



ART GCSE FINE ART Course Overview for Years 10 - 11

Year	TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3	Home learning
10	Skill building Project 1: Students explore “micro” themes through observational drawing, painting, and photography, studying artists such as Karl Blossfeldt, Georgia O’Keeffe, and Anna Atkins. They investigate magnification and surface detail using graphite, fine liners, watercolour, and acrylic techniques. Cyanotypes and simulated photograms allow further experimentation with natural forms. Emphasis is placed on layering, refinement, and making creative links across sources. Students develop an understanding of how observation informs fine art, gaining confidence in both traditional and digital media through exploratory and reflective making	Building Project 2: Students explore a given theme by researching artists, testing materials, and developing personal outcomes. They analyse how artists move from concept to completion, learning to plan, refine, and communicate ideas through practical work and annotation. The project builds an understanding of iteration, creative decision-making, and how to express a clear artistic voice.	Personal Investigation: Students begin their Personal Investigation by selecting an independent focus, using the Tate Modern visit as a catalyst for research. They explore artists, movements, or collectives that resonate with them, developing ideas through photography, sketching, and mixed-media experimentation. Emphasis is placed on using initial inspiration as a springboard for deeper conceptual and practical exploration.	Students use home learning to continue to add to and practice on their on-going coursework pieces throughout year 10 and 11. Students are advised to visit sites of interest or galleries. Throughout the year we will point students to places and exhibitions of interest that might enhance their project work. At the end of year 10, and/or beginning of year 11 the department takes the students on a trip to experience the work of artists which allows the students a first-hand experience of absorbing and working from source materials

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11	Students continue their pursuit of an independent investigation, using the Tate Modern visit as a launch point for exploring contemporary or historical artists, movements, or collectives. They gather primary visual research and develop ideas through drawing, painting, photography, collage, or mixed media. Emphasis is placed on sustained exploration, personal interpretation, and confident creative decision-making	Students begin Component 2 by selecting a theme from the externally set assignment and developing an independent project. They research relevant artists, movements, and concepts, critically analysing how these inform their own work. Through experimentation, purposeful decision-making, and continuous reflection, they refine materials and techniques to produce a cohesive and original final outcome that meets all assessment objectives.	Students complete their 10-hour practical exam shortly after the Easter break, producing the final outcome developed during their preparatory work. Spread over two school days, the exam allows students to demonstrate the creative and technical skills they've developed across the two-year course through a focused, independently led practical outcome.	A continuation from year 10

See the link below for further information

[AQA | Art and Design | GCSE | GCSE Art and Design \(Art, craft and design\)](#)