



GCSE FINE ART

A Parents Guide:

How you can help at home

General Course Outline:

During the course, work is based on a chosen theme. Pupils will complete a portfolio of work to meet the assessment objectives, plus various planning activities and a weekly homework.

In Year 11 pupils begin to follow a more individual programme agreed with their teacher and based around their particular strengths and interests.

Marking:

The portfolio component makes up 60% of an overall mark and the exam makes up 40% of the mark.

Looking at Artist, Craft persons and Designers:

The pupils are encouraged to begin to develop their own style and their portfolios and sketchbooks should show how this develops. Pupils look at the work of artists, craft persons and designers from different movements and cultures to help their own work develop.

Homework:

Assignments are set on a weekly basis and are related to the theme of the project. They need to spend 1- 2 hours a week on their homework. Art club runs twice a week, after school (3pm - 4.15pm) to support pupils.

Basic Equipment List

2B- 6B pencils, Rubber, Pencil Sharpener, Ruler, Black Biro and Fine Liner pens, Coloured pencil crayons, Watercolour paints, Acrylic paints, Paintbrushes, Oil pastels, A2 portfolio case, Camera, Access to ICT. Sketchbooks or A3 display folder.

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The Exam:

Year 10:

Pupils will sit a 10-hour exam in the spring and summer term, where they will be able to produce outcomes to the projects set which will then support their portfolios.

Year 11:

Pupils will begin their Mock examination in September to allow time for preparation and will complete a final piece in November. Pupils will receive their final examination papers at the beginning of the Spring Term and sit the 10hour exam before the Easter Holidays.

Planning for the exam:

1. Once pupils receive their paper and notes for guidance, which sets the theme and suggests possible ideas, they will then spend time in class and for homework preparing their ideas.
2. Read through their paper, perhaps you can share some more ideas.
3. They will need to collect photos, pictures etc. to draw out observations and ideas. They need to look at related work by artists, possibly bringing in postcards, photocopies and sketches.
4. It is essential that **all preparation** and **equipment** should be brought into the exam on the day, so please give them a reminder.

Other ways to help with study at home:

Firstly, you don't need to be a Leonardo yourself so don't panic! It will help your child with their work if:

- . You can discuss their work with them, adding ideas, helping with research and the collection of pictures and objects. Always be positive and constructive.
- . Try to ensure that they have a well-lit and flat surface to work on, ideally where work can be left out while in progress.
- . Try to ensure they have the basic equipment that they will need:
- . Try to give access to your local library and perhaps local museums and galleries.