

Raising Attainment

in



at

Portlethen Academy

In Art and Design at Portlethen Academy our aim is to help young people meet their potential and get the best grades possible whilst experiencing the many aspects of Art and Design which they can take into their life beyond school. We are sure that you have the same goal for your child and the key to their success comes from young people, parents and guardians, and teachers all working together. This leaflet aims to provide key information relating to the nature of Art and Design and highlights what we are doing as teachers to promote the best possible attainment. It also highlights what is expected from pupils and how parents and others can assist.

Broad General Education (BGE)

S1-S2- 1 period per week- Experiences in all the art elements, ranging from tone, colour, 3D clay, design, textiles and learning about artists and designers.

S3- 3 periods per week- Experience mini expressive and design practical projects and their art history. This S3 course also helps familiarise the pupils with the SQA National level Art and Design courses. This builds up a good foundation for pupils who want to continue and make progress in Art & Design.

Senior Phase (N4/5, Higher, Advanced Higher)

National 4

- Unit work including initial practical and written work
 - Expressive Folio.
 - Design Folio.
- (National 4 is internally assessed)

National 5

- Expressive Folio: 40%
- Design Folio: 40%
- Written exam: 20%

Higher

- Expressive Folio: 36.5%
- Design Folio: 36.5%
- Written exam: 27%

Advanced Higher

- Enquiry - Practical Folio - Design or Expressive: 60%
- Critical Studies: 30%
- Evaluation: 10%

The written element (N5/Higher exam) is a crucial part of the course and prepared for by:

- practising analysing artwork
- using literacy skills
- learning art language & terminology

We expect pupils to dedicate a minimum of 2 hours homework/study per week, working on both practical and written aspects of the course.

The 2 practical Art Folios (Expressive & Design) need to be submitted for the final deadline of the 29th of March. This deadline comes at a time when other subjects the pupils are studying have heavy assessment loads. The danger is that some subjects suffer at the expense of others so planning and managing workload is crucial. Staged Art & Design deadlines have been set to follow and help pupils manage and complete all the elements of the course.

The Art & Design written exam is often at the very end of the exams calendar in late May. While this can be positive as other exams are over, we are concerned that some pupils switch off just when they need to be doing their very best. We therefore offer study sessions throughout exam leave and attendance to these is highly advisable. A Revision Booklet is being compiled to help here also.

What staff are doing to promote attainment:

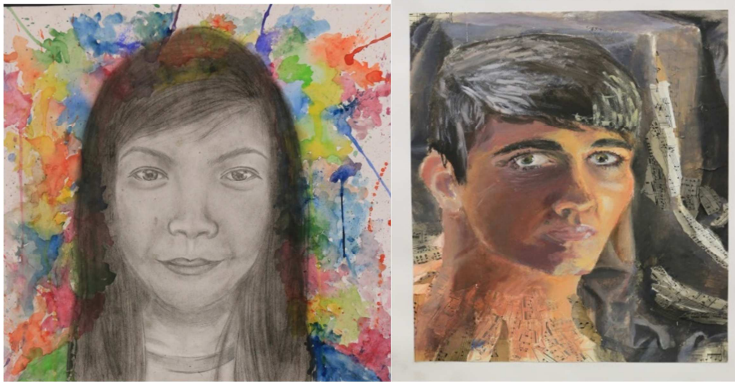
- **Clear advice on standards required.**
- **Feedback on work with clear advice on how to improve.**
- **Setting of regular formal homework and advice on informal homework - pupil developing/continuing with work at home.**
- **Clear deadlines for submission of work.**
- **Weekly Drop in lunchtime/after school sessions.**

What pupils should do to get the best grade possible:

- **2 hours of homework/revision per week minimum (practical and written work)**
- **Take responsibility for own learning during lessons e.g. be prepared**
- **Attend extra sessions which are available.**
- **Keep up with deadlines.**

What parents/guardians can do to support attainment:

- **Help to encourage and ensure pupils manage their workload and meet deadlines through discussions.**
- **Monitor weekly homework (log on to SMHW)**
- **Familiarise with the Art courses on SQA websites.**
- **Art Exhibitions of our pupils are on regularly around the school to see.**
- **Look out for news on the Art and Design SHOWCASE EVENING- S1 to Advanced Higher work.**
- **Visit other Art Exhibitions and Galleries.**



Helpful Resources:

- Twitter page #Portyart
- SQA website
- Help sheets on Show My Homework
- Art Galleries