

Art: GCSE Specification

AQA - GCSE Course Outline

Unit 1: Portfolio of Work

- Controlled Assessment set by the centre.
- No time limit
- 60% of the total marks
- The portfolio is selected from work undertaken during the two years and must include more than one project

Project One:

Natural Forms

(Sept 2010 – Feb 2011)

This is a structured unit, where the students are taken through a wide range of materials, techniques and approaches.

Homework is set each week.

This is an introduction to using sketchbooks and approach

Project Two:

The Body in Art

(Feb 2011 – Sept 2011)

This unit starts with a trip to the British Museum as an introduction to a range of ways the body has been represented.

A paper is set with a range of themes which relate to the human form.

Pupils spend time developing ideas independently in response to one theme towards a final piece.

Project Three:

Mock Exam Project

(Oct 2011 – Dec 2011)

This is a chance to see what it is like to prepare for the actual externally set task.

Pupils will be given a paper with a series of themes from which they choose one.

They will have around six weeks preparation time and then 10 hours in controlled conditions in which to make a final piece.

We also run a trip to Tuscany in the Easter holiday. The Year 10 stay with an artist and spent time in Florence, Siena and Chiusi doing drawings and taking photos. We also have two full days of studio time to take on ideas in response to the cities.

Unit 2: Externally-Set Task

(January 2012-May 2012)

- External assessment set by the exam board
- Supervised time 10 hours of sustained focused study
- 40% of the total marks
- Pupils respond to a starting point set by the exam board
- The question paper can be issued to the pupils from 1st January.
- Unlimited preparation time