

# Get ready for Art and Design

## About the subject

A Level Fine Art is a two-year course which provides candidates with a range of opportunities to develop personal responses to ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures in practical, critical and contextual forms. This experience lays a foundation for further study of Fine Art or related subjects in Higher Education. It is suitable for you if you want to develop your interest in and enjoyment of art.

Fine Art encompasses a wide range of techniques and processes with a particular emphasis on drawing. All students will undertake academic drawing tuition, including life drawing, in order to develop key skills before developing their own ideas and specialisms. Students can also explore painting, print, 3D, photography and digital processes.

## Your tasks

Observational drawing (i.e. drawing from objects/life and not from photographs) is a key skill to develop to be successful on the A Level Fine Art course. Observational drawing is the foundation upon which to develop existing skills and develop new ones. Please complete the following tasks to prepare for study in September.

1. Objects – Gather together a range of objects that say something about you. They could include an old family heirloom, old toy, musical instrument, favourite book, favourite food. Whatever you feel best represents you, your interests and personality. Create an arrangement of the objects and draw it as accurately as you can.
2. Self-Portrait – Simply draw and/or paint your reflection from a mirror to create an engaging self-portrait.
3. Landscape – Draw and/or paint a landscape or place that has a significant meaning to you.

These three tasks will build up a visual representation of you as an individual and form the basis of project work.

## Essential reading

Ways of Seeing by John Berger [<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Ways-Seeing-Penguin-Modern-Classics/dp/014103579X>]

Complete Artist's Manual [[https://www.amazon.co.uk/Complete-Artists-Manual-Definitive-Techniques/dp/0007528116/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?dchild=1&keywords=artists+manual&qid=1588679150&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.co.uk/Complete-Artists-Manual-Definitive-Techniques/dp/0007528116/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=artists+manual&qid=1588679150&sr=8-1)]

## Useful websites and other resources

<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk> [<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/>]

<http://www.npg.org.uk> [<https://www.npg.org.uk/>]

[www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk) [<https://www.tate.org.uk/>]

The Hepworth Gallery [<https://hepworthwakefield.org/>]

### Downloadable pdfs

Composition [<https://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/app/uploads/2020/05/Composition.pdf>]

Hatching-Cross-Hatching  
[<https://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/app/uploads/2020/05/Hatching-Cross-Hatching.pdf>]

Line-Drawing [<https://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/app/uploads/2020/05/Line-Drawing-Copy.pdf>]

Painting [<https://www.barnsleysixthformcollege.co.uk/app/uploads/2020/05/Painting-Copy.pdf>]

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### Any questions?

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