**Art**

Visual arts contribute significantly to personal growth, and career prospects for young artists are exciting. Abbeyfield School art department houses excellent facilities including general art rooms, pottery wheels and kilns, a computer suite and photography studio, and two dark rooms. Teachers within the department can offer a range of expert skills including: drawing and painting, ceramics, photography and graphics. Our expertise enables us to offer a broad curriculum and our school is widely recognised for the outstanding technical skills that our students develop.

Within KS3 art, students are given the opportunity to explore a wide range of art styles, artists, and practical skills, including painting, drawing, pastel work, sculpture and collage. Students in year 9 have started work on a photographic project as well, leading them into GCSE photography. Students study such topics as “Day of the Dead”, the human figure and portraits, technical drawing, through perspective work, and the elements of art, focusing on line, texture, and importantly, use of colour. Students have the opportunity to have their work displayed throughout the school. With two fully fitted, well resourced art rooms, students are spoilt for choice in their selection of art mediums.

At KS4, students follow the AQA GCSE Art and Design: Fine Art course, in which they work towards 4 Assessment Outcomes. Students spend time researching artists and analysing their work, responding to their work through their own reproductions and creative outcomes, planning their own final pieces, and then they spend time creating their final pieces. Students work in “strands”, where they work through this process repeatedly, practicing the skills necessary to be successful. Throughout the course, the art teachers provide workshops on different art techniques and skills, and students are expected to keep practicing these, and applying them to their own work.

KS5 A Level Art and Design: Fine Art, is structured in the same way as GCSE level, however, there is more written analysis involved. Furthermore, with smaller group sizes, students are able to work in a collegiate “tutorial” style setting. Students have the freedom to use the entire department, including all resources and facilities at their own leisure (and pleasure!)

Every year, work is displayed around the school environment, in corridors and offices, classrooms and the main hall. We are always so proud of our students, and displaying their work enables us to showcase the fantastic, artistic talent, demonstrated by our students every day.

**KS4: AQA GCSE Art and Design: Fine Art**

**KS5: AQA A Level Art and Design: Fine Art**