Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. **Art is knowing which ones to keep.**

Scott Adams
**What is the UAL Extended Diploma?**

It is a full time, 100% coursework, Art and Design course for students with a strong interest in the visual arts.

This two-year Art and Design course is equivalent to 3 A Levels. The course is designed and accredited by University of the Arts London (UAL) for students who wish to go on to study an Art & Design subject further. It equips students with the skills, knowledge and understanding to progress to an Art Foundation course, degree level study and employment.

**How does it work?**

In the first year, students complete nine units of work, covering a wide range of Art & Design disciplines:

- **Units 1-4** Developing skills in all areas of Art and Design
- **Units 5-7** Completing projects in 2D, 3D and time based problem solving (animation and moving image)
- **Unit 8** Specialist project resulting in an exhibition
- **Unit 9** Opportunities for progression and development of employability skills (students undertake research into progression opportunities, creative careers, university courses and develop their professional profiles as artists/designers through work experience and live briefs).

During Units 1-7, students work with specialist tutors before selecting an area of their choice for their Unit 8 Project. Students are given guidance and support in order to select their specialist area.

**How will I be assessed?**

All UAL Extended Diploma students are continually monitored and given feedback and assessment sheets. Homework is set weekly and returned with helpful comments. Tutorials are offered regularly to help with all units. In order to progress on the UAL Extended Diploma students must successfully pass each unit and the final grade each year is determined by the final practical (Unit 8 or 13) which is studied in the selected specialist area. All units are assessed by the centre and then assessed by UAL.

**What support will I receive?**

A range of supportive measures are designed for you to succeed. Lesson structure places great emphasis on teaching and learning and within Art and Design a one-to-one approach is very much in evidence. Lessons are only one aspect of course delivery. Individual tutorials enable students to discuss their progress in more detail. Homework provides the opportunity for a weekly assessment and feedback on progress, whilst unit feedback is more detailed. Opportunities exist for students to work in the studios over lunch, break times and after college.

I decided that the UAL Extended Diploma course was the right progression route for me as it offered me a range of opportunities to explore my artistic skills and build my confidence as an artist.

I particularly enjoyed curating and organising our own class exhibition. The event allowed our work to be seen by other students and external audiences, but most importantly we worked as a team organising and curating the exhibition.

I enjoy being given the freedom to create my own artwork influenced by the guidance of my tutors who all specialise in different areas. By having many facilities available such as the dark room, sewing room and a photography studio, you are able to create high quality work across the different specialist areas.

Visits to local galleries and university exhibitions enable you to see the art industry and speak to other students and artists to gain further knowledge. The specialist tutors are all helpful in their practices; they guide you to become a more independent artist and give advice on progression routes. I have decided to progress onto the UAL Art Foundation at Carmel to further develop all my skills, before progressing to University.
All students will study the following areas of Art and Design in purpose-built facilities and under specialist tutor guidance:

**Graphic Design** – This is all about communicating using type, imagery, sound and movement. The skills you will learn will include games design, web design, branding, typography, magazine layout, surface graphics, motion graphics and image making.

**Textiles and Fashion** - Students develop creative investigations into textiles and fashion, experimenting with techniques and processes including stitch, print, dye, knit and garment construction and will develop understanding of shape, form, pattern, texture and colour. Fine Art - This area includes traditional drawing, painting and sculpture alongside the more contemporary installation art, film, photography, printmaking, performance and digital imagery.

**Illustration** – This is all about communicating using image making; using skills in drawing, painting, printmaking and digital programs to create exciting imagery to illustrate an idea or story. Areas you may study include children's books, technical, editorial, medical and fashion illustration.

**Animation/Film** - Students learn animation and moving image techniques which are strongly linked to current commercial practice. Students will develop skills in storyboarding/visual communicating narrative, flips books, using lighting studio/green screen technology, stop motion animation and 2D animation using programs such as Adobe Flash and Premier.

**3D Design** - Students work with a wide variety of materials including paper, card, wood, metal, plastic, glass, wire and have full access to a machine workshop. Outcomes for projects include architectural models, lighting, body adornment, set design and product design.

All practical work is underpinned by critical analysis of appropriate sources. Students are encouraged to visit exhibitions and galleries and use contextual research to inspire project ideas.

When looking for an FE course I wanted the option to pursue art without knowing the direct path I wanted to take. The UAL Extended Diploma gave me that opportunity as it allowed me to spend two years learning new skills in a wide variety of subjects whilst also specialising in a subject I felt passionate about.

This course really gives you the freedom to express yourself in any way that you want to and to experiment with different artistic styles.

In the first year you focus on learning new skills in all of the subjects, allowing you to decide which subject you feel best suits you, or that you enjoy the most, when moving onto the final project. The second year then allows you to either further develop skills in your specialism or explore a new one, the choice is really yours.

The course also offers a wide variety of facilities ranging from a photography studio to a print room and screen printing facilities which makes a huge difference to the range of techniques that are available to learn and also the quality of your work. After completing the Extended Diploma I will be progressing to the London College of Fashion to study BA Hons Contour Fashion. I am really looking forward to this opportunity and feel that it wouldn't have been possible without the amazing help and support on offer from all the tutors and staff at Carmel.
I decided that this course would be the best for me as it would give me the opportunity to experience areas of art I’ve never tried before.

After being on the course for two years, I’ve decided to study fashion and textiles as this is where my interest lies. Being quite a creative person, the facilities have enabled me to experiment with various techniques.

The course has also offered me a range of opportunities such as trips to university fairs, which helped me decide upon my future career. Over the past two years I have gained masses of knowledge from my specialist tutor, who’s helped me grow in confidence when making decisions and developing my practical work.

Next year I am going to progress to the UAL Art Foundation course which will enable me to develop a professional portfolio. This will help with my applications for prestigious UAL Universities and with carving out my career path journey.

Andrew Kent
St Francis Xavier

What is UAL?
University of the Arts London is Europe's leading Art & Design University. It is made up of six distinctive and distinguished colleges:

- Camberwell College of Arts
- Chelsea College of Art & Design
- Central St Martins College of Art & Design
- London College of Communication
- London College of Fashion
- Wimbledon College of Art

What are the entry requirements for this course?
Any Art & Design GCSE Grade 4 or a Technology GCSE Grade 4 including Resistant Materials, Product Design, Graphic Products, Textiles or equivalent. If you haven’t studied Art, no problem, just come and talk to one of the tutors.

Where can this course lead?
The Level 3 Extended Diploma in Art and Design is a qualification accepted by all universities.

The course attracts UCAS points for each final grade as follows:
Pass 72 / Merit 120 / Distinction 168

Possible careers could include: Architect, Interior Designer, Illustrator, Set/ Costume Designer, Animator, Artist, Fashion Designer, Curator, Graphic Designer, Computer Games Designer, New Media Designer, Art Therapist, Photographer, Fashion Stylist, Illustrator, Teacher and many more!

How successful are Carmel’s students?
The majority of our outstanding students stay at Carmel to progress onto the UAL Level 4 Foundation Diploma in Art and Design or apply for a wide range of degree courses. Exam results:

Level 3 Extended Diploma:
68% Distinction / 22% Merit / 10% Pass
100% progression to University, Art Foundation or Apprenticeships.

What other activities can I get involved in?
Tutors guide and support students to build professional profiles through entering external competitions and gaining work experience. All students have a minimum of two exhibitions per year, which they promote and organise. All students visit the Create Your Future fair and meet current working artists and designers.

Additionally, there is a High Achievers' Programme within the faculty and selected students have the opportunity to exhibit at external venues such as the Bluecoat in Liverpool.