

A LEVEL FINE ART

Artists 'are able to make connections and develop their thoughts in to a vision to share with others.' The study of art is a life-style choice; its resonance stretches far past the confines of the examination room, and encourages imaginative contributions to the discipline through self-motivated and personal production. Throughout this course, you will have an opportunity to fully develop and explore your chosen art specialisms, whilst expanding your knowledge, understanding and skills in a range of specialist areas. Whether you intend to capture your ideas on canvas or design Liverpool's next sky-scraper, art offers a route for those intending to apply for creative courses at university, including architecture and graphic design.

You will have the opportunity at King's to engage your fascination with the visual and material world and to expand and develop your work. You will develop a deep understanding of your chosen specialism and an ability to critically evaluate your own work and the work of others. You are able to tailor the course to your individual needs, choices and aspirations in order to follow a chosen progression route into Higher Education, or the workplace. Pathways may include Graphic Design, Photography, 3D Design, Fashion and Textiles or Fine Art.

COURSE OUTLINE

The world of art and design needs intelligent, culturally literate and talented people leading the way, and at King's you will have the opportunity to gain the skills needed to explore creative, aesthetic and expressive activities that will develop your understanding of the subject and help you move towards becoming such an artist.

Year 12 - Our extended portfolio stage during Year 12 allows for extensive experimentation and development, embracing the failures, mistakes and reflection central to all creative processes. In this first year, the course allows you to be creatively experimental.

You will have the opportunity to investigate and explore a variety of media, techniques and processes, to develop confidence and personal style. There will be a mock examination to give you an understanding of what is expected and to allow you to appreciate the difference in expectations between GCSE and A Level.

Year 13 - In the second year, you will demonstrate mastery of skill, through a personal portfolio of your chosen topic. Firstly, the Personal Investigation is worth 60% of your A Level grade and requires two elements; a portfolio of practical work, plus a related study requiring a minimum of 1000 words. Secondly, the Externally Set Task is worth 40% of your A Level grade which requires preparation/ planning time, followed by a 15-hour practical exam, where the final response is constructed.

ASSESSMENT STRUCTURE

YEAR	TITLE	CONTENT	WEIGHTING
End of Year 12	Externally Set Task	10 hour practical mock examination	N/A (All marks come from the second year of the course.)
End of Year 13	Personal Investigation	Coursework	60%
End of Year 13	Externally Set Task	15 hour practical examination	40%

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Competition for places will be high as the Sciences are a popular choice at A Level as well as university. The versatility of Art and Design at King's will also allow you to pursue specialised lines of enquiry, for example into textiles, architecture or graphic design. As a result to ensure we strive for the highest success, students will ideally have a Grade Point 7-9 (Grade A*/A) at Art GCSE. The minimum GCSE grade required to sit the course is a Grade point 6 (Grade B). Students are advised that previous study of Art and Design, at GCSE level, is essential.



Art is the most intense mode of individualism that the world has known. -Oscar Wilde



PROGRESSION ROUTES

Studying art develops manual dexterity. Surgeons, dentists, veterinarians, artists' and designers are just some of the professions who possess this key skill. Depending upon your personal career aspirations, art can be studied alongside any subject at A Level and opens up avenues to studying a number of courses at university.

Art related university courses you may wish to study upon completion of your A Level are:

Textile Design/ Printmaking, Fashion, Pattern Cutting, Fashion Buying, Fine Art, 3D Design, Photography and Architecture.

RECOMMENDED EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

In order to secure a place on a arts based university course, or in the world of work, it is highly recommended that you participate in extra-curricular subject related activities and clubs.

In addition to numerous clubs and societies taking place every week in Art, including the Arts Award Bronze, Silver and Gold, we also offer an Art Ambassador programme where Sixth Form students can apply for a specific ambassadorial role within the department and help organise competitions and art events in the community. We encourage you to enter national competitions, attend workshops in and out of school and volunteer where possible. Attending galleries, museums and studios will help you develop your knowledge and understanding of the industry and we will run trips to support your learning throughout Sixth Form.

RECOMMENDED READING LIST

Keeping up to date with current artists and designers' is important and reading helps to inspire your creativity. There are a wide range of useful books and websites to help you with your studies. Please see your teacher for a detailed list.

Street Sketchbook by Thames & Hudson
Fashion Illustration by Thames & Hudson
Gaudi by Taschen
Art Now by Taschen
Architecture Now by Taschen

TOP 5 UNIVERSITIES CURRENTLY FOR THIS SUBJECT

1. Oxford
2. Glasgow
3. Lancaster
4. Loughborough
5. Edinburgh

COURSE/QUALIFICATION DETAILS

Qualification: A Level Fine Art
Specification: OCR
Code: H601
Miss Taylor, Lead Practitioner for Art
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