**Art Department at The Maynard School**

The Art Department at The Maynard School is a vibrant and dynamic part of our academic community. We are committed to fostering creativity, critical thinking, and a lifelong appreciation for the arts in our students. Our department offers a broad and balanced curriculum that encourages students to explore a wide range of artistic media and techniques.

**Facilities and Resources:**

* The department is staffed by a head of art and a part time art teacher. There is also a parttime art technician who supports the delivery of the curriculum and assists with the preparation for departmental events and activities.
* **State-of-the-Art Studios:** Our well-equipped art studios provide students with the space and resources to experiment and create. There is a separate studio for the Sixth Form and two further dedicated, spacious classrooms. In addition, there is a resources room and preparation room. The department is based in a dedicated building that is shared with the music department.
* **Specialist Equipment:** We offer access to a variety of specialist equipment, including digital art tools and ceramics facilities, as well as a dark room.
* Pupils in Years 7 to 11 have access to school-managed laptops and pupils in years 12 and 13 bring their own devices to school. All classrooms are equipped with data projectors and staff computers and there is a shard staff room with the music department. The school network is well managed and reliable and hosts a thriving intranet for staff and pupil use. We are a Microsoft Office 365 school and iLearn as well as SharePoint are the online platforms used by teaching staff to post homework tasks and other resources

**Curriculum**

In the senior school, pupils are taught in form groups from Year 7 to Year 9. Pupils then opt for their GCSE subjects. classes are small, averaging 20 pupils. Great emphasis is placed on the teaching of critical and contextual studies at every level from Year 7 upwards and therefore a secure knowledge of both traditional and contemporary art is essential. At GCSE and A Level, the OCR fine art syllabus is followed. Exam results in the subject are very good, with all pupils achieving A\* - A grades at A Level and grades 9 – 6 at GCSE. There has been considerable interest in pursuing careers in the creative arts and departmental staff help to prepare pupils for entry onto art foundation programmes and a wide range of design-related or architecture degree courses. In the 2024 three students were recognised by the exam board for achieving the highest scores nationally at A level and GCSE.

**Beyond the curriculum**

The art department runs an ‘open studio’ policy which encourages GCSE and A Level pupils to make use of the facilities outside of timetabled lessons. Applicants must be willing to supervise pupils wishing to work in the art studios during break times, lunchtimes and after school until around 5pm. Life drawing classes are well-established sixth form artists after school. This is seen as a critical area of the teaching provision and applicants must be willing to teach on this programme. Junior art club (for pupils in Years 7 – 9) runs weekly and is hosted by department staff and Sixth Form pupils. There is the opportunity to run trips and visits to local and national art galleries and engage with visiting artists.

**Community and Collaboration:**

* **Collaborative Projects:** We promote collaboration both within the department and with other subjects, fostering interdisciplinary learning and creative problem-solving.
* **Engagement with the Community:** Our department actively engages with the local art community, creating opportunities for students to connect with practicing artists and participate in community art projects.

The Art Department at The Maynard School is dedicated to nurturing the artistic talents of our students and preparing them for future success in the arts. We are looking for a passionate and innovative Head of Art to lead our department and inspire the next generation of artists.