

# A Level Graphic Design

## Why study Graphic Design?

Studying A Level Graphic Design broadens your grasp of visual communication across different mediums. It offers pathways to careers in the creative industries and sharpens skills useful in academic, university, and workplace settings. These skills include decision-making, digital literacy, typography, illustration, communication, presentation, collaboration, self-reflection, and research. The course enables you to build confidence, convey meaning and to enhance your ability to express and understand ideas effectively.



## The Course

In the first year students experience a range of projects which aim to increase and build up their design skills. In the second year students are free to choose an area for more self-directed study and this forms the basis for an in-depth, fully explored project.

## Progression

Every year many of our students go on to study Graphic Design, Games Design & Illustration based degree courses around the country.

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## Year 1:

The first term consists of a range of short projects which build graphic design skills including composition, use of typography, use of photography, colour, illustration, collage and working to a set brief. Terms 2 and 3 will have longer projects which will refine and develop skills from the first term.

Terms 2 and 3 consist of a series of longer tasks designed to help students refine their skills in identifying and developing project ideas. Work from these projects may form the basis of the Personal Investigation in Year 2.

## Year 2:

The work in year two forms 100% of the A Level grade and consists of two units of work.

### Unit 1: Personal Investigation - 60% of A Level Grade

Consists of two integrated parts:

- \* A major in-depth critical, practical and theoretical investigative project/portfolio and outcome/s based on themes and subject matter that have personal significance.
- \* An extended written element of 1,000 words minimum, which may contain images and texts and must clearly relate to practical and theoretical work using an appropriate working vocabulary and specialist terminology

### Unit 2: Externally Set Task – 40% of A Level Grade

A period of preparatory study based on a starting point set by the exam board followed by a 15 hour period of sustained focused work completed under exam conditions.



## Materials and Equipment

The Graphic Design course uses an amount of materials and resources. You will have to pay for these materials before the course starts and this will enable you to have access to all the items you will need throughout the year.

The materials will include:

- A3 quality portfolios x 2 & 30 sleeves
- Access to pens and drawing equipment
- Sharpies & paper
- Frames for exhibitions

At the end of the year you will have all your work to keep and take to Foundation and Degree interviews. Please note the A Level Graphic Design course will have a cost of £45. If you require financial help please speak to our Student Finance Officer.

Please contact me if you need further information:  
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