

Art & Design (Fine Art) GCSE

What do you study?

Students will develop their creative ideas and skills whilst experiencing a wide range of different art media, techniques and materials. In fine art, this may involve working in one or more of the following areas:

- drawing
- painting
- sculpture
- photography and moving image
- lens-/light-based media
- installation
- printmaking
- mixed media
- land art

Photography will be used as a key part of the course, both as a recording medium as well as a creative tool to develop ideas using Adobe Photoshop, Photomontage and other creative processes.

Significant differences from KS3?

Students have the opportunity to work more independently to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills to make personal choices about how they create their own original artwork within a structured and supportive framework.

The most significant difference from KS3 is that students will be experience a broader range of specialist techniques and materials and will then be encouraged to apply them independently to pursue their areas/subjects of interest.

Why study art?

The world needs innovators! Art and Design GCSE is the foundation subject for developing the key skills that are required in the broadest scope of possible creative future career pathways.

If you are interested in deciding, what the future will look like and how we will interact with it, then this is the subject for you.

The research methods used to investigate art and design forms from different cultures and contexts, and the skills learnt to apply your knowledge to develop new and original creative ideas, provide invaluable transferrable life skills for all future career pathways.

How is the course assessed?

This is a coursework-based subject, where students create the evidence upon which they are assessed over a two-year period.

- **Component 1** – Portfolio (60% of GCSE)
- **Component 2** – Externally Set Assignment (40% of GCSE)

The examination is 'low stakes' at the end of the course, equating to 10% of the marks awarded for Component 2 (40%).

Work is assessed through verbal and formal written feedback, peer assessment and self-reflection. Students are able to act on feedback throughout the course to further refine and develop their work as their ideas and skills progress.

Stretch and challenge

Students are encouraged to research independently to develop their ideas at galleries, museums, exhibitions, installations and in the world outside of school, to gain real life experience of how skills can be applied and are used within the work place.

Exam Board link

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206>