



Art & Photography

Key Stage 3 (Years 7 to 9)

Unit	Topic	What students learn	Term
Year 7			
Unit 1 – Natural Forms	Observational drawing – variety of materials	Pencil and biro drawing of natural forms, focusing on texture and shading; colour theory; repeat pattern and tessellation inspired by MC Escher.	Autumn 1
	Introduction to Illustrators and different techniques	Illustration inspired by Gina Triplett (coloured pencil, blending, limited palette) and Angie Lewin (collage).	Autumn 2
	Final piece	Final outcome using mono-printing and a limited colour palette.	Autumn 2
	Improvement lesson	Summative assessment of the project.	Autumn 2
Unit 2 – Bugs	Observational drawing of insects. Understanding of why artists drew insects.	Observational drawing of insects in pencil, coloured pencil, pen and ink, and charcoal, focusing on mark-making, texture and tone.	Spring 1
	Creative approaches to drawing insects	Imaginative drawings inspired by Avani Patel; mixed-media final piece inspired by Ergin Inan; insect-inspired fashion design (Alexander McQueen) and comic-strip characters.	Spring 1 / Spring 2
	Improvement lesson	Summative assessment of the project.	Spring 2
Unit 3 – En plein air	Impressionism	Introduction to Impressionism, painting like an Impressionist, landscape composition and drawing outside; female Impressionists and early photography.	Summer 1
	Wessex assessment	Independent assessment project: researching an artist, developing ideas and completing a timed piece.	Summer 1 / Summer 2
	Post-impressionism	Van Gogh and mark-making; aerial perspective collage and the colour wheel.	Summer 2
	Fauvism	Drawing in a Fauvist style with oil pastels.	Summer 2
	Improvement lesson	Summative assessment of the project.	Summer 2
Year 8			
Unit 1 – Portraiture	Portraiture – observational drawing	The Renaissance and Leonardo da Vinci; structured observational portrait drawing; Expressionist portraits in oil pastel; mono-printing with collage and colour.	Autumn 1
	Producing a portrait based on chosen artist	Researching a chosen source (Ancient Egypt, Frida Kahlo, Vermeer or Kehinde Wiley) and creating an A3 portrait from their own photographs.	Autumn 2
	Improvement lesson	Summative assessment of the project.	Autumn 2
Unit 2 – Abstraction	Learning about Abstraction	What abstraction is and how to compose abstract work; Kandinsky analysis, drawing to music and collage.	Spring 1

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	Kandinsky final piece	Planning and creating a 3D collage final piece.	Spring 1 / Spring 2
	Other artists	Mondrian and Automatism; how art influences design.	Spring 2
	Improvement lesson	Summative assessment of the project.	Spring 2
Unit 3 – Architecture	Places of worship	Gothic architecture (gargoyles, flying buttresses, ribbed vaults) and Islamic mosques; one- and two-point perspective; John Piper and mixed media.	Summer 1
	Wessex assessment	Independent assessment project: researching an artist, developing ideas and completing a timed piece.	Summer 1 / Summer 2
	John Piper	Chiaroscuro and a final piece of a place of worship inspired by John Piper.	Summer 2
	Improvement lesson	Summative assessment of the project.	Summer 2
Year 9			
Unit 1 – Sketchbook project	Text & Image	Themed sketchbook (natural forms, urban landscape, food or portraits); work inspired by Tom Phillips; using text as shading; mixed-media drawing.	Autumn 1
	Making a Statement	Statement pieces inspired by April Bey and Barbara Kruger; mixed-media layers (Jim Dine or Ed Fairburn); combining text and image in Photoshop; final composition.	Autumn 2
	Improvement lesson	Summative assessment of the project.	Autumn 2
Unit 2 – Surrealism	Learning about Surrealism	Salvador Dalí, René Magritte and the Surrealists; automatic drawing and the Exquisite Corpse game.	Spring 1
	Developing ideas	Observational drawing of hands turned Surrealist; Photoshop layers and magazine collage.	Spring 1 / Spring 2
	Surrealist composition	Planning and creating an individual A3 Surrealist composition in their choice of media.	Autumn 2
	Improvement lesson	Summative assessment of the project.	Autumn 2
Unit 3	Techniques	Chiaroscuro portraits, textured animal eye drawings, still life with ellipses, and composition inspired by Michael Craig-Martin.	Summer 1
	Wessex Assessment	Independent assessment project: researching an artist, developing ideas and completing a timed piece.	Summer 1 / Summer 2
	Responding to gaps in knowledge	Targeted lessons on any gaps, so students are ready for GCSE Art, Photography or Graphics.	Summer 2
	Improvement lesson	Summative assessment of the project.	Summer 2