

**ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE**  
**ART DEPARTMENT**  
**'A' LEVEL**

Are you a motivated, imaginative student with sound drawing, research and investigative skills? then A Level art will develop your ability to use a range of materials and techniques and encourage you to make a personal response to the world around you. The art department always expects students to develop their own brief with a personal theme of their choice.

We follow a broad based fine art course that allows students to develop work that can include drawing, painting, mixed media work, ceramics, textiles, printmaking, digital imagery, sculpture or installation work.

**It is desirable but not essential that students will have achieved a good GCSE Art & Design grade.**

All students develop their skills by:

- **Recording** (selecting appropriate resources and working from observation),
- **Exploring** (experimenting with materials and developing inventive ideas)
- **Developing** (researching artists and makers)
- **Presenting** (producing well made final pieces)

During the first term of year 12 students complete an experimental **preliminary project** that develops skills and confidence using a range of materials and techniques.

## UNITS

### 1. Personal Investigation (60%)

- Candidates submit one major coursework project that has a personal significance. This is begun in January of year 12. Students keep a well used sketchbook and make three substantial final pieces The investigation includes a related personal study (piece of artists' research) that must be between 1000 and 2500 words.

### 2. Externally set task (40%)

- Candidates select **one** starting point from an early release question paper (1<sup>st</sup> February). Again this will provide candidates with a number of themes, each with a range of starting points, briefs and stimuli. From these one will be selected and preparation is then completed. Students will complete a 15 hour final exam in May where they produce a final piece.

*Students are expected to be willing to complete independent research (including taking photographs and visiting museums and galleries).*