



Cheadle and Marple Sixth Form College

Better
education
and care

Re-inspection report

Audience Post-sixteen	Published TBC	Provider reference 130515
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Introduction

Cheadle and Marple Sixth Form College was inspected in November 2003. Inspectors from the Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) and the Adult Learning Inspectorate (ALI) carried out the inspection under Section 62 of the Learning and Skills Act. The quality of provision was found to be satisfactory or better in all areas inspected, except in Visual Arts which was found to be less than satisfactory. Ofsted is responsible for re-inspecting all provision that is less than satisfactory within two years of the original inspection. If inadequate areas of learning or aspects of provision remain inadequate following re-inspection, inspectors will continue to monitor progress at annual assessment visits, but the areas will not be re-graded. They will be re-inspected during the full college inspection.

The less than satisfactory curriculum area was re-inspected on 30 November-1 December 2005. The outcomes of the re-inspection are as follows.

Curriculum	Original grade	Re-inspection grade
Visual arts	4 unsatisfactory	3 satisfactory

Context

There are 369 students aged 16-19 enrolled on courses in art and design. Vocational courses are available in GNVQ intermediate and AVCE art and design. The range of AS and GCE A level subjects includes art and design, design technology, photography and applied art. 111 adults are enrolled on courses including embroidery, patchwork, interior decorative techniques, watercolour and drawing and painting. There has been a steady decline in the number of students enrolled on courses in the area.

Strengths

- High retention and pass rates on GNVQ intermediate art and design
- Effective management of resources and facilities on the Marple site
- Good use of mixed media to promote learning
- Good student support

Areas for improvement

- Low pass rates on AS and GCE A level art and design
- Poor value added on AS and GCE A level art and design
- Underdeveloped drawing from observation

Achievement and standards

Many pass rates are now good. The pass rate has been 100% on the GNVQ intermediate course in art and design for the last two years. Pass rates for the AS and GCE A level photography courses are also good. Pass rates on the AS design technology have improved in 2005 to 7% above the national average. Pass rates on GCE AS and GCE A level art and design have made a significant improvement in 2005 with a 19% increase on the AS and a 15% increase at GCE A level. However these remain below national averages. There are low proportions of high grades across all subjects except photography. Value added data shows that students in most subjects still don't make the progress which might reasonably be expected.

Quality of provision

There is evidence that the quality of teaching and learning has improved since the original inspection. In some good teaching students are set challenging projects which encourage them to explore a range of mixed media and related art and design techniques and processes. Some good individual tuition is provided which challenges students effectively. In less successful teaching there is insufficient emphasis on drawing from observation and an over reliance of working from secondary sources and photographs. Feedback provided to students both during and at the end of their work is now thorough. Monitoring of student progress has been improved and includes the use of learning plans and assignment plans to support student's development.

Leadership and management

A new management structure for art and design has improved communication and more effective teamwork have been developed. Management of resources and facilities on the Marple site is good, but the art studios and photography darkroom on the Cheadle site remain inadequate. The self assessment report is not sufficiently evaluative.