

# GCSE Fine Art

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## Course Outline:

The course is divided into two components – a coursework portfolio and an externally set task. Both of these units of work will offer the opportunity to explore different genres of art, such as portraiture and still life, and to render these in a range of techniques and materials. In the early part of Year 10, we will aim to build up each learner's skill base within the Fine Arts, primarily within painting, drawing and print-making. As the course progresses, an increasingly independent and refined technical and conceptual response will be encouraged.

## Skills/attributes developed/required:

Creativity, and individual responses to tasks, observational drawing, composition and visual layouts. Technical skills with Fine Art processes, such as paint (watercolour, acrylic, gouache) and print-making (monoprint, screenprint, drypoint etc). Appreciation of art contexts (genres, artists, socio-cultural-economic factors).

## Additional considerations:

There is the opportunity to attend a trip to London, to view the collections of several major galleries, in the October of Year 11. Also, we sell a Fine Art kit, which provides a range of sketchbooks and materials, which are essential for the course. The price for this kit is £20.

## Examination Information

**Exam Board:** OCR

**Exam:** 60% Coursework (portfolio) 40% Exam

### Course outline:

**Portfolio.** The Portfolio is made up of practical work, which explores the skills, knowledge and understanding in the learner's chosen practical area within Fine Art – usually painting and drawing, but can also include print-making. The coursework submission will include sketchbooks, and final pieces.

**Exam** The externally set exam offers learners the opportunity to respond to a choice of themes, written and visual starting points and stimuli. The early release paper will be issued in early January and will provide learners with five themes, each with a range of written and visual starting points and stimuli. Learners will have up to 10 hours (two school days) in which to independently realise their response(s) through the production of one or more personal outcome(s) – usually large-scale paintings.

## Where can it take me?

**Next Steps:** AS level or A level study, Higher Education, Further Education, training or employment. It also aims to support those learners who will study subjects or take up careers for which an art and design background is relevant. At Nailsea School, A Level Fine Art is the direct progression route.

**Future career opportunities that this subject may lead to:** Artist; Illustrator; Graphic Designer; Logo / Brand Design; Typographer; Architect; Advertising; Art Director; Web Design; Video-game design, Make-up artist; Cartoonist; Tattoo Artist; Animator; Art Historian; Arts Therapist; Art Educator.

## What do Year 10 and 11 say about Fine Art?

*"I love learning the different techniques and about the artists."*

*"It's peaceful, uses creativity, gets your ideas on paper and it's quite a therapeutic atmosphere."*

*"I've learnt different means of expressing ideas, apart from words. I think this could be useful in lots of jobs."*