**Expressive Arts Options Art**

**Why Study Art? Benefits of studying Art**

* Arts encourages self-expression and creativity and builds confidence as well as a sense of individual identity.
* Art develops fine motor skills, hand/eye coordination
* Art develops technological competencies
* Creativity can also help with wellbeing and improving health and happiness.
* Studying art also helps to develop critical thinking and the ability to interpret the world around us.
* Art encourages us to appreciate culture and diversity in the world around us.
* Art encourages us to be creative in the way that we present ourselves, our homes and our lives

**What are Art Skills?**

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| **CREATIVITY** | use imagination and empathy, develop emotional intelligence, think of new ideas, make creative choices |
| **COMMUNICATION** | experiment with ideas, develop and improve these ideas - listen, discuss, share, plan, set targets |
| **CONCENTRATION** | develop observation skills, focus the mind and body, improves memory- it is a muscle too! |
| **USE OF MATERIALS** | use different materials e.g. acrylic paints, chalk clay, cloth, pastels, pencils, pens, oil paints, watercolours and many more |
| **USE OF TECHNIQUES** | drawing, painting, printing, pottery, sculpting, 3D art and many more |
| **VISUAL ELEMENTS** | understand how to use colour, line, pattern, shape, texture and tone- demonstrate this in your work |
| **CONFIDENCE** | learn to have faith in yourself, trust your ideas and abilities and remember this is a process where you will create an end product that is unique |

**What units of work will we cover / study in Art in S3?**

Unit 1- Still Life   
Unit 2- Portraiture

Unit 3 - Design

Unit 4 – Critical studies- you will learn about the work of amazing artists and designers like Frida Khalo, Henri Matisse, Salvadore Dali, Pablo Picasso, Coco Chanel and many more.

**Opportunities within the Art Department.**

You will have the opportunity to go to the Art Club and get involved in a variety of projects. There are always competitions and events throughout the session e.g., designing posters for Road Safety, making decorations and cards to sell for charities. You may decide to help with the School Show at Christmas or in the summer term. You might choose to take on a Production role as part of the backstage crew specialising in designing and creating props, costume, hair and make-up and the set. Another option is to help with Front of House, that means designing posters, programmes, tickets. You will also have your own ideas and interests for projects. There are lots of ways to get involved.

**Parental Support Guide**

Your support in the following areas would be greatly appreciated

* looking over your child’s sketchbook
* checking that your child is keeping up to date with work in class and any home learning
* encouraging your child to take part in school events and Art competitions.
* encouraging your child to get involved in the wider school community e.g. Art Club

**Career Pathways**

Art allows you to develop hugely valuable skills which you will continue to use throughout your life, in and out of work.

**1. Art stimulates you to be constantly creative.** Art enhances fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, problem solving skills, lateral thinking, complex analysis and critical thinking skills. No matter what career you choose, those who can arrange, present and display material in a way that is aesthetically pleasing have an advantage.

**2. The internet has created an explosion of opportunity for digital designers and multimedia artists.** The world is filled with computers, smartphones, tablets and other portable electronic devices. Almost all businesses have an online presence, with online advertising increasing by the day. We are connected to the internet for long periods, seeking information, socialising, playing, shopping, watching videos and engaging in other forms of online entertainment. The demand for web designers, app designers, software designers, graphic designers, digital illustrators, multimedia artists, video producers, online publishers, animation artists, game designers and many other digital careers is undergoing unprecedented growth.

While Art continues to be a desirable option for students wishing to pursue ‘traditional’ creative careers, such as Architecture, Interior Design or Painting / Fine Art related professions, the internet has seen an explosion of exciting, new roles emerge.

### **3. Fine artists can reach a worldwide market at the click of a button**

For the first time ever, those who make fine art, sculptures, photographs, fashion garments and other hand-crafted products are able to market and sell these directly to the public – on a large scale – without going through a third-party such as a gallery. Marketing and selling products via an [artist website](https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/how-to-make-an-artist-website) or print-on-demand facility enables artists to ship printed images and products to an audience that would previously never have known they existed. Instead of institutions or established galleries deciding which artworks ‘make it’, the public votes work into the spotlight through viral sharing on social media.

