



Fine Art GCSE

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206/subject-content/fine-art>

Course Title	Exam Board	Specification Code	Department Teachers
Fine Art	AQA	8202	Heads of Department: L. Bassant & S. Williams

Course Information Fine Art is a very popular choice at GCSE; with our students being extremely successful in the subject and consistently out-performing national averages. Fine Art is always in demand because as well as being counted as an ‘academic’ GCSE, it is coursework based and is the foundation for all careers in the creative industries and specialist degrees ranging from Set Design Theatre & Film including prosthetics, make up, lighting and costume and props, Fashion or Architecture and even computer game graphics. On the course, you will experience a range of disciplines used in the Creative Industries and quickly develop your skills to become adept at manipulating a variety of media under the guidance of highly skilled professionals.

Skills/Aptitude Required If you are considering a career in one of the very many Creative Industries in the UK or simply enjoy Art and you are a creative individual, this is the option for you.

Next Steps Howard School Art students are in the top 10% of the Country year on year. If you opt for Fine Art GCSE, you can continue to develop any of the Creative Pathway options in the Sixth Form. Choose from: Fine Art, Photography or Graphic communication.

Future Careers There are many and varied careers in the Creative Industries which begin with studying Fine Art. Careers such as:

- Fashion/textile design
- Branding
- Computer game designer
- Packaging design
- Font design
- Editorial interactive design
- Muralist
- Skatepark/play design
- Advertising
- 3D design
- Product design
- Film/ animator
- Art therapist
- Model making
- Graphic designer
- Architect
- Illustrator
- Multimedia artist
- Town planner
- TV/Film/Theatre set design
- Interior architect
- Museum/gallery curator
- Web & app developer

The Course in Depth

Year 9 Topics Covered In Year 9 we cover a range of topics and techniques. You will plan and develop personal and creative ideas from conception to realisation; develop technical skills; manipulate a wide range of media (from wet, dry, printmaking & digital) using many different tools and techniques; develop creative thinking and observational skills, drawing accurately in a variety of styles.

Fine Art entitles you to be expressive and independent and you will have the opportunity to produce large scale pieces using different techniques such as etching, mono-printing and use of photography.

- Drawing systems - Still life
- Painting - Abstract
- Photography/Collage - Landscape
- Printmaking - Portraiture

Year 10 Topics Covered This will depend on your teacher but might be based on portraiture/still life or landscape. Coursework is produced every lesson throughout Key Stage 4 with classwork and independent study work included in each submission. The course is taught in a thematic way, with sustained projects allowing students to plan thoroughly and to produce high-quality outcomes. There is an integrated approach to the critical, practical and theoretical study of Artists, Craftsman & Designers. The great majority of the course is practical with an element of written analysis and annotation.

Year 11 Topics Covered In Year 11 you complete the coursework or NEA (Non-Exam Assessment) and in January you will receive your exam paper. You will get to choose ONE of the questions and develop your ideas culminating in a 10-hour exam. Don’t panic - this is done over several days.

Internal Assessment Coursework is 60% and the Exam is 40% of the marks for the final grade. The exam and coursework will measure how students have achieved the following assessment objectives:

- 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.

External Assessment In Year 11 you will have a 10-hour timed assessment.

The Exam paper is issued to students well in advance of the examination to allow students to prepare their ideas fully and this preparation work is a considerable part of the final examination grade.

“The Creative Industries sector is growing more than five times faster than the national economy.”

Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport