



Fine Art

Studying art is really a journey of self-discovery. Fine Art is one of the only A Levels where creativity is a continuous element. The course has a strong emphasis on drawing skills and the ability to interpret and convey ideas through visual means. Students develop their imaginative/creative powers and their experimental, analytical, and documentary skills. Students are encouraged to reflect on their work and that of other artists using specialist vocabulary and a critical eye. The course follows a structured programme of visual study that encourages depth and breadth in the development of their own visual language skills. Students will be expected to build on and develop their recording skills and demonstrate the skilful use of the formal elements of art using a wide range of media and methods. Within the units of study students will be required to analyse their own work in juxtaposition with the work of other artists, gaining insight into the meaning of art and the context in which it was created.

There are two main areas – Component 1 and 2

Component 1: Personal Investigation includes an essay of 3000 words. This will be linked to the student's Personal Investigation work. Techniques for this component will include; drawing, painting, mixed-media, sculpture, ceramics, installation, printmaking, moving image, (video, film, animation) and photography.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment is a set of tasks given to the student from the AQA exam board on February 1st of the second year of study. Students will be required to answer one of the project start points. Practical work should arise from the student's current interests and experiences in Fine Art, together with knowledge, skills and understanding gained from earlier units.

During both years of the course, students receive information from which they must research and resource their ideas in response to the set theme which aim to build on previous experience to produce their own creative outcomes.

Why study A Level Fine Art? To follow a career, or further study in any aspect of art and design the student will need a portfolio of work. This is required when applying for the foundation courses necessary of most art based higher education qualifications. Students applying for dentistry, aviation and surgery can use their Fine Art portfolio as evidence of fine motor skills. Those applying directly for employment in any of the creative industries use their portfolio to enhance job applications.

Fine Art is recommended for those likely to get B or above at GCSE. For students who have not studied art before, a portfolio of an equivalent standard is required. Contact the school for more details. Grade B or above in GCSE English Literature/Language is desirable.

Fine Art is a late addition to our A Level offering, and at present it is in no particular subject column. We are gauging interest and will place it where it suits the majority.

"The artist is a receptacle for emotions that come from all over the place: from the sky, from the earth, from a scrap of paper, from a passing shape, from a spider's web."

Pablo Picasso

"They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself."

Andy Warhol