



Head of Art

We are seeking an inspirational and dynamic leader to drive innovation and excellence in our thriving Art department, shaping the creative future of our School. The Art department plays a vital role in the artistic and creative life of our School community, evidenced by the high number of pupils who choose to study Art at GCSE, IB Diploma and A Level. The Senior Leadership Team is highly supportive of the Art department and the School's Long-Term Strategy is committed to providing industry-leading Arts education.

The Art department has become a pedagogical leader at Brentwood, championing student-led enquiry, reflective projects, and personalised programmes of study, as well as enriching students' cultural capital. Facilities include two double studios, a ceramics studio with kiln room, screen-printing room, photography dark room, computer suite, well-equipped photography studio, impressive art library, and generous budget and resourcing. Teachers and Sixth Form students are issued with Macbooks; students in Years 7-11 have School-issued iPads.

Job Purpose

The department promotes Art through pop-up exhibitions, large-scale public artworks, and community projects. It organises annual trips and visits, including international field courses to destinations such as Barcelona and Venice. Additional support is provided for students preparing portfolios for university applications in Art and related subjects, such as Architecture.

The successful candidate will teach Art throughout the Senior School and perform leadership and managerial responsibilities as Head of Department. The role requires excellence in teaching and the ability to inspire both staff and students. We offer Edexcel IGCSE and Edexcel A Level, and IB Visual Arts; all media and processes are supported. All teaching staff are expected to take a full part in the wider life of the School community through the co-curricular programme, and be available to support pupils outside timetabled lessons.

Hours

Full-time and Permanent

Report to

Academic Director (member of the Senior Leadership Team)

Contacts

Headmaster, Senior Deputy Head, Deputy Head – Staffing, Operations and Co-Curricular, Deputy Head – Academic, Academic Director – Innovative Curriculum, Academic Director – Director of IB, Director of Studies, Heads of Department, Heads of Year, form tutors.

Department

Art

Key Responsibilities & Accountabilities

Leadership and Strategy

- Provide visionary leadership, fostering a culture of creativity, innovation, and excellence within the Art department.
- Develop and implement a strategic vision for the Art department, aligned with the School's mission and long-term goals for Arts education.
- Inspire and support staff through effective training, coaching, and guidance, promoting professional growth and collaboration, including regular department meetings.
- Review and refine schemes of work, policies, and departmental practices to ensure an inspiring, progressive and challenging curriculum featuring interesting, engaging and purposeful lessons.

Teaching Excellence

- Deliver outstanding teaching across all key stages, leading by example and setting the highest standards of classroom practice.
- Encourage student engagement and achievement through innovative and personalised teaching methods, supporting all learners to reach their potential.

Apply now →



- Monitor and enhance the quality of teaching and learning, marking and assessment, in the department through regular observation, feedback, and professional dialogue.
- Promote Art as an academic discipline and creative pathway, guiding students toward successful outcomes at GCSE, A Level, and IB Visual Arts.

Student Development and Wellbeing

- Promote a safe, inclusive, positive and supportive environment that nurtures the creativity and wellbeing of every student.
- Track student progress, identifying and coordinating interventions to ensure success for all learners.
- Provide tailored advice and mentorship for students pursuing Art and Art-related higher education pathways and careers, including portfolio preparation for competitive courses such as Architecture.

Community and Outreach

- Organise and oversee an ambitious programme of exhibitions, events, and projects that celebrate student achievements and engage the wider School community.
- Establish and maintain partnerships with external institutions, galleries, and artists to enrich students' experiences and raise the profile of the department.
- Support co-curricular opportunities, including an annual programme of trips and visits, and portfolio preparation workshops.

Resource and Budget Management

- Oversee the management of departmental resources, including studio spaces, deployment of technicians, equipment, and materials, ensuring their effective use to support learning.
- Manage the departmental budget strategically, securing resources that enhance the quality of teaching and learning.

Health, Safety, and Compliance

- Ensure compliance with all School policies, including Safeguarding, Health and Safety, and risk management.
- Maintain up-to-date documentation, including risk assessments and COSHH register, and ensure all equipment is serviced and maintained, to create a safe and productive environment for students and staff.

Personal Specification

The successful candidate will be deeply committed to the success of every pupil studying Art in the Senior School. They will be an outstanding Art practitioner with a proven ability to deliver excellent teaching in Key Stages 3-5.

Qualifications and Experience:

- An appropriate degree and a PGCE or equivalent qualification.
- A proven track record of delivering exceptional teaching and outcomes in Art.
- Experience leading and inspiring a team, with a collaborative and innovative approach.

Skills and Attributes:

- Innovative educator with a creative vision for the development of the Art department.
- Excellent communicator, capable of articulating and sharing a strategic vision.
- Collaborative leader, giving leadership and support to a department that contains staff at different stages of their careers, and able to work with students and staff from diverse backgrounds.
- Strong commitment to academic and artistic excellence, with the ability to inspire future generations of Art students.
- Excellent understanding of current educational thinking, which informs a proactive and innovative approach towards developing their practice.
- A good-humoured and ethical approach to working with others, knowing that the culture we embody is the one we create.

Safeguarding

The successful candidate will demonstrate a strong commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people. They must adhere to, and ensure compliance with, the School's Safeguarding Policy at all times and report any safeguarding or child protection concerns to the School's Designated Safeguarding Lead.

To find out more about this role please contact recruitment@brentwood.essex.sch.uk who will put you in touch with Alexandra Roberts, Academic Director, who line-manages the Head of Art.

Apply now →