

# Art A level



Hertswood

## Why take this subject?

The A Level curriculum is designed to build skills and foster independence through differentiated and self directed work. Our art students develop a lifelong aptitude to independently explore, create and present ideas. We encourage students to experiment, persevere and respond with personal outcomes. The course will offer you the chance to take part in an exciting programme of visual study that will broaden the breadth and depth of your visual language. You will enjoy this course if you are keen to understand the methods and principles involved in Art and Design, develop your own ideas in art while developing your knowledge of the work of others and are keen to undertake creative and reflective experimentation with media and materials so you can explore themes independently.

## What do I need to have studied in year 11?

- You must have at least 5 GCSEs at grades 9-5 including English and Maths
- At least a Grade 6 in GCSE Art or Photography.

Successful A-Level Art candidates can demonstrate they can work independently within a student/tutor structure and are extremely committed to the subject.

## What will we study? The Art A Level is split into two main components:

In **Component 1**, students will start the course building foundations and acquiring new skills in oil painting, primary source photography and life drawing. Students will also develop their art knowledge through sessions on formal analysis of art and trips to galleries in London. Students will then individually respond to the theme 'Surfaces' and take their project in a direction of their choice. Students will develop a portfolio of work and at least two final outcomes. This unit also includes a Personal study essay which requires students to research and present, in written form, a contextual study linked to their practical work.

In **Component 2**, the exam board sets a theme in the spring term of Y13. Students then use the skills obtained over component 1 to respond to this theme and to develop their ideas in a sketchbook before completing a final outcome in a 15 hour exam.

We expect independent working to become part of the students' work ethic at this level and it is expected that students spend at least 5 hours working on self-directed study each week.

## How will I be examined?

Unit	Assessment	Weighting
<b>Component 1: Personal Portfolio</b> <b>Projects:</b> Building Foundations and Surfaces <b>Outcomes:</b> A portfolio of work, at least 2 final outcomes and 1 Personal Study Essay	x2 15 hour practical exams x1 Essay	60%
<b>Component 2: Externally Set Assignment</b> <b>Project:</b> Theme provided by the exam board annually. <b>Outcomes:</b> A Sketchbook of development and one final outcome.	15 hour practical exam	40%

## What super curricular opportunities will be available to me?

The course includes trips to some of the world's best galleries and exhibitions in London. The course leaders run masterclass sessions specifically for our A Level students such as Oil Painting days and Life Drawing. There are links to photography with photo shoot assignments and you will experience techniques and media we do not offer lower down the school.

## What can this subject lead to?

Having an A Level in Art can benefit you in many ways as you move forward. Many of our students go on to do an Art degree or Art Foundation college at University and then into careers in design, architecture, publishing, film, TV and Theatre. But the skills you acquire can also translate into so many other areas as you will understand a visual language and be able to think outside of the box.

## Subject Specification link:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/art-and-design-2015.html>



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