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## ART AND DESIGN

As a former Specialist Visual Arts College, the Art Department at Newent Community School and Sixth Form Centre has developed a national reputation for excellence.

‘The Standards of art and drama are outstanding and do much to enhance students cultural awareness and spiritual development’ (Ofsted).

Our students consistently attain above national averages in the Visual Arts, for example in both Fine Art and Photography, 100% of our A Level A2 students gained A\*-C grades in the **June 2022 examinations**.

The Department provides a role model for work in all areas of the school, motivating our students for further learning and employment in the country’s largest growth industry.

Our Arts provision encompasses the full range of Visual Arts specialist courses. Currently we offer GCSE courses in Fine Art, Graphic Communication, Three Dimensional Studies and in addition to these options, at A level we also offer Photography and Textiles. Year seven and eight students follow a skills-based curriculum exploring Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Stone carving, Graphics and Digital Image making through Photoshop. These skills are assessed using the GCSE assessment criteria from year seven allowing informed progression across all years. ‘Providing an extremely rich range of options’ (Ofsted). These courses are delivered by a highly motivated team of three full-time and one part-time specialist visual art teachers; we also have 2 art technicians supporting the Department.

The Department is accommodated in seven well equipped teaching rooms, including a Photography Studio, and a Sixth Form Studio to support independent learning; three rooms have mini ICT suites and a further fourth room is equipped with a whole class of computers.

Our partnerships with the local community and businesses contribute to student learning, and we have a formal progression partnership with Hereford College of Arts which offers good financial bursaries to our students when taking up Arts Degree courses. We have exceptionally strong links with the University of Gloucestershire, and our trailblazing Art Hub Day brought specialist teams from 6 university art and design departments to work with our students. We continue to offer annual workshops with the university to enrich our students learning and enhance our careers education.

The Department strives to maintain a rich and inspiring creative environment by showcasing students’ work and a wealth of other visual stimuli throughout the school and wider community. We have a Twitter account @NewentArt where the fantastic work of our students is posted throughout the year. Many of our students go on to pursue highly successful careers in the arts and our alumni continue to support the learning of our young people through a series of visits back to school.

If you would like to receive additional information on this subject, please contact Ms M McClay, Head of Department via email [admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@newent.gloucs.sch.uk)