

## **CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ART & PHOTOGRAPHY TECHNICIAN**

We currently have a vacancy for a creative and enthusiastic art & photography technician on a permanent part-time contract.

The Department's approach to teaching and learning:

We aim to offer our students a broad-based Arts experience at all key stages. We hope they will leave us at the end of whichever key stage having gained a better understanding of the world around them and developed further their own imagination and creative impulses!

Art is taught as a discreet standalone subject. Photography is a well-established subject and is also taught as a standalone subject. At KS4 and 5 some students opt to study both.

### **Key Stage 3**

Across the two-week timetable, Year 7 & 8 students each receive three 1hr lessons of Art. We have a programme of study which encompasses 2D and 3D experiences as well as looking at Art from a variety of western and non-western cultures. In Year 7 we cover the formal elements and move to a more thematic approach in Year 8. We have evolved our use of AFL but continue to strive to create confident, independent learners and thinkers. Students each have their own sketchbook. Homework assignments for each year group are set at the start of each half term. We normally have an Art club which runs each week and is ever popular. Students do not have any direct photography lessons in KS3.

### **Key Stage 4**

We have a three-year KS4- we use Year 9 as a 'foundation' year where we establish the skills required to flourish once we 'bank' the coursework completed in Year's 10 & 11.

Art: We follow the AQA Fine Art GCSE Art & Design course We have established popular and successful courses which have led to much student success in recent years. Students receive four 1hr periods a fortnight for each subject. Although there is a bias to drawing and painting, we incorporate various print making processes and more model making into the course. Use of A1 & A2 sheets to evidence work and personal responses through final outcomes are the essential ingredients to this course.

Photography: Also follows the AQA Art & Design qualification for GCSE Photography. The photography course encompasses darkroom and digital photography. The facilities and equipment are of a very high standard and allow students to flourish in this popular subject. We are keen for our photography students to explore use of 'fine art' techniques to develop enhance their photographic personal responses. A mainstay of the course is the annual Year 11 Art trip to Tate Modern to coincide with the start of their 40% exam. We have afterschool coursework clubs which are well attended.

### **Key Stage 5**

We deliver Edexcel A-Level Art & Design- Fine Art and AQA GCE photography. For both qualifications the courses allow our students to develop their understanding and awareness of Art and Photography through a range of experiences based around 2D & 3D opportunities.

Students receive ten 1hr periods a fortnight for each subject.

Opportunities to see Art and Photography beyond the confines of the classroom play an important part of the course as is visiting outside venues for ideas and inspiration. Students are encouraged to work independently and utilise the Art Department whenever possible.

### **Facilities:**

The Art Department is contained in the first teaching corridor coming off reception. We consider our working environment to be very good; there are three full time Art teachers and one part time Art Teacher, each with their own teaching base. In addition, there is a full time Photography teacher with their own dedicated classroom and adjoining darkroom. There is a large resource base where materials and work is stored. We also have our own office space.

We work well as a department and are supportive of each other. We utilise each other's strengths and this is a positive contributor to the ongoing improvement seen in Art.

## **Working Hours and Holiday Arrangements**

We require an enthusiastic and committed individual to join our team to provide technician support to ensure that appropriate resources are available for lessons and assessments, health and safety standards are met and, when necessary, appropriate assistance given in lessons.

The hours available are based on 22 hours per week ideally spread over 5 days although we are flexible to consider 4 days per week. Working term time plus one week of staff learning days; 39 weeks per year.

Support staff who work term-time only may not take any holiday during term.

## **Grading of the Post**

The pay structure is a banded system and this post is aligned to Band D representing the job weight of the post.

Payment is made monthly at the end of the calendar month direct into a nominated bank or building society account. Cost of living rises are awarded for all staff on or around 1<sup>st</sup> April each year, except during national wage freezes. Increments until the top of the scale for the post has been reached are automatic each April, as long as a minimum of six months has been completed by the time of the first increment. For example, if starting in September, the increment would be paid the following April, but if starting on 1<sup>st</sup> December, the first increment would not be paid until six months had elapsed, that is on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

## **Induction and Professional Development**

An induction programme will be developed for the successful applicant and a programme of support and training will be given. After the induction period, a planned professional development programme will be agreed, linked to the competency based performance review system, which is carried out in school for all staff.

## **The Organisation of Staff at Stratford upon Avon School**

There are around 215 staff employed at the school, with slightly over half being support staff. We aim to be a cohesive, inclusive workforce, and we operate in a professional environment of respect, with the overriding purpose for every post in the school being to support the learning of our students.

We take seriously the wellbeing of our staff, and believe that everyone has a vital contribution to make to the life and vibrancy of the school. We operate a wellbeing programme; all staff have the opportunity to be involved in school improvement activities and other areas appropriate to their role and expertise. Other opportunities involve running extra-curricular clubs, accompanying school trips, leading an assembly, getting involved in sport and participating in staff social events.

## **Start Date**

It is anticipated that the successful candidate will be able to start as soon as possible after interview.

However, we will always appoint the individual whom we believe to be the best person for the job, and if there is a delay whilst extended notice is worked, then that is accepted.

## **Interviews**

Interviews will be held within two weeks of the closing date.

I hope you find this opportunity of interest, and we look forward to receiving your completed application form. Meanwhile if you have any questions or queries about the post, please contact HR at the school, on telephone 01789 268051.

Mr Chris Owen  
Art and Design Curriculum Leader  
March 2025