



GCSE Graphic Design

Introduction / Why Study Graphic Design?

Graphic design is a part of your daily life. It is the most powerful media there is. From simple items like wrappers to huge things like billboards to the T-shirt you're wearing, graphic design informs, persuades, organizes, stimulates, locates, identifies, attracts attention and provides pleasure. Without graphics life would be very uninspiring and pretty dull.

Exam Board

The examination board is AQA. Further details including the full specification and other information for students and parents is available at: http://web.aqa.org.uk/qual/newgcse/dandt/new/graphic_overview.php

What Will I Study / What Skills Will I Develop?

You'll develop your research skills, problem solving, as well as the ability to work on your own initiative. You'll be able to communicate and work in a team and develop an awareness of the world of graphic communication. You'll also gain practical skills in design, sketching, use of digital media, CAD/CAM, materials and manufacture in mainly cards and plastics.

In Year 10 you will complete the following projects:

- . Designing: Here you will learn the vital communication skills required to be a Graphic Designer. Sketching Isometric, Orthographic, 2 point and 1point perspective including CAD (2D designer and sketchup)

The following projects are rotated and are chosen by the groups yearly.

- . Architectural project: Here you will work with Plymouth University and redevelop an area of our school using modeling and Sketchup. A real opportunity to talk with students about university and a career as an architect. One full day of learning in school on sketchup and Photoshop, one day at Plymouth University modeling with students.
- . Corporate identity: This is a redevelopment of Yummies in Wadebridge. Here you will develop a new sign and menu using CAD/CAM.
- . Children's book: This is a team event where you work together to create a children's book which is then trailed at our school nursery. It's great fun and lovely to see the children enjoy the books.

At the end of year 10 you choose your major project. There is a huge variety of options in Graphic Products and there are just a few listed below:

- . Design and manufacture packaging and a menu for a fast-food restaurant.
- . Children's book
- . CD cover and promotional pieces.
- . Create a new chocolate with promotional pieces.

How Will I Be Assessed?

60% of your final mark is based on your major project which includes your folio of around 20 pages and a major product of your choice. 40% of the task is a 2 hour written exam closely linked to the design specification and also including a design task.

What Might GCSE Graphic Products Lead To?

Graphic Design GCSE spans a large area and can lead to a number of career choices which may include; Graphic Design, Illustration, Animator, Advertising and publications.

The opportunities are vast and the choice could be yours. This is a creative and enjoyable course which can help you develop your skills in other subjects such as Mathematics, English, Art, ICT and Media.

