

Curriculum Overview:

The Media is a powerful force in all our lives. It affects the way we experience the world we live in – through film and television, newspapers and magazines, advertising and the music industry.

In Media Studies, we look at how different types of media products are put together, identify hidden messages, study the meanings conveyed in these messages and the impact of the messages on all of us. Students produce coursework covering a range of media, mostly through simulating the way that professionals in the Media Industry work.

In Year 10, students work on:

- A unit on print;
- A unit on film;
- A unit on the magazine industry;

In Year 11, students produce an extended practical production based on an area of the media industry.

Homework & Assessments Overview:

The GCSE Media Studies course is based on 60% coursework and 40% final exam. The Media Studies exam is a one and a half hour controlled test. Students have the opportunity to prepare for this in class as the topic is known in advance. Independent learning is essential here. In 2015 the controlled test topic is Television News.

Useful Websites:

- http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/subjects/media_studies.shtml
- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/ztnygk7>
- <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/media-studies>

Practical tips / activities for parents to support learning at home:

- Encourage your child to experience a wide range of media sources, including novels, newspapers, magazines and films.
- Encourage your child to redraft and improve their work and to make sure they are spending the full hour on their homework, producing high quality work.