



OXFORD  
HIGH SCHOOL

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GDST  
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

Sixth Form study options

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A Level Art

## Why A Level Art?

Art is a powerful visual stimulus, which can enrich our lives in many ways. It can provoke thought or interest or it can be used practically as in product design, advertising, architecture and the media. The A Level course will allow you to develop your ability to appreciate the visual world and respond in a personal and creative way.

### What are the qualities of an Art student?

We look for students who have:

- An open mind
- An interest in the visual world
- The desire to challenge perceptions
- A questioning approach
- The ability to notice things others might not
- A willingness to take risks
- Something to say
- An experimental approach
- An interest in Past, Present and Future
- An active interest in visiting museums and galleries

## Art, Craft and Design A Level Educas.

### What will you study?

On this A Level course, you will produce a collection of work based on an idea, theme or issue which will demonstrate your ability to research, develop ideas and link work in a meaningful way. You will develop a working knowledge of materials, practices and technology to a high level, working with contextual studies to convey and synthesise ideas through Art, Craft and Design. This allows you as the artist to work in an art form and media that is very much based around how your own creative practice develops. Our new state of the art facilities, the Ada Benson Building, which opened in 2020 allows a fully flexible approach with two and three dimensional work, painting, sculpture, ceramics, printmaking, digital work, photography, design and animation to support you.

### Unit 1 – Personal investigation coursework is 60%

You will use the first year of Sixth Form to experiment, build upon and link to the knowledge, skills and understanding developed at GCSE and grow and develop as an artist.

As the course progresses, you will resolve your ideas and practice and develop your personal portfolio. This will



incorporate three major elements: supporting studies, practical work, and a personal study.

- Supporting studies and practical work will comprise a portfolio of development work and outcomes based on themes and ideas developed from personal starting points.
- The personal study will be evidenced through a critical written element showing contextual research and understanding of a related topic on an artistic theme or artists but will be integrated in the portfolio.

### Unit 2 – Externally set assignment is 40%

This unit follows on from the Personal Investigation. A theme based exam paper will be handed out to allow time for preparatory studies from January and a timed test for the practical outcome will be 15 hours. This will be done in the Summer Term of Year 13.

## Post A Level Art course destinations in recent years

Oxford Brookes	Foundation
Central St Martins	Fashion and Design
Falmouth	Illustration
Oxford Ruskin	Fine Art
Falmouth	Foundation
Chelsea	Fine Art
Bristol	History of Art
Bristol	Animation

## Careers relating to Art

There are many careers in art, craft and design and the creative industries account for 6% of the current UK employment market

Advertising	Food stylist
Animation	Gallery curator
Architecture	Graphic Designer
Art and Building Conservation	Illustrator
Art Gallery Curator	Interior Designer
Art history	Jewellery Designer
Art Journalism	Magazine Layout Design
Art Therapy	Medical Illustrator
Art Valuer	Museum work
Artistic Director	Music Video
Botanic Illustrator	Package and Product Design
Caricaturist	Photographer
Cartoonist	Poster Design
Ceramic Design	Product Designer
Conservation	Public Art and Installation
Costume Design	Sculpture
Designer Bookbinder	Shop Stylist
Exhibition Designer	Special Effects Artist
Fashion Design	Stage Design
Fashion Journalism	Stylist
Festival and Events organisation	Teacher/Lecturer
Film Production and Direction	Television work
Film Stylist	Theatrical prop designer and maker
Fine Artist	Web Design

