

FINE ART & CREATIVE TEXTILES IN THE SIXTH FORM

AN INTRODUCTION

Students wishing to be considered for the A Level courses should have successfully completed a GCSE in Fine Art or Textile Design and will have ideally have gained grade 7 or above

A LEVEL

Students may follow a Fine Art course, with the emphasis on drawing, painting and related mixed media, or a Creative Textiles course, with emphasis on the design and making of printed, woven, embroidered and embellished fabrics.

We follow the OCR syllabus for both Fine Art and Creative Textiles. For both subjects, the two year course has two externally assessed units: a personal investigation (coursework) forming 60% of the total mark, and an externally-set controlled assignment which forms the remaining 40%. These are assessed in February and May of the final year.

Work in the first term of the Year 12 course is broad and varied with as much experimentation as possible with a wide variety of techniques. Within this structure students are encouraged to develop personal ideas and approaches and to take initiative. It is essential that they develop their ideas outside of school hours and make extensive use of sketch books and note books to complete their work. The ability to record from direct observation and personal experience is encouraged as well as the use of intuition and imagination.



Art History and contextual studies is an integral part of the course; students are encouraged to visit art galleries and exhibitions in order to increase their awareness of other cultures, artists and designers. Workshops and gallery visits are arranged periodically to support student studies.



FINE ART

The main areas offered in Fine Art are: drawing, painting, and printing. Some students do however experiment and develop their ideas with, for example, sculpture using clay, wire and plaster. We encourage a variety of approaches rather than a 'house style', and students develop their intellectual, imaginative, creative and intuitive capabilities.

CREATIVE TEXTILES

In Creative Textiles the main techniques we offer are: hand and machine embroidery, Lino block printing and screen printing fabrics, applique, burning and surface manipulation, batik and fabric painting. Students can incorporate fashion design into their projects, but the emphasis is on creating the fabrics, not garments. Students develop skills in drawing for the purpose of textile design, design development and visualization. One or two techniques are learnt to a high level, for example machine embroidery and embellishment of fabrics for fashion.

CAREERS

There are a wide range of career opportunities for Fine Art and Creative Textiles A Level students, including within the areas of advertising, film and theatre, interior design, fashion, museums and galleries, product design and education.



A LEVEL RESULTS 2019

GRADE	A*	A	B	A* - B
Fine Art	38%	25%	37%	100%
GRADE	A*	A	B	A - B
Creative Textiles	0%	60%	40%	100%

CO-CURRICULAR - GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

The Art Department at Walthamstow Hall provides the opportunity for Sixth Form students to take a GCSE Photography course or just build Photoshop skills as part of A Level Fine Art or Creative Textiles.

GCSE Photography is taught to students once a week during the lunch break. The course is project based, with the emphasis on creativity and imagination.

The students start the course learning basic photographic skills, how to use the settings on an SLR camera, control of depth of field etc. Then using a digital camera, the students are given various projects.



Initially Portraiture, to help extend their understanding and inventiveness, before they focus on a subject they are particularly interested in, to create a sustained body of work. We have a dark room, and also a photographic studio with studio flash lighting for students use. There is a library of photographic books and magazines. The students must independently visit art galleries and exhibitions in order to see the work of other photographers and artists. The students will need access to a digital camera.

BEYOND A LEVEL

Every year students are successful in gaining places on Foundation courses, and/or universities to take a variety of Art degrees, such as Architecture, Fashion and Textile Design and Fine Art.