



Why is the study of GCSE Fine Art important?

Fine Art contributes to your personal and social development building your resilience, self-esteem, sense of achievement and indeed how you view the world. Fine art enables you to work creatively, learning about others both historical and contemporary. By creating visually you can appreciate and be inspired by culture and diversity. It is a vital aspect of everyday life and plays an important role in our human experience.

What skills will the study of GCSE Fine Art teach you?

We will learn how to create draw, paint, print and use mixed media. Creating work which is aesthetic and has message and meaning. Drawing in a wide variety of styles and materials underpins everything we do. All Fine Art projects start from an initial idea. Whilst you are finding the correct contexts and media you are thinking about what you are creating. You are therefore learning how to refine and develop. Good artists develop a level of resilience. It is ok to make mistakes and then think about how to correct them.

What will you know and understand from your study of GCSE Fine Art?

All Fine Art is inspired by the work of others. We will look at art and design which is both historical and contemporary, bringing your learning right up to date. We will see the diverse work of many different creatives. We will look at the different reasons for creating photography and what inspired them. Every piece of art has a story to tell and we will learn these stories. As you create your skills will develop and you will find which styles and processes you like. You will be introduced to a wide range of techniques and processes and your sketch pad will be a record of your own personal art journey. The project for coursework (worth 60%) is always based on a broad exam style theme that gives you ample scope to work with your interests and work to your skills. Recent projects have included "Reflections", "Human Stories" and "Order and Disorder". The Externally Set Assignment is similarly broad and exciting.

How can you deepen your understanding of GCSE Fine Art?

The world of art is full of social, moral, spiritual and cultural content. Every piece is produced for a reason. We will be looking at work from around the world created by people for a whole variety of reasons. We will be reading the stories behind these cultures and delving deep into their messages and meanings. Studying Fine Art will enable you to understand why people are moved to create. You will develop thinking skills. There are always several ways to approach a piece and homeworks will allow you to develop your research skills. The resilience and patience you will learn is transferable to all subjects. We never stop learning!

How are you assessed in GCSE Fine Art?

There are 6 assessment points each year that we term Praising Stars®. We assess how students at their current stage of study are on track to reach their end of stage targets which are formulated on aspirational expectation from their KS2 starting points. We make an informed prediction from our holistic assessments based on our subject mapping of expectation across the Art curriculum. The final assessment for your qualification is made in May/June of year 10. The work is assessed by the whole art team and is then externally moderated by Edexcel. The coursework part of the qualification is worth 60% of the overall marks and the externally set assignment is worth 40%. Both components are created in the art studios and allow students to access all different types of art and the work to their strengths. Students often tell us how much they have enjoyed working on their externally set assignment and how much confidence they derive from it!

COURSEWORK REQUIREMENTS

When given the project theme we research and learn about the artwork that has already been created around this theme. We look at art magazines, books and relevant websites to about the history of art, craft, design and architecture, including periods and styles. We find out what is being created in the contemporary art world alongside looking at major cultural movements from ancient times. This research forms a basis for exploring ideas and we use a wide range of media and processes to create our artistic responses. We analyse and evaluate our work in order to strengthen the visual impact of the work and to explain what it means. All this preparation work leads to the final piece where we show all the skills we have learned to produce a piece of work worthy of display.

Key Assessment Objectives

The 4 key assessment objectives in Art are:-

AO1 – Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.

AO2 – Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.

AO3 – Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.

AO4 – Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.

Students will learn:

Everyone has their own favourite art processes and styles and as you progress you will learn to use the materials that suit you best. Drawing underpins everything we do so we will ensure that drawing in a wide range of media occurs in every project. We will also learn to paint, print and use mixed media. The possibilities are endless and it is really important to get your message across in the work. Everything we produce has a strong message and meaning.

Study of GCSE Fine Art can lead to a wide range of careers:

Careers that the study of Art supports include:

Illustrator, Branding designer, Web design, Town planning, Teaching, Event planner, Jeweller, Prop maker, Animator, Game designer, Online content creator, Film maker, Photographer, Cartographer, Fashion designer, Graphic Designer, Architect, Interior Designer, Merchandiser.

There are far too many careers to list here! When we look at options in year 8 and year 10 we will look at the world of art and design in more detail. We help you with your application to Art College or university to study art and have excellent contacts with local colleges.

GCSE Fine Art Course Overview

Term	Year 9	Year 10
Autumn 1	<p>Project 1 The basics – contexts, drawing, painting, mixed media. Learning how to find out about artists and why their work is important. Learning how to use different materials and how they differ. Learn how to present your work and how to annotate what you have created.</p>	Continuing your work on project 2. Developing final pieces that are fluent and show your artistic flair and creativity. Using your materials to clearly show your intentions and making your links with art and culture really clear.
Autumn 2	Becoming confident with materials and contexts, drawing, painting, mixed media. Learn how practice will hone your skills and make you a better artist. Continue to find the art styles you enjoy and learn how to choose the materials and processes you enjoy using.	Creating final outcomes that are worthy of display. Showing your talents and skills in producing artwork that is powerful and creative.
Spring 1	Developing ideas. Creating final ideas that show what you have learned. Create work that has strong links to the art world around you. Learn how to practice these skills to ensure that your final work looks fluent and skilful.	<p>Complete the final outcomes. Safely label and store the coursework component.</p> <p>The Externally Set Assignment Start choosing your contexts and choosing your own starting points. Creating initial responses and continuing to find your own style. Refine and develop your work and understand why you are creating it and what it means.</p>
Spring 2	Creating final pieces with flair and skill that can be displayed. Refining your methods, learning how to change work where necessary and how to make good decisions.	Continuing the Externally Set Assignment. Become extremely confident in your choice of materials and contexts. Create work that really suits you and make really good links to the work of others who inspire you.
Summer 1	<p>Project 2 Contexts, drawing, painting, mixed media. Choosing your own starting points. Finding your own style. Learning to refine and develop. Understanding why you are creating the work and what it means.</p>	Complete Externally Set Assignment in the 10 hour time sessions. Write the evaluation
Summer 2	Becoming extremely confident you're your choice of materials and contexts. Creating work that really suits you and making really good links to the work of others who inspire you. Learning about other cultures and why art is so important.	Assessment and moderation