



# St Benedict's Catholic School

*The Catholic Secondary School for West Suffolk*

## Art Department Curriculum Guide

### Year 8

#### Autumn Taught Content

The students begin the term with an investigation into the theme of '**Fantastic and Strange**' using bugs and insects as a starting point for observational drawings in biro and pencil to focus on their mark making and recording skills. Students broaden their drawing skills using a range of different media and techniques to focus on colour and pattern making zoom in studies of insect structures. Students learn how to produce and present mono prints of creatures to apply their understanding of line and tone.

Pupils select and research relevant 3D artists to inform their own designs for **hybrid creatures**, producing photo montages and imaginative creatures of their own. Students are encouraged to be inventive and imaginative in the creation of drawings inspired by mythical creatures such as dragons or reptiles from the natural world.

These 2D designs are used to inform the production of a final 'hybrid' outcome at the end of the term made using clay and wire drawing techniques to explore proportion, shape, pattern and use of the imagination.

#### Spring Taught Content

This term begins with an investigation into the visual language of symbols and patterns used by different cultures most particularly in **Aboriginal Art**. Students explore the context of Aboriginal Art, exploring the different methods and materials used by Aboriginal artists by mapping their own journey to and from school. Students design their own pattern motif to produce repeat patterns using **press print** tiles and learn how to embellish these with appropriate colours.

Students have the opportunity to learn how to develop designs for their own Aboriginal animals using chalk pastel and batik methods to create collaborative works where possible.

The second half term focuses the student's skills for working with colour, pattern and shape through an investigation into the artist **Eduardo Paolozzi**. Students continue to consolidate their analytical skills by making painted studies of his work and exploring ideas relating to **abstraction**. Mechanical forms and structures provide a stimulus for drawing and learning using a range of media.

## Summer Taught Content

Students begin the term by exploring the theme of the **'Figure in Art'**. Students will learn different ways to measure when drawing the human form enabling them to understand rules of proportion and ways that the movement of a figure can be conveyed when capturing a sporting or active figure. Students explore a range of different artists who have been inspired by the human form, Giacometti, Gormley, Akuniylli, Da Vinci.

Tasks will enable students to complete a range of drawings and collage based outcomes to work in the style of different artists whilst also looking at different techniques when drawing the human form. Students will learn from investigating Manga characters and Fashion drawings to analyse the different styles of working.

Selecting from these different styles, students will produce a longer study using watercolour media of a human figure that will enable them to focus on their skills for accuracy and precision when drawing whilst also learning about the importance of the figure in art history.

## Assessment

Students will be assessed on key tasks in their sketchbook as the work progresses as well as assessing final outcomes that are made at the end of each term.

An effort and attainment grade is reported every term in line with whole school policy.

Self, peer and group assessment takes place in lessons when appropriate

## Homework Expectations

Students will be expected to complete homework lasting 30 - 60 minutes approx. every two - three weeks.

Homework is designed to be relevant to the units of work studied and students are encouraged to take responsibility for their own sketchbooks and equipment.

## Extra and Super Curricular Opportunities

Key stage three students have the opportunity to attend arts award sessions after school once a week for both Bronze and Silver awards.

Competitions run in the school for students to engage with each year including production of the schools Christmas Card design in the Autumn term.