This doesn’t mean that making a living in these fields is easy. Competition remains tough, with an oversupply of those wishing to work in a creative field. Success will always require skill, commitment, dedication and good business sense. Nonetheless, the playing field has been levelled. A multitude of individuals are able to make their living in creative ways that were previously rarely possible. Creators of original content often have the upper hand.

### **4. High school students can achieve recognition while studying**

Part of the joy of a high school Art course is that you don’t just study Art: you *make* it. Those who are talented, driven and passionate – and produce high quality, gut-wrenching work – are in a position to achieve recognition even while studying. With broadband streaming into your living room, youth is no longer a barrier to success.

*For example,* [*Alex Stoddard*](http://www.flickr.com/photos/alex-stoddard/) *became an internet sensation at age 18, when his photographs on Flickr gained over five million page views.*

(Note: if you are contemplating a creative career, having your own website is essential…more on how Art students can create their own website [here](https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/how-to-make-an-artist-website)).

### **5. Studying Art improves performance in other subjects .**Research demonstrates that involvement in the arts (both Visual Art and Performing Art) – especially for students from a low-income background – is associated with higher levels of attainment in both high school and university. Catterall also notes that studying the arts can have other positive benefits such as greater involvement in community service. (More information can be found in his book [Doing Well and Doing Good by Doing Art](http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1449904335/ref=as_li_ss_tl?ie=UTF8&camp=1789&creative=390957&creativeASIN=1449904335&linkCode=as2&tag=stargu-20) – affiliate link).

### **6. Good marks impress, no matter what.** Outstanding marks, in any subject, indicate skill; intellectual rigour; strong work ethic and a commitment to fulfilling one’s potential. All of these things are desirable traits in an employee or university applicant.

If you excel in Art, don’t be convinced to take a more ‘useful’ subject – unless you want to or are good at it. If you have ability in a creative area: grasp it. Let it shine.

### **7. Coursework teaches you self-discipline.** Successful art students emerge with focus, organisational and time management skills that many other students dream of.

### **8. Art makes you happy.** High school Art programmes begin with observation of the real world: recording, analysis and creation of a visual response to the surroundings. Art makes students look at things anew – even mundane ordinary aspects of the world. The fluffy, ‘feel good’ reasons that are usually given for selecting Art as a subject are given because they are right. Art *does* fill the soul. There is something magical about smearing pencil and paint across a piece of paper and sculpting form with your hands. Communicating with colour and shape and form awakens the imagination; it opens a door to ‘now’. If you love making art, you’ll miss it when it’s gone. And if you *do* choose to study Art, chances are, it will be your favourite class of the day.

## Possible Career choices for Art students**.** Whether you have a specific art and design-related discipline, or have chosen to work in the sector because of a creative interest, there is a vast array of opportunities, the most common being:

* 3D design
* ceramics designer
* enameller
* [fashion designer](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/fashion-designer)
* [fine artist](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/fine-artist)
* [fashion designer](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/fashion-designer)
* [illustrator](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/illustrator)
* [graphic designer](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/graphic-designer)
* [illustrator](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/illustrator)
* textile designer
* spatial designer

And many more options:

* [advertising](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs?k=advert&j=/advertising-account-executive)
* [animator](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/animator)
* [art gallery curator](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/art-gallery-curator)
* [arts administrator](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/arts-administrator)
* [cad technician](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/computer-aided-design-technician)
* [design and development engineer](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/design-and-development-engineer)
* [marketing assistant](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs?k=marketing&j=/marketing-executive)
* product developer
* [photographer](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/photographer)
* [set designer](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/set-designer)
* [signwriter](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs/job-profile/signwriter)

Don’t forget the generic all-round jobs which are important to the sector too, such as:

* [event management](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs?k=event&j=/events-manager)
* finance
* maintenance
* [marketing and PR](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs?k=marketing&j=/marketing-executive)
* project management
* [recruitment](https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs?k=HR&j=/human-resources-manager&f=/job-families/management)
* sales