

Visual Art and Design

BTEC Level 2 First Award in Art and Design

The Visual Art and Design sector encompasses a wide range of creative disciplines and careers, such as Graphic Design, Illustration, Fashion Design, Photography and many more. Through exploring these potential creative careers you will have opportunities to engage with a range of techniques and processes such as drawing, painting, digital arts, photography, typography, printmaking and 3D Design. You may have the opportunity to undertake collaborative projects with arts professionals and with our partners, such as schools and galleries, and you will undertake a number of visits to exhibitions, artist spaces and museums.

What will I learn on this course?

You will learn to use the visual language of art and design to develop ideas, explore techniques and processes, and to integrate these to form your own art work. Units include Introduction to Specialist Pathways in Art and Design; Communicating Ideas in 2D; Developing and Art and Design Portfolio; Applying Contextual References in Art and Design. The unit work will enable you to develop a solid foundation in the visual language of art and design and workings of the art and design industry.

How is the course structured?

The course is structured to enable you to undertake a number of core and specialist units enabling you to achieve the Level 2 First Award. It is delivered through assignments and projects utilising different learning and teaching styles such as teacher-led demonstration, independent visual research, and skills development workshops. There will also be opportunity to undertake additional learning and certification in selected disciplines.

How will I study?

You will work in purpose designed art areas on skills workshops, collaborative projects and with arts professionals. You will work on assignments set by your tutors, on mini-projects and on independent research. In our purpose-built state-of-the-art facilities we are able to offer a first-rate environment for the study of visual arts and design. We have facilities for textiles, ceramics and three-dimensional design, a photography darkroom, fine art studios and computer suites with the latest art and design software such as Photoshop, Illustrator, Final Cut and graphic tablets for digital drawing. As an academy we specialise in digital arts whilst ensuring that traditional skills and studio techniques are maintained and developed. Added to this excellent setting is a superb set of departmental tutors making what we believe is a unique environment for the preparation of tomorrow's artists, designers and visual communicators. Studying at BOA will enable you to develop your skills and ideas whilst benefitting from working in a dedicated arts environment.

How will you be assessed?

The course is continuously assessed throughout the two years. There will be a number of exhibition opportunities throughout the course. There are two external assessment opportunities, one in year 10 and one in year 11. Themes for these externally assessed units are provided by Edexcel and are completed in timed examination conditions.

The BTEC Level 2 qualification is set to change in September 2018, although no specification has been published as of yet. The above is an outline of the current qualification offered at BOA.

