

Curriculum Intent: Media Studies

Media Studies is a subject that enables students to understand everything presented to them in the Media, whilst enabling them to analyse and debate reasons for its construction. Media Studies empowers students to become critical receivers of the Media and question what they are faced with. Students will also have a chance to create Media products according to their critical understanding.

Media Studies is available to study at GCSE and A Level. Students from both Key Stages will have the opportunity to study and analyse a wide range of media products; ranging from TV, Radio, Magazines, Video Games, Online and Participatory Media, Advertising and Marketing, the Music Industry, Newspaper and Film. This analysis is explored through the theoretical Framework which includes: Media Language, Audience, Representation and Industry. The fluid nature between the two key stages means that the students' line of study and skills learnt will be built upon as students continue their studies beyond GCSE. The practical component of the curriculum involves research, planning and production of a convincing Media product utilising appropriate conventions and using various software and practical equipment. Here at Media Studies HWS, we offer: Lunchtime and afterschool support for practical media skills, as well as written exam practice; equipment that is made available to all student to take out and film, take images for practical work; a Mac suite that is open to all Media Studies students, to help support them to create industry standard production; the opportunity for all students to attend study day support sessions, delivered by external agencies like the BFI; opportunities to meet professionals from the Media, like film producers, to come in and talk to and deliver seminar sessions for our students.

We are a very successful Media Studies department here at HWS and we are immensely proud of our ongoing high achievements: A Level: Last year saw 97% of our KS5 students hitting or exceeding their target grades, putting us in the top 25% of departments nationally. At GCSE students' grades average at 80% of the cohort getting the highest grades each year (A*-C - the equivalent of grade 9-5).

Many of our students are accepted onto course at universities such as: Leeds, Sussex, Roehampton and Manchester; to study courses like Digital Media, Media Production, Journalism and Games Design and Development. The education and Media knowledge gained here at HWS help to set our students up for a success future in further education, industry and beyond.