

FINE ART PAINTING & DRAWING

EXAM BOARD: EDEXCEL

Why study Fine Art?

Here at Stratford upon Avon School we have an excellent track record and reputation for helping our A-Level artists become exciting, innovative and individual artists who often go on to pursue art at a higher level.

After nurturing their love of the subject at Stratford they go on to academic and professional careers. We want you to make our reputation even stronger by learning how to express yourself visually in a way that makes you unique and then exploring in depth the project themes that will show off your artistic attributes.



Subject Specification Outline:

This specification consists of four main elements
Year 12 Coursework Assignments: based on a range of themes and starting points, this year will help establish best working practice i.e. use of sketchbook, use of a range of media and techniques. You will also learn about different artists especially looking at Modern Art movements.

Year 13 Coursework Project: based on a theme of your choice (This year many chose decay and degrading, disassociation, loss and change, which were expressed in art form from sculpture to portrait and installation using a range of materials and processes)

Sketchbook + final piece(s): should have connections with your personal study (see below)- i.e. what you have learnt from your research that has helped you with your own practical work... In depth, thorough investigations in the sketchbook, experimentations and practicing techniques in a range of media appropriate to your intentions. What will make your work stand out from the crowd and make it individual to you?

Year 13 Personal Study: 1000-3000 word essay- can be visual, presented in any format. Here you can follow your heart – dig deep into understanding your favourite area or art movement as long as you cover the following... Research into an artist(s) looking at:

- Technique and style, influence on your own work etc
- Focusing on their use of a visual element e.g. line, tone, colour, texture, pattern, shape, perspective
- Making sure you can back up your research having visited galleries

Final Exam Format:

Students receive their exam paper in February of Year 13. They then have until early May to prepare for the 15 hour exam, spread across three days. During the preparation period students should visually evidence how/where they have researched their chosen subject matter, made references to other artists, developed ideas through investigating a range of appropriate media and techniques. To support this process we take our A-Level students to London to visit galleries. This takes place in February.

Self Study Requirements:

We would expect Students to want to use available time in school to carry on their studies in the Art Dept. We currently have a specialist Art/Photography study room available for students to access throughout the week. Outside of school time we would expect Students to be working at least 5 hours of additional worktime per week.

Progression Pathways:

Students who choose Art tend towards either future artists/designers, or engineers/ architects. Careful selection of other A levels can facilitate this. The most common and expected route to get onto a creative degree course will be to first complete a one-year Foundation course. The Foundation course exposes students to a broadened Art experience beyond A level. Our students have successfully gained entry onto the Foundation course at Leamington. A Level Art and the portfolio it creates can lead to a host of apprenticeships and career pathways, as creativity is a valued skill in many roles