

QUEEN'S GATE SCHOOL
ART & DESIGN
A-LEVEL GUIDE



WHY STUDY ART?

Specification: AQA exam board

Portfolio Unit 60%

Externally Set Examination 40%

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of fine art media, processes and techniques. They will be made aware of both traditional and new media. Students have to explore the use of drawing for different purposes, using a variety of methods and media on a variety of scales. Students may use sketchbooks/workbooks/journals to underpin their work where appropriate.

Students will have to explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. This should be integral to the investigating and making processes. The responses to these examples must be shown through practical and critical activities that demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions.

Students should be aware of the four assessment objectives to be demonstrated in the context of the content and skills presented. They should be aware of the importance of process as well as product.

AREAS OF STUDY

You will be required to work in one or more areas of Fine art or Graphic Communication, such as those listed below. You will explore overlapping areas and combinations of areas:

- *drawing and painting*
- *mixed-media, including collage and assemblage*
- *sculpture*
- *ceramics*
- *installation*
- *printmaking (relief, intaglio, screen processes and lithography)*
- *moving images and photography.*

SKILLS AND TECHNIQUES

Girls will be expected to demonstrate skills, defined in overarching knowledge, understanding and skills, in the context of their chosen areas.

In addition, girls will be required to demonstrate skills in all of the following:

- appreciation of different approaches to recording images, such as observation, analysis, expression and imagination*
- awareness of intended audience or purpose for their chosen area(s) of fine art*
- understanding of the conventions of figurative/representational and abstract/ non-representational imagery or genres*
- appreciation of different ways of working, such as, using underpainting, glazing, wash and impasto; modelling, carving, casting, constructing, assembling and welding; etching, engraving, dry point, mono printing, lino printing, screen printing, photo silkscreen and lithography*
- understanding of pictorial space, composition, rhythm, scale and structure*
- appreciation of colour, line, tone, texture, shape and form.*

Girls are expected to produce 4-5 final outcomes with extended sketchbook research and experimentation.

The requirements to study Art and Design : Minimum high grade 6 at GCSE level in Art and Design.

If you did not study GCSE Art you will be asked to provide a portfolio of work showing strong skills in drawing and painting, which will be assessed by the Head of Art.