



# GCSE ART & DESIGN

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## What Will I Be Studying?

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GCSE Art is a course allowing students to experience and experiment with a whole range of materials, techniques and disciplines. From drawing and painting, to photography and textiles, students will explore a whole range of materials as well as learning to develop their visual analysis and individual ideas. Our coursework titles and areas of discipline are intentionally broad, giving student's freedom to develop their own expression as young artists and also using understanding of other artists to help develop their work.

Students will typically produce two pieces of extensive coursework and a smaller mini project, along with the exam title which is given by the exam board in the January of the final year.

Both pieces of coursework count towards 60% of their overall grade. Each lesson and piece of homework set will contribute to their coursework, so it's important that students attend all lessons and complete all homework. The final 40% of their GCSE grade is an externally set assignment provided by the exam board (EdExcel), the title of which is very board and gives students the opportunity to play to their strengths and showcase their talents.

## How Will I Be Assessed?

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Assessment is rigorous, all students will be provided with the assessment framework and a feedback sheet at the beginning of each unit of work. Other than their final grade, all assessment is formative and should be used by students to improve their work and understand their next steps. There is no limit to the amount of work students can produce, but we expect students to produce two A3 pages of quality work a week. Coursework is internally moderated periodically throughout each year to provide students with a current grade. For this we use the EdExcel assessment specifications criteria.

Mock exams will be set at the end of each piece of coursework to enable students to produce a final piece relevant to the work they have explored in their sketchbooks, this final piece becomes part of their coursework grade. The exam board sets a working title each year that the students must independently explore and produce a body of work for. They will then be given a 10-hour exam (set over two days), in which to produce a final piece linked to their proprietary studies.



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## Who Would Enjoy This Course?

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Art and Design qualifications have a very large workload, so make sure you are committed and ready to put in the hours. If you enjoy the subject then you will really enjoy the variety that it offers. Universities like to see students that can apply themselves and are independent thinkers, skills that Art courses offer in abundance. Art will teach you to be self-disciplined and this in turn will help you focus on other subjects.

The skills you will need include:

- The ability to draw to a high standard
- Be able to think creatively and outside the box
- Be able to analyse, extract and speak about key information from a range of visual formats using art vocabulary
- Be able to communicate ideas through drawing and making and be able to write creatively to support your visual work
- Be confident to display your work and discuss it in class

## How Will This Course Help Me In The Future?

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Art is not just for students who want to become artists. The art industry is worth over 10 billion to the UK economy and continues to be a growing industry. The demand for creative thinkers and designers particularly in architecture and the tech industry continues to grow, offering continued stability, security and a growing number of job prospects for future Art students. Art offers students the opportunity to find their voice and become creative thinkers.