

## Art - Fine Art AS/A level

### Introduction

The Fine Art course aims to develop a broad range of practical skills including the use of traditional art materials such as painting, drawing, printmaking and sculpture, ceramics and more experimental multi-media methods and approaches. Contemporary and traditional artists' work will be used as a source of inspiration for students' own work and promote engagement in critical thinking. Students who enter onto AS/A level Fine Art will recognise and build on features of courses enjoyed at GCSE.

### Year 1

#### Unit 1 - Portfolio

For this unit students will provide a portfolio of work demonstrating a range of technical skills and techniques in a variety of media. This may consist of a number of small pieces of work and/or an extended project. Students will initially be encouraged to explore media/techniques such as paints, inks, collage, observational and expressive drawing, mark making, printing, sculptural work and digital manipulation. Initial practical explorations will lead on to more focused work where students will work on personally generated themes and topics. Students will also practically explore the work of other artists, to use as inspiration for their own work as well as developing critical thinking skills.

Written work is limited to annotated notes which record student's evaluation of work, and personal responses to the artists work.

#### Unit 2 – Externally-Set Assignment

Students will practically respond to a broad starting point, with 5 hours of the early developmental work being supervised in exam conditions. Work completed will build on the individual strengths of the student, with more focused, practical skills and knowledge being extended from their previous portfolio work.

### Year 2

#### Unit 3 – Personal Investigation

This is a practical unit with written elements in which students are expected to develop a personal investigation based on an idea, issue, concept or theme. Projects should be linked to the study of a Fine Art media area; students will generate their own ideas from a detailed, in depth study of a selected range of practitioners. This is linked to a 1000-3000 word written response to the work and ideas of the artists that the student has used for inspiration.

The topic or theme for this unit is of personal choice and is based on strengths and interests experienced at AS level.

#### Unit 4 – Externally Set Assignment

Students will practically respond to a broad starting point to develop a range of work which concludes to an in depth final piece. Exploratory work in preparation for the production of a final piece will be approximately 8 weeks, with 15 hours of this work supervised under exam conditions.

After the examination period, when all work has been finally assessed, students display work within an exhibition space. After external moderation the exhibition is opened to all parents where success is celebrated through a private view evening with prize giving.

### Assessment

Students are assessed continually throughout the course, where feedback provides the opportunity for students to improve work and subsequent grades. Final assessment is in May.

### Specific Entry Criteria

Grade C in English Language and grade C in Art or suitable portfolio of work.