

Key Stage 5 (13)

Course title: A-Level Graphic Design

Exam board: AQA

Specification code: 7203/C 7203/X

	Topic	Unit 1 Personal investigation (60% of overall grade)
Autumn 1 – Spring 1 (<i>July start</i> September – February)		<p>Builds on art skills to teach students how to develop a personal self-directed project covering all assessment objectives.</p> <p>The personal investigation is the major component of unit 1 A-level. Students select a theme based on personal interest. An investigative theme will be the main focus for this first part of the unit. First tasks will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Spider/mind map, visual moodboard, digital drawing and development, gallery visits, first artist research <p>In September students will select 4 artists of their own choice to research, analyse, and respond to. This initial research in sketchbooks will be collated into a formal essay of between 1000 and 3000 words. Students will develop different skill sets and specialisms as the project develops, based on their own interpretation of their theme. Further developments in mixed media and processes linked to student’s previous skills and visual research. Student photography and digital drawings will be used to inspire final design ideas. One or more of these will be developed as the final outcome for the unit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Photography· Digital drawing· Tonal/experimental drawing· Printing, collage, and mixed media.· Artist research, image analysis and Student response to individual artists· Formal essay· Theme and experimentation to develop project in depth· Refining a brief for graphic outcomes· Typography and branding tasks· Convincing, personal, and meaningful final outcomes.

<p>Spring 1 – Spring 2 (February – May)</p>	<p>The exam preparation unit starts on the first lesson in January as instructed by AQA.</p> <p>Unit 2 exam – externally set (40% of overall grade)</p> <p>Students receive an exam paper in February with a set of themes and instructions to create a developed and personal project and final outcome based on their own creative journey. The final outcomes are dependent on the in-depth research and development, culminating in a 15-hour invigilated exam.</p> <p>Students are supported to create a matrix of tasks and a timeline and work independently during the 10-week research period. They need to produce a sketchbook meeting the 3 assessment criteria, building on the project planning skills established in previous units. Final outcomes deliver the fourth assessment objective in a 15-hour controlled exam period over 3 days.</p>
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