

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 (1st 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).