

Durham Johnston Department Overview**Art and design at Durham Johnston Comprehensive School**

This is an excellent opportunity to lead an outstanding Art department. The department has gained an excellent reputation for students' skilful work, reflected in the school's success in winning a range of both international and national prizes and competitions over recent years.

The philosophy of the department is based on the belief that *'those who say they can't are taught how they can, and those who can are given opportunities to see the potential of their skills'*.

The schemes of work from KS3 to KS5 are skills based and students learn about visual concepts and how to apply them from Yr7. Drawing skills are considered as central to the core curriculum and students are given the opportunity to explore and develop skills across a broad range of media that includes painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography and digital imagery.

Students are encouraged to develop skills, gain knowledge and understanding from the work of others in connection with their own work and strive to produce work they are proud of.

'The high quality outcomes achieved, reflect the excellent teaching and the high importance students attach to the subject' OFSTED Good Practice Report.

KS3

Students have one lesson a week and the schemes of work are based on an understanding of the Formal Elements delivered across a broad range of media and techniques. The KS3 course is structured with an expectation of entitlement for all students, but the course also allows staff to bring their own specialisms to the lessons.

KS4

Students are offered options for GCSE Fine Art and GCSE Photography for three lessons a week. Team teaching is a feature of KS4 timetabling and staff work together in planning, assessment and standardisation. The history of success at GCSE is a reflection of the commitment and hard work of the staff.

KS5

A level Art is highly regarded at Durham Johnston School and work produced by our students is exceptional and examination results outstanding. The Fine Art course attracts students from Durham Johnston and also from other schools across Durham.

The A level exhibition held in school at the end of each year is always a wonderful celebration of the students hard work and provides a show case of the fantastic work they have produced.

Many of our A level students go on to study Art at university and are encouraged to aim high and have secured places on high profile courses such as Central St Martin's, Glasgow School of Art, UCL, Chelsea, Goldsmiths and Oxford for Art History and Oxford Ruskin for Fine Art.

Classroom provision and staffing

The art department at Durham Johnston School has a wonderful outlook from the top floor of the modern building with three big classrooms, a sixth form studio, kiln room and a darkroom and store. This provides a positive environment for three full time members of staff who have the luxury of being based in their own rooms. New media is integrated into all schemes and the department has 30 laptops and desktops with software such as Photoshop and macromedia and digital SLR cameras for student use.