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General Certificate of Education (A-level) Applied June 2012

Applied Art and Design

ADA6-ADF6

(Specification 8511/8513/8516/8517/8519)

Unit 6: Option Unit Alternatives A – F



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ADA6 – ADF6 Option Unit

Unit 6 consists of a series of 6 options including Drawing and painting or printmaking, photography, graphic design, public art, textile art and 3D design, of which candidates choose one. Centres should keep in mind that there is a requirement for a short report on progression routes and career opportunities and all options have this requirement specific to the specialism chosen. Candidates in some centres are providing very full information on progression in their chosen field and it has clearly been of good practical assistance to them. Their work on this, in some cases, has been aided by a very good selection of trips and visiting practitioners, which has added both to the candidates' experience and to their thought processes. However, a few centres had not included this aspect of Unit 6 at all, thus limiting chances both in understanding and progression.

Some centres allow candidates free choice of the options to study, whilst others select an option for candidates to study depending on the resources and staff available within the centre. Written briefs are always valuable and should cover the individual option bullet points found in the specification. Briefs should also include a series of realistic constraints to reflect the vocational nature of the subject. It is important that centres check the requirements of particular options and that candidates work in a vocational way and respond to the needs of the client and follow the constraints set.

ADE6, the Textile art and fashion option was popular and the research into textile artists was explored well, with evidence of samples and swatches being created from unusual combinations of materials such as fabrics, wood, wire mesh and lace.

In ADC6, the Graphic Design option, more candidates are using screenshots to good advantage when explaining their developmental graphics work. This was quite often evaluative and included discussion of changes and so was a very useful method to adopt. It is also worth noting that candidates are realizing that the design outcome can be an electronic presentation and does not have to revert to drawing and painting as we have seen in the past.

Mark Ranges and Award of Grades

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