

March 2026

Dear families

GCSE Art Exam

We hope this letter finds you well. We are writing to inform you that the GCSE Fine Art exam for Year 11 students has been scheduled for Tuesday 21 April and Thursday 23 April.

This is an important date for our students, and we encourage them to prepare thoroughly for their exam. The Art department has been working diligently with the students to ensure they are well-prepared, and we are confident in their abilities to perform to the best of their potential.

Please ensure that your child attends school on this date, as the exam is a crucial component of their GCSE assessment equating to 40% of their overall grade.

I would also like to take this opportunity to provide you with the weekly progress breakdown, outlining where your child should be at in their project as they prepare for the upcoming exam.

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child attends their GCSE Art exam and is fully prepared. If you have any queries about any of the above, then please contact me either by email or phone.

Yours sincerely

Miss E Akesson
Head of Art



GCSE Fine Art - Weekly breakdown to the NEA:

Exam preparator work is worth 40% of your final grade. If you miss lessons, ensure you are keeping up to date. There will be support sessions after school every Tuesday and Friday, and by prior arrangement with staff on Monday.

05/01	<p>Exam paper will be handed out and discussed. Teachers will be available after school to discuss your choice of starting points.</p> <p>By Friday you will have completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Title page ○ Mind map – exploring chosen starting point ○ Double page of images – relevant artworks and inspiration relating to the theme ○ Gather artist research- for all artists in starting point and any other artists that link to the theme. Basic background information & clear images of work ○ 2 observed drawings relevant to chosen theme- 1 A4 tonal study, 1A4 media and style of your choice
12/01	<p>By Friday you will have completed:</p> <p>All artist research well presented in sketchbook and will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clear images ○ Brief information on who they are / what they do/ why they do it / how they do it ○ Your written analysis of their work – what’s interesting about it? Try analysing one piece of work in more detail ○ Annotation ○ Variety of observed studies from details of their work
19/01	<p>By Friday you will have completed:</p> <p>Experimentation – you should complete a minimum of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 x double pages of drawings/paintings/ photographs/ media testing exploring ideas from your intentions ○ 1 photoshoot of at least 9 images linked to your theme and experimentation ○ All work and photography should be annotated to explain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Whether you think its successful ⇒ How it links to the artists/theme ⇒ How it could be developed <p>Write an evaluation on how you think your work is progressing so far and a clear plan for how you will continue</p>
26/01	<p>By Friday you will have completed:</p> <p>Gallery Trip – complete with drawn observations from the trip on Tuesday 27 January and present in sketchbook along with any photographs taken on trip</p>
02/02	<p>By Friday you will have completed:</p> <p>Further experimentation – you should complete a minimum of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 x more double pages of drawing/ painting/ photographs/ media testing exploring ideas from your intentions ○ Sketched ideas for how the experimentation can be used in artwork ○ All work should be annotated to explain <p>Create an area of interest mind map</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What subjects? Artists? Styles? Techniques? Materials?
09/02	<p>By Friday you will have completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Initial ideas ○ Draw a range of possible ideas you could further explore – annotated to explain how they link to your chosen theme/ intentions ○ Ensure all work is presented ○ Produce a page of observed drawn studies linked to your chosen theme/intentions

Holiday task – review & improve all coursework – **get everything organised & tidy. Intervention session TBC**

23/02	<p>By Friday you will have completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Further research and theme development ○ Review work so far and decide where you need additional research of artists/artworks ○ Produce further ideas and testing influenced by new testing ○ Write an evaluation of everything so far and what you intend to explore next
02/03	<p>By Friday you will have completed:</p> <p>Initial ideas which should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Explore a range of possible outcomes ⇒ Draw ideas and annotate to explain ⇒ Test materials and processes ⇒ Evaluate work as it progresses <p>Write an evaluation on your ideas WWW/EBI</p> <p>Note there may be some disruptions to lesson due to mock exams</p>
09/03	<p>By Friday you will have completed:</p> <p>Initial ideas development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Refine ideas to possible outcome ⇒ Draw out refined ideas and annotate to explain ⇒ Test materials and processes where necessary ⇒ Evaluate work as it progresses <p>Record all work in sketchbook</p> <p>Produce mind map or list of what your final outcome will include - explain why you have chosen this idea and explain how it links to area of study</p>
16/03	<p>By Friday you will have completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Refine work towards final idea ○ Review all work and write a statement evaluating and outlining final intentions for development into your outcome <p>Record all work in sketchbook</p>
23/03	<p>By Friday you will have completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Final idea ⇒ Write a clear statement explaining your final idea ⇒ Draw out a scale version of your idea and annotate ⇒ Create studies of details showing how materials will be used and what the final finish will look like <p>Present all your work in sketchbook</p>
Easter holidays – Intervention session TBC	
13/04	<p>Final exam prep:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ collecting resources, materials ⇒ writing lists
21/04	<p>FINAL EXAM this week All day Tuesday 21st & all day Thursday 23rd April All preparatory work must be brought to first session</p>
28/04	<p>Final CW completion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Refining work ⇒ Organising ⇒ Final coursework deadline
06/05	<p><u>All lessons used for revision from now onwards unless otherwise directed</u></p>

