

Art and Design Skills (Fashion) Diploma level 2

Course Overview

Our established visual arts department offers this BTEC level 2 diploma course aimed at those who are interested in all aspects of fashion design and garment construction. It is a practical course and requires creative talent and a committed attitude. There is a strong emphasis on research, development and evaluation. The course is a one-year full-time programme that leads to entry onto our range of level 3 extended diploma art and design qualifications.

If you are aged 16 to 18, you will be enrolled on a study programme. This will include retaking GCSEs or undertaking Functional Skills in English and maths if you haven't already achieved a grade 4 or above. This qualification is equivalent to x4 GCSEs grade 4. If you are re sitting GCSE English and Maths you could be studying up to 6 GCSE equivalent on this single year study programme.

You will take part in activities that help you to develop your personal skills, such as building your character and confidence. This will help you to live well and move into your chosen career.

If you are 16-19 years old these activities will be timetabled as will work experience and placement. You can also choose to take part in other activities.

For other age groups, activities will be tailored to your needs.

What you will learn

The course will develop your skills in illustration, design, pattern cutting and garment construction, CAD, textiles, and an understanding of historical and contemporary developments within the fashion and clothing industry. You will be taught how to use industrial machinery safely within our specialist workshops. There will also be the opportunity to work with outside agencies, such as live briefs and guest lecturers. You will also visit appropriate galleries / museums and factories to enhance your skills and knowledge.

Entry Requirements

x3 GCSE grade 3, one must be in a design related GCSE related subject, one in English (lit or lang), and one other. Maths grade 3 is desirable.

You will also require a portfolio which demonstrates your suitability for your chosen course.

Course Fees

There may be an optional £20 trip fee - to be confirmed.

You will need to buy your own fabric for the construction of your final garments.

Course Progression

This successful completion of this course provides access to all our BTEC Art Practice Diploma/Extended Diplomas at level 3 - (these are equivalent to 1.5/3 A levels) including Fashion, Art and Design, Graphic Design; and Photography. You will also be equipped with the skills and knowledge to undertake junior roles within the art and design industry.

You will be required to achieve a grade 4 or equivalent in English or Maths to progress to a level 3 qualification the following academic year.

What Happens Next

Apply online via the College website, or if your school uses the Positive Steps @16 (PS16) application system please apply through this and speak to your careers advisor if you are unsure. You will need details of your qualifications, a reference, and a personal statement to complete your application. Once your application has been successfully processed, you will be sent a conditional offer and be invited to a Welcome Event at the College to meet your tutors, learn more about your chosen course of study and tour the facilities. You will then need to confirm your acceptance of the course offered to you.

Course Details

Course Code	P00131
Start Date	07/09/2026
Study Hours	Full Time
Duration	1 year
Campus	St Margaret's Campus
Level	2

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