

Visual Arts and Design

AQA A Level Fine Art

What will I learn on this course?

This is a Fine Art course – you will experience a range of fine art techniques and processes such as drawing, painting and printmaking. You will continue with your study of visual meaning and how ideas, materials and techniques interact with each other and within wider social environments. Understanding how visual images are constructed and operate is a crucial skill in today's predominantly visual culture and this course will enable you to explore these ideas while supplementing your study from your chosen pathway.

How is the course structured?

In the first term you will be introduced to a range of fine art techniques, materials and processes through a variety of small projects in order to develop the skills required to successfully meet the requirements of the course. This then leads into Component 1 'Personal Investigation' which encourages you to develop an in-depth project of your choice, guided by your teachers. This investigation will be conducted both practically and through a written enquiry of up to three thousand words that contextualises your practical work through artist research.

Component 2, studied in the second year, is called 'Externally Set Assignment' and enables you to bring together all your skills and ideas through a response to one of a number of set briefs in a way that showcases your individual skills, aptitudes and interests. The external briefs are set by the exam board and you will undertake a period of development before creating work in controlled conditions to fulfil the project brief.

How will I study?

In our purpose-built state-of-the-art facilities we are able to offer a first-rate environment for the study of visual arts and design. We have facilities for drawing and painting and three-dimensional design, fine art studios and computer suites with the latest art and design software such as Photoshop, Illustrator and Premiere Pro and graphic tablets for digital drawing. Added to this excellent setting is a superb set of departmental tutors making what we believe is a unique environment for the preparation of tomorrow's artists, designers and visual communicators. Studying at BOA will enable you to develop your skills and ideas whilst benefitting from working in a dedicated arts environment. You will undertake skills workshops, presentations and will also have an opportunity to work in 'open studio' times when you can use your studio space for individual experimentation and development of personal ideas and techniques.



How will you be assessed?

Each unit is assessed by your teacher using the examination board assessment criteria, these are subject to exam board moderation. This takes place at the end of the course when you will present your work in an exhibition that an external moderator will visit.

