

# GCSE Art & Design (Fine Art)

**Examination Board:**

OCR

**Director of Learning:**

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## Why study Art?

GCSE Art is the right subject for you if you enjoy:

- developing your visual skills and engaging with the creative process of art, craft, and design
- developing and refining ideas, exploring, and working in a variety of media
- visits to galleries, museums, workshops, and studios
- experimenting and taking risks with your work, and learning from your experiences

You will develop your visual skills and build a portfolio of work by completing a wide range of activities and in-depth assignments. When studying Fine Art your work will mainly focus on drawing and painting but there will also be opportunities to do printmaking, mixed media and digital work as well as photography.

## Possible next steps (including careers)

Through this course you'll develop transferable skills, such as problem solving, communication and critical thinking skills, which will prepare you for further study or the world of work, regardless of the subjects or career you wish to pursue. If you wish to study Art and Design beyond GCSE, you could do a Level 3 course, such as AS or A level Art and Design or BTEC Nationals in Art and Design.

This course is ideal if you want to pursue a career in the creative industries such as interior design, fashion design, architect, illustration, landscape design, photography, graphics etc

## Aptitudes needed

It's important that you have a passion for the subject and a desire to know more about historical and contemporary art, and how to use art materials and processes to develop and express your own ideas. This course will give you the skills to enjoy, engage with and produce visual arts throughout your life. You need to be highly motivated, be able to work independently and be committed to meeting deadlines for homework.

## Topic Structure

### Component 1: Personal Portfolio (Coursework)

**This component is worth 60% of your GCSE.** You will produce a portfolio of work based on tasks agreed with your teacher. Topic themes may vary but are usually based on previous exam projects. The initial work is teacher led, where you will gain a deeper understanding of the formal elements of art, developing skills in a wide variety of media. You start this component at the beginning of Year 10 and finish it in January of Year 11.

In Year 10, we focus on developing artistic skills. The course will include projects and themes to develop knowledge and understanding of the formal elements of **Fine Art, these being Line, Tone, Texture and Form**. Starting points will often be based around 'Still Life' and observational drawing; students will develop personal ideas through independent research for their individual ideas. You will learn how to use a wide variety of media including pencil, charcoal, paint, ink and 3D materials. **Some written work is necessary as all practical work needs to be contextually linked to artists/designers, which students will need to describe and analyse, being willing to express personal opinions of both traditional and contemporary artworks.**

## Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (ESA)

This component is worth 40% of your GCSE. You will produce preparatory studies and personal outcome(s) based on a theme set by OCR. You start this unit in the January of Year 11 and complete it when you do the 10 hour exam where you create your final outcome for the theme set by the exam board.

Work is presented on 'prep' sheets or in sketchbooks and students will learn from studying a variety of artists.

Your teacher will mark your work and it may be moderated by OCR.

### Assessment Structure

**Portfolio Coursework 60%**  
**120 Marks**

**Assessment Objectives (30 marks each):**

A01 -develop and explore ideas.  
A02- select and experiment with appropriate media, materials, techniques, and processes.  
A03- record your ideas, observations, and insights.  
A04- present personal and meaningful responses.

**Externally Set Assignment 40%**  
**80 marks**

**Assessment objectives (20 marks each)**

A01 -develop and explore ideas.  
A02- select and experiment with appropriate media, materials, techniques, and processes.  
A03- record your ideas, observations, and insights.  
A04- present personal and meaningful responses.

**All work from the beginning of Year 10 will be assessed as part of the coursework portfolio**

**All work completed in the 'prep' period of the ESA and the outcome completed as a 10-hour exam will be assessed**

**The Assessment objectives require you to:**

**RESEARCH** - observational drawing, collecting found images, taking your photographs, copying images, selecting relevant artists to study.

**ARTISTS** - make accurate colour copies of artists work, with written analysis, responding by working in the style of the artist.

**DEVELOPMENT** - demonstrating a variety of personal ideas for final pieces, an ability to select and use a variety of media, and a willingness to improve and develop ideas.

**REALISATION** - be able to create high quality final pieces in a variety of scales and media and being able to write evaluation about your work.