

# Visual Arts and Design

## AQA A Level Fine Art (Code: AS 1202B / A2 2202B)

### **What will I learn on this course?**

This is a Fine Art course – you will experience a range of fine art techniques and processes such as drawing, painting and printmaking. You will continue with your study of visual meaning and how ideas, materials and techniques interact with each other and within wider social environments. Understanding how visual images are constructed and operate is a crucial skill in today's predominantly visual culture and this course will enable you to explore these ideas while supplementing your study from your chosen pathway.

### **How is the course structured?**

In the first year you will be introduced to wide range of techniques and skills across a variety of materials and processes in order to develop the knowledge and expertise required for assessment in year two. These skills will be delivered through practical hands on workshops and projects that will enable you to develop your ability to analyse when responding to the art work of others, to improve your observational and imaginative capabilities and to build a portfolio of work that provides the basis of your second year of study. In the second year you will undertake Unit 1 'Personal Investigation' which enables you to develop an in-depth project of your choice, guided by your teachers. A component of this project is a written text of up to three thousand words that contextualises your practical work through artist research, for example. Unit 2 'A2 Externally Set Assignment' enables you to bring together all your skills and ideas by responding to one of a number of given briefs in a way that showcases your individual skills, aptitudes and interests.

### **How will I study?**

In our purpose-built state-of-the-art facilities we are able to offer a first-rate environment for the study of visual arts and design. We have facilities for textiles, ceramics, photography and three-dimensional design, fine art studios and a Mac suite with the latest art and design software such as Photoshop, Illustrator and Premiere Pro. Added to this excellent setting is a superb set of departmental tutors making what we believe is a unique environment for the preparation of tomorrow's artists, designers and visual communicators. Studying at BOA will enable you to develop your skills and ideas whilst benefitting from working in a dedicated arts environment. You will undertake skills workshops, presentations and will also have an opportunity to work in 'open studio' times when you can use your studio space for individual experimentation and development of personal ideas and techniques.

### **How will you be assessed?**

Each unit is assessed by your teacher using the examination board assessment criteria. At the end of the second year you will present your work in an exhibition that an external moderator will visit.

