



Why is the study of GCSE Fine Art important?

Art is a valuable subject for all to study whether you are a gifted painter or sculptor or have never engaged in any artistic pathways outside of school. Art's place in your education has important wider benefits in your personal and social development; building your resilience, self-esteem, sense of achievement and indeed how you view the world.

Art trains your brain to think critically, to appreciate and see things creatively. Creativity exists in everybody and by studying Art you learn about your own creative expressions and that of others from our past. Art provides an exciting means to explore the cultures of the past and present in our world. It is a vital aspect of everyday life and plays an important role in our human experience. Whether doodling, painting, or admiring a view, the study of Art helps you see things in new ways. It requires you to use both sides of your brain and develops your ability to think academically, emotionally, physically and spiritually. Studying Art can lead to a lifetime of creativity for your own personal enjoyment.

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

Studying Art will primarily teach you the skill of creativity, as you develop your ability to utilise skills and techniques to communicate visual ideas. You will learn to approach this challenge through a wide range of mediums which may include drawing, painting, printing, photography, pottery or sculpture. You will develop your confidence in applying these skills to projects that develop your self-expression. Participating in Art will also develop your problem solving skills as you approach the challenge of creating your own artwork. For example, starting with a lump of clay and turning it into a piece of pottery requires you to work out the process, as well as developing your focus and perseverance. You will need to stick with the creative challenge to create the final piece of artwork that you desire. It won't always progress as you hope and this requires you to develop your dedication and resilience. Whilst you are drawing, painting, designing and creating artworks you are thinking about what you are creating. You are therefore learning how to refine and develop. Good artists develop a level of resilience and know it is ok to make mistakes and then think about how to correct them.

Observational skills will also be developed, not only through drawing, but also as you scrutinise the works of key artists, and draw inspiration from their work. You will develop your analytical skills as you review the work of professional artists and analyse the key features and characteristics of their work.

Art will teach you to...

- Develop creative ideas using research and experimentation to influence your approach
- Apply art skills such as drawing, painting and sculpting to communicate an idea
- Use your knowledge of key artists to inspire your work
- Analyse the effectiveness of your artwork and develop your techniques over time
- Express your ideas within your work and produce a personal response.

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

Through your study of Art, you will be exposed to a wide variety of works from different cultures and professional artists. You will understand that Art has a strong cultural context and will have the opportunity to study Art from other parts of the World, such as India, Africa and Aboriginal Art.

You will understand the work of other artists, craftspeople & designers. As well as understanding why they created their pieces, appreciating their individual style and understanding the techniques that have been used. You will also gain understanding the intentions of the work and the ways in which people responded to the pieces when they were first created. You will develop your own techniques in these styles and learn to master some of the skills inherent within the work.

- Artists usually have an intention for their work and there is often a personal, political or social meaning within the work.
- There are many different styles of Art that have evolved over time
- Art is a process and often develops as a result of research and experimentation
- The language to articulate the aspects of a piece of Art that they like/dislike and why
- How to develop creative ideas, using research and influences to evolve the work
- How to apply creative skills to a piece of artwork that expresses a theme or idea

How can you deepen your understanding of GCSE Fine Art?

Art is all around us, and taking an interest in the pieces that you may see on social media or magazines & newspapers will help you appreciate the creative world.

To enhance your work in lessons, there will be times when professional artists are brought into the academy to deliver workshops such as Helenaire Sharley a wire artist or Libby Pattison a ceramicist. This will deepen your understanding of professional work and introduce you to new techniques and ideas.

You will also have the opportunity to deepen your understanding of Art through extracurricular opportunities, where you can continue to develop your creative ideas, or work on specific artistic pieces. During enrichments, you will have the opportunity to meet art enthusiasts from other year groups, where you can share ideas, critique each other's work and continue to develop your technique.

There may also be an opportunity to participate in Art and Photography trips to Art galleries in London and The Yorkshire Sculpture Park, as well as exhibiting your own work within the Academy. There will be opportunities to enter national or Trust competitions to gain additional audiences and recognition for your work such as The Royal Academy of Arts competition. We have a yearly celebration evening, Summer Arts showcase, where every student's work is exhibited and parents, guardians and local community are invited. All of which will deepen your understanding of exhibiting your own personal Art practice for others to view & appreciate.

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.

Fine Art is assessed through a range of internal and external assessment. The coursework portfolio element is worth 60% of the final GCSE mark & must contain at least 2 units of work (projects). A final project, set by the Exam Board, is worth the remaining 40%. All work is finally assessed at the end of the course and externally moderated

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

How can Fine Art support your future?

There are a wide range of creative photography & art based courses offered post-GCSE students at colleges and sixth form providers including our own. Within Outwood we offer 2 A Level options in Photography & Fine Art and this is deliberate to ensure progression between stages of study. Due to Art being a wide ranging curriculum this allows for many avenues to be explored into higher and further education. There are a vast range of courses offered at university that target Art, photography & creative processes.

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

- Secondary School Teacher
- Jeweller
- Fashion designer
- Furniture maker
- Architect
- Web designer
- Graphics design
- Video production
- Illustrator
- Branding designer
- Town planning
- Animator
- Game designer
- Online content creator
- Film maker
- Photographer
- Magazine editor
- Press Photographer

GCSE Fine Art Course Overview

Term	Year 1	Year 2
Autumn 1	Introduction to Art & Natural Forms (Project 1) - Drawing based focus	Development of personal journey experimenting with a range of techniques in response to others and individual strengths.
Autumn 2	Development onto choosing an personal Artist or influence to research, analyse & respond to.	To develop a final personal outcome is a response to your journey so far.
Spring 1	Development of personal journey experimenting in a range of materials in response to others and individual strengths.	External Exam paper.
Spring 2	To develop a final personal response to project 1 in a material & process of choice.	External Exam paper.
Summer 1	Introduction of project 2 - Ceramics. - May be based around a visiting artist.	External Exam paper.
Summer 2	Development of ceramics techniques and response to an influence of choice.	Internal assessment & External moderation. Students produce a response to a live brief or competition for personal pleasure & development.

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