

## KS3 Art Curriculum

### Vision:

To provide every student with the opportunity to fully explore and develop their artistic practice. Through self-expression and creativity, they will build confidence and a strong sense of individual identity. Nurturing students who possess the courage and confidence to discover and contribute to the world around them.

### Themes

Our KS3 Art and Design curriculum is built around three key areas that underpin students' creative development: **The Human Story, Place and Environment, and Every day to Extraordinary**. These themes form the foundation of artistic exploration across all three years, providing a rich and connected framework through which students can develop their ideas, skills, and personal voice.

Theme	Focus	What students explore
The Human Story	Portraits, anatomy, identity	Exploring how artists represent people, character, and emotion.
Place and Environment	Landscape, architecture, community	Exploring how artists interpret the spaces and environments we inhabit.
Everyday to Extraordinary	Objects, design, imagination	Turning the ordinary into the extraordinary through creative thinking and design.

### Disciplines

Students progressively develop skills across **five main artistic disciplines**. **Drawing underpins every project as the central 'golden thread'**, used as a tool to **record, explore, plan** and **communicate**. The other disciplines are interleaved appropriately to extend technical skill and creative expression. Skills are built sequentially from Year 7 to Year 9, ensuring students gain confidence, control, and proficiency across a broad range of techniques and materials.

Disciplines	Drawing	Painting	Printing	Ceramics & Sculpture (C&S)	Photography
Year 7	Observational basics	Controlled colour and tone	Monoprint	Reliefs	Basic camera skills
Year 8	Confident mark-making	Mixed-media experimentation	Etching	Constructed forms	Composition and framing
Year 9	Expressive and refined drawing	Purposeful, emotive use of paint	Lino Reduction Prints	Complex sculptural outcomes	Digital editing in Photoshop

### Projects

Each project develops core artistic skills and includes historical links to help students contextualise artistic practices. Learners study relevant artists, movements, and periods alongside contemporary work that reflects their experiences. Projects also connect to the wider creative industries, encouraging exploration of art careers and challenging traditional views of work. By responding to project briefs, students develop project management, problem-solving, and creative thinking skills, fostering confidence, aspiration, and a sense of belonging within a curriculum that celebrates diversity and creativity.

	Exploring Identity			Unity Diversity			The Art of Everyday Things		
	Theme: The Human Story - Outcome: Fauvist Self Portrait			Theme: Place and Environment - Outcome: Design for Mural			Theme: Every day to Extraordinary - Outcome: Clay Relief Tile		
Year 7	Disciplines	Artist, Historical Links and Periods	CEIAGS	Disciplines	Artist, Historical Links and Periods	CEIAGS	Disciplines	Artist, Historical Links and Periods	CEIAGS
	Drawing: Pencil, charcoal graphite.	Leonardo da Vinci - Period: Renaissance	Portrait Artist Art Therapist Make Up Artist Illustrator	Drawing: Pencil	Lascaux Cave Painters – Period: Upper Palaeolithic	Mural Artist Graphic Designer Community Artist Sign Writer	Drawing: Pencil and charcoal	Paul Cézanne – Period: Post-Impressionist	Photo Stylist Gallery Curator Set Dresser Visual Merchandiser
	Painting: Watercolours	Henri Matisse – Period: Modern Barbara Walker – Period: Contemporary Art		Painting: Watercolours and acrylic	Yinka Shonibare – Period: Contemporary Keith Haring – Period: Postmodern Oskar – Period: Contemporary Azra Khamissa – Period: Contemporary		Painting: Watercolours	Sharon Core – Period: Contemporary (Still Life Photographer)	
	Printing: Mono Print			Printing:			Printing: Monoprint		
	C&S:			C&S:			C&S: Plasticine Relief		
Photography: Portraits		Photography:			Photography: Still life				
Year 8	Fantastic Creatures			Etched in Bone			Essence of Place		
	Theme: Every day to Extraordinary - Outcome: Clay Creature Head			Theme: The Human Story - Outcome: Etched Skull Print			Theme: Place and Environment - Outcome: Abstract Painting		
	Disciplines	Artist, Historical Links and Periods	CEIAGS	Disciplines	Artist, Historical Links and Periods	CEIAGS	Disciplines	Artist, Historical Links and Periods	CEIAGS
	Drawing: Pencil and fine liner	Mythical Greek Creatures - Period: Ancient Greek Art	Storyboard Artist Ceramic Artist Concept Artist Model Maker	Drawing: Pencil, pen & charcoal	Dorothy Foster Chubb – Period: Modern Andreas Vesalius – Period: Renaissance Damien Hirst – Period: Contemporary Duncan Cameron – Period: Contemporary	Medical Illustrator Anatomical Artist Forensic Artist Scientific Illustrator	Drawing: Pencil & oil pastels	Albrecht Dürer – Period: Northern Renaissance	Landscape Painter Environmental Artist Cartographer Travel Photographer
	Painting: Pen and wash	Maurice Sendak – Period: Modern Chris Ryniak – Period: Contemporary Art		Painting: Mixed media			Painting: Watercolours & acrylic	Mark Powell – Period: Contemporary	
Printing:		Printing: Etching			Printing:				
C&S: Basic Clay Structure	James De Rosso – Period: Contemporary Art	C&S:			C&S:				
Photography: Record		Photography: Still Life			Photography: Landscapes				
Year 9	Bold Impressions			Manchester in Focus			Sculpted Expressions		
	Theme: Every day to Extraordinary - Outcome: Surface Pattern Print			Theme: Place and Environment - Outcome: Mixed Media Architectural Drawing			Theme: The Human Story - Outcome: Realistic Clay Eye		
	Disciplines	Artist, Historical Links and Periods	CEIAGS	Disciplines	Artist, Historical Links and Periods	CEIAGS	Disciplines	Artist, Historical Links and Periods	CEIAGS
	Drawing: Pencil	Bragu Print – Period: Mughal Era	Surface pattern designer Fashion designer Fashion illustrator Interior design.	Drawing: Pencil & charcoal	Classical - Period: Ancient Geek and Roman	Architect Landscape Designer Urban Designer Stage Set designer	Drawing: Pencil	Jenny Saville – Period: Contemporary Art	Prosthetics Artist Prop Maker Special Effects Makeup Artist (SFX Makeup) 3D Artist
	Painting: watercolour	Althea McNish – Period: Modern Duro Olowu – Period: Contemporary		Painting:	Gothic – Period: Medieval Neo-Classical – Period: Modern Gothic Revival – Period: Modern Brutalism – Period: Modern Ian Murphy – Period: Contemporary Minty Sainsbury - Period: Contemporary		Painting: Acrylic	Martin Senn – Period: Contemporary Art	
Printing: Mono and Relief (Poly and Lino)	Rahemur Rahman – Period: Contemporary	Printing: Mono			Printing:				
C&S:		C&S: Cardboard structures			C&S: Reliefs, Complex Clay Structure				
Photography: Photoshop		Photography:			Photography: Portraits				

