

APPOINTMENT OF ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY TEACHER

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

We currently have a vacancy for a creative and enthusiastic teacher to teach Art and Photography on a permanent full-time contract.

We expect the successful candidate to be a strong classroom practitioner in Art and ideally with some experience of teaching Photography at KS3.

Art and Photography

The Department's approach to teaching and learning:

We aim to offer our students a broad-based Arts experience at all key stages. We hope they will leave us at the end of whichever key stage having gained a better understanding of the world around them and developed further their own imagination and creative impulses!

Art is taught as a discreet standalone subject. Photography is a well-established subject and is also taught as a standalone subject. At KS4 and 5 some students opt to study both.

Key Stage 3

Across the two-week timetable, Year 7 & 8 students each receive three 1hr lessons of Art. We have a programme of study which encompasses 2D and 3D experiences as well as looking at Art from a variety of western and non-western cultures. In Year 7 we cover the formal elements and move to a more thematic approach in Year 8. We have evolved our use of AFL but continue to strive to create confident, independent learners and thinkers. Students each have their own sketchbook. Homework assignments for each year group are set at the start of each half term. We have an Art club which runs each week and is ever popular.

Students do not have any direct photography lessons in KS3.

Key Stage 4

We have a three-year KS4- we use Year 9 as a 'foundation' year where we establish the skills required to flourish once we 'bank' the coursework completed in Year's 10 & 11.

Art: We follow the AQA Fine Art GCSE Art & Design course We have established popular and successful courses which have led to much student success in recent years. Students receive four 1hr periods a fortnight for each subject. Although there is a bias to drawing and painting, we incorporate various print making processes and more model making into the course. Of course, use of sketchbooks and personal responses through final outcomes are the essential ingredients to this course.

Photography: Also follows the AQA Art & Design qualification for GCSE Photography. The photography course which was established over 10yrs ago encompasses darkroom and digital photography. The facilities and equipment are of a very high standard and allow students to flourish in this popular subject. We are keen for our photography students to explore use of 'fine art' techniques to develop enhance their photographic personal responses. A mainstay of the course is the annual Year 11 Art trip to Tate Modern to coincide with the start of their 40% exam. We have afterschool coursework clubs which are well attended.

Key Stage 5

We deliver Edexcel A-Level Art & Design- Fine Art and AQA GCE photography. For both qualifications the courses allow our students to develop their understanding and awareness

of Art and Photography through a range of experiences based around 2D & 3D opportunities. Students receive ten 1hr periods a fortnight for each subject. Opportunities to see Art and Photography beyond the confines of the classroom play an important part of the course as is visiting outside venues for ideas and inspiration. Students are encouraged to work independently and utilise the Art Department whenever possible. The outgoing post holder has recently established a joint A-Level Art/Photography trip to Barcelona. Furthering the opportunities for cultural capital for both courses is something the new post holder may like to explore...

Facilities:

The Art Department is contained in the first teaching corridor coming off reception. We consider our working environment to be very good; there are three full time Art teachers, each with their own teaching base. In addition, there is a full time Photography teacher with their own dedicated classroom and adjoining darkroom. There is a large resource base where materials and work is stored. We also have our own office space. We have dedicated technician support who is a valued member of the department.

We work well as a department and are supportive of each other. We utilise each other's strengths and this is a positive contributor to the ongoing improvement seen in Art.

As far as timetabling is concerned, as a general benchmark I always try to divide the cake up as evenly as possible between colleagues and key stages. Within the systems already in place here, there is the opportunity for our new colleague to stamp their mark by developing and tweaking further our evolving Art experience at Stratford upon Avon School. You would be encouraged to take the framework in place and develop it and your own professional practice. I hope you are encouraged to apply!

Conclusion

We are looking to strengthen our team by employing a versatile Photography teacher with a strong passion for their subject. The ability to teach these subjects at all Key Stages would be advantageous.

We look forward to welcoming a well-qualified colleague who will work with us to build on established strengths and contribute to the continuing success of the department and school.

This is an exciting opportunity for the right person to develop their career. We look forward to receiving your application.

Mr Chris Owen, Curriculum Leader Art & Photography

November 2023