of artists' work; evaluating styles and techniques and having the ability to appraise a piece of work.

At KS3 the curriculum is sequenced to build on the student's knowledge of the Formal Elements. As a result they will develop a passion and enjoyment for observing, creating, recording, experimenting and developing their practical skills into a range of personal responses in a range of processes. Students also study a range of art styles and artists' work, learning how to interpret these independently and being able to discuss how the world and its events has shaped the creative processes for many years.

We extend the classroom experience into community opportunities and groups within school by offering art clubs and involvement in community arts projects and working with artists. This in turn gives students the understanding of working as a creative professional in the community, the creative industry and the wider world of work. Students also have the opportunity to attend art trips exploring museums and galleries to inspire the next generation of artists.

This means the students have three clear outcomes: to become fluent using techniques and process both tradition and contemporary; to explore ideas through experimentation of materials and processes; working from a topic of theme exploring their own ideas. Using the Formal Elements as the building blocks of knowledge as the foundation of art education creates a structured support for all students to extend their skills in a range of media and materials. Students will learn about a range of art history, craft, design including styles, major movements and plotting their place in this history of art gives students a range of areas to inform and develop their own work. Topics or themes are selected from department expertise and links made available within the wider community.

By the end of year 9 all students will have studied a range of artists, art movements and styles of art ranging from ancient times up to present day. They will explore painting, drawing, mark making, printmaking and 3D work including clay and paper mache. The curriculum will also include any other opportunities made available to explore their own ideas and work using stimuli from visiting artists. They will have been given the chance to create individual pieces of work taking inspiration from a range of sources with some element of risk taking. Learners will have been able to experiment and explore a range of ways to create their own artwork. Our curriculum explores a range of media including many forms of printing and claywork.

Our students will learn about the creative industry and will be able to decide if they want to continue their creative journey into the next stages of education or into the world of work. They will be exposed to the artworld in the local

community and beyond. We complete the course with an exhibition celebrating the students' work and sharing with the school. Sharing and celebrating students' work by displays, competitions and work at our **successful** Creative Club gives KS3 confidence and enjoyment in their skills and abilities. We strive to ensure that all pupils are able to use visual language to communicate their understanding of the art world and are able to know and engage with and discuss their views on issues important to the art industry.