Visual Arts in Practice

Applied senior subject

The arts are woven into the fabric of community. They have the capacity to engage and inspire students, enriching their lives, stimulating curiosity and imagination, and encouraging them to reach their creative and expressive potential. Arts subjects provide opportunities for students to learn problem-solving processes, design and create art, and use multiple literacies to communicate intention with diverse audiences.

In Visual Arts in Practice, students respond to authentic, real-world stimulus (e.g. problems, events, stories, places, objects, the work of artists or artisans), seeing or making new links between art-making purposes and contexts. They explore visual language in combination with media, technologies and skills to make artworks. Throughout the course, students are exposed to two or more art-making modes, selecting from 2D, 3D, digital (static) and time-based and using these in isolation or combination, as well as innovating new ways of working.

When responding, students use analytical processes to identify problems and develop plans or designs for artworks. They use reasoning and decision-making to justify their choices, reflecting and evaluating on the success of their own and others' artmaking. When making, students demonstrate knowledge and understanding of visual features to communicate artistic intention. They develop competency with and independent selection of media, technologies and skills as they make experimental and resolved artworks, synthesising ideas developed throughout the responding phase.

Pathways

Learning in Visual Arts in Practice is connected to relevant industry practice and opportunities, promoting future employment and preparing students as agile, competent, innovative and safe workers who can work collaboratively to solve problems and complete project-based work in various contexts.

A course of study in Visual Arts in Practice can establish a basis for further education and employment in a range of fields, including creative industries, education, advertising and marketing, communications, humanities, health, recreation, science and technology.

Objectives

By the conclusion of the course of study, students should:

- use visual arts practices
- plan artworks
- communicate ideas
- evaluate artworks.

Structure

Visual Arts in Practice is a four-unit course of study. This syllabus contains four QCAA-developed units as options for schools to combine in any order to develop their course of study.

Unit option	Unit title	
Unit option A	Looking inwards (self)	
Unit option B	Looking outwards (others)	
Unit option C	Clients	
Unit option D	Transform & extend	

Assessment

Students complete two assessment tasks for each unit. The assessment techniques used in Visual Arts in Practice are:

Technique	Description	Response requirements
Project	experimental or prototype artworks, or design proposals or stylistic experiments. They evaluate	Experimental folio Up to 8 experimental artworks: 2D, 3D, digital (static) and/or time-based OR
practices that focus of the	artworks, art style and/or practices that explore the focus of the unit. Students plan resolved artworks.	Prototype artwork 2D, 3D, digital (static) and/or time-based media: up to 4 artwork/s
	•	OR
		Design proposal Multimodal (at least two modes delivered at the same time): up to 5 minutes, 8 A4 pages, or equivalent digital media, including up to 4 prototype artwork/s — 2D, 3D, digital (static) and/or time-based
		OR
		Folio of stylistic experiments Up to 8 experimental artworks: 2D, 3D, digital (static) and/or time-based
		AND
		Planning and evaluations One of the following:
		 Multimodal (at least two modes delivered at the same time): up to 5 minutes, 8 A4 pages, or equivalent digital media
		Written: up to 600 words
		 Spoken: up to 4 minutes, or signed equivalent
Resolved artwork	Students make a resolved artwork that communicates purpose and context relating to the focus of the unit.	 Resolved artwork 2D, 3D, digital (static) and/or time-based media: up to 4 artwork/s