KS5 | Curriculum
Fine Art

THE WALDERSLADE & GREENACRE SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

Qualification type / Exam Board

A-Level / AQA

What will I learn about?

In Fine Art, you will explore a wide range of artistic practices and mediums, including:

- **Drawing and Painting**: Techniques for mark-making, composition, and color use.
- **Sculpture and Installation**: Working with 3D forms and exploring materials like clay, metal, or found objects.
- **Printmaking**: Processes such as screen printing, etching, or lithography.
- **Photography and Mixed Media**: Using digital and traditional methods to create innovative artworks.
- **Art History and Theory**: Investigating the influence of historical and contemporary art movements, and developing critical analysis skills.

The course is highly practical, allowing you to develop personal projects that reflect your own interests. You will create a portfolio of work, experimenting with different techniques and processes to produce final pieces that reflect your individual artistic vision.

How is my work assessed?

- **Component 1: Personal Investigation (60%)**
  You will create a portfolio of work based on a personal project, including:
  - **Practical work**: A body of artwork that explores a chosen theme.
  - **Written study**: A critical and contextual essay (1000–3000 words) supporting your practical work.
- **Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%)**
  You will respond to one of eight starting points set by AQA, producing preparatory work followed by a final piece created during a 15-hour supervised assessment.

What should I consider before starting this subject?

Before starting A-Level Fine Art, consider:

- **Creative interest and practice**: A passion for art and a willingness to explore different mediums and techniques.
- **Independence**: The ability to work independently on self-directed projects.
- **Time management**: Developing a portfolio requires consistent practice and dedication outside of lessons.

Why is this course useful and what might it lead to?

A-Level Fine Art develops both creative and analytical skills, making it a valuable course for:

- **Further study**: Leading to degrees in Fine Art, Art History, Graphic Design, Illustration, and other creative disciplines.
- **Careers**: Opportunities in fields such as illustration, set design, art therapy, curation, or freelance art practice.

Entry requirements

A minimum of grade 5, or equivalent, in a Visual Arts subject; Fine Art, Graphics, Photography or Textiles.

Where can I find more information?

Speak to your Art teacher or visit the AQA Fine Art A-Level specification for detailed information about the course structure and assessment.