

Art: Fine Art or Photography

Examination Board: OCR

Why study Art?

Art is a form of communication and expression: a visual language. Beyond A-level a popular route into an artistic career is to apply for a 1 year Art Foundation Course which will provide you with a transitional experience, introduce you to various pathways and help you make an informed decision at degree level. Many pupils go on to study history of art, architecture, fashion, textiles design, fine art, theatre or graphics and film.

The main aims of this Fine Art course are to develop:

- intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive powers
- investigative, analytical, experimental, technical and expressive skills, aesthetic understanding and critical judgment
- knowledge and understanding of the role of the achievements of artists, craftspeople and designers in the past and in contemporary society
- understanding of the relationship between, and the connections across the disciplines of art, craft and design

The Fine Art course consists of painting, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, lens based imagery and alternative media. The skills which you develop will be varied and you will be taught a working knowledge of materials, practices and technology within art. You will develop your imaginative and creative powers and experimental, analytical and documenting skills.

Entry Requirements

The best foundation for success in AS and A-level Art is a good grade at GCSE Art. If you have a genuine love of the subject or if you are creative or “good at drawing” you may have the basic skills to succeed.

Subject Specification

Lower Sixth AS level

Unit 1: Coursework Portfolio

Candidates produce a portfolio of work from starting points, topics or themes. The focus is on including work that shows exploration, research, acquisition of techniques and presentation.

Unit 2: Controlled Assignment

Candidates select one starting point from an early release question paper and are given a minimum of three weeks at least to plan and prepare. Candidates are given five hours of controlled time to work on developing their ideas to realisation.

Upper Sixth A2 level

Unit 3: Personal Investigation

Candidates submit one major project that has a personal significance. The Investigation includes a related personal study that must be between 1000 and 3000 words.

Unit 4: Controlled Assignment

Candidates select one starting point from an early release question paper and are given a minimum of three weeks at least in which to plan and prepare. Candidates are then given 15 hours of controlled time to realise ideas into a final outcome.

Further Information

Students or parents requiring any further details are most welcome to contact Mrs S Fensome, Subject Leader for Art (srf@oswestryschool.org.uk).

