



October 2025

Dear Parent / Carer

Year 11 2025-26 Art, Craft & Design Main Coursework Project

Year 11 Art, Craft & Design students are now working on their **main coursework project**. This project will represent the majority of their **coursework portfolio**, which accounts for 60% of their final GCSE grade. They will need to also include a selection of work from their Year 10 projects on **Image and Text or Surrealism**. They can include any other art work completed outside of school as long as we can confirm it is their own.

They should by now have handed in their Year 10 project to their teachers. Not only does this ensure that it is kept safely at school, but will also be needed to assess and forecast grades for their target grades on the reports this term. If you find any of their work at home we would be grateful if this could be delivered to school.

Art, Craft and Design students are all working with the theme of Skulls and Skeletons which they began in the last term of Year 10 and the work set over the summer. The project started with some drawing, printing and photography. Now they are learning how to use their chosen inspiration artists to help make a series of development outcomes. They can explore a range of media, including acrylic and oil paints, clay, sculpture, print making or digital art. They will learn how to develop, experiment, reflect and create new ideas. This project must be completed and handed in at the end of Term 2 where they will have created the final outcome to this project.

Art, Craft & Design **projects** are the way students gain the marks for their coursework components and their Externally Set Assignment (exam component) by covering four Assessment Objectives. For both, they have 10 weeks of preparation time for creating an outcome. The externally set assignment will end with 10 hours of supervised time under exam conditions but in an art room, so they have the facilities and materials to work with. We will arrange for a whole day off timetable at the end of December 2025 to give students an opportunity to complete an outcome for their coursework project and get an idea of what the silent exam sessions will be like in April 2026. All this work is then marked by their teachers to produce their final grade. Therefore, it is important that the students understand how to create and present their preparation work and to plan and prepare for completing the project with a 'significant outcome'.

Class work and home learning is now being used to create **preparation work** that will help them decide on their final outcome. This is set weekly on Frog and occasionally via email. Students will be taught how to present their work in books, on boards or digital folders depending on their media choices. Using the Assessment Objectives, they will need to demonstrate the inspiration for their idea, how they develop and refine it, how they record their thoughts and observations, as well as plan for creating their final outcome in the supervised session.

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All students, including Photography, must include writing and drawing in their projects, appropriate to the purpose. This can be annotations and diagrams. More information is available on Frog. Teachers will provide regular feedback and advice to help improve their projects. All students are expected to work at least one hour outside of lessons in order to use their time effectively and respond to our advice.

The Art department is open during lunch time, and we offer regular after school sessions for students to use our facilities and equipment on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3.10pm until 5.00pm. **We hope that all students take this opportunity to attend the after-school session each week this year.**

Students will have completed their main project by the end of December 2025 and will not have a chance to add to this once it has been marked and stored securely in the department. At the start of January 2026 they will be given the Externally Set Assignment (ESA), which accounts for 40% of their final GCSE grade. We hold the 10 hour supervised sessions after the Easter break which is where they work under exam conditions in the art rooms to complete their projects. They will use the last few weeks of lesson time in term 5 to revise for other exams.

If you require any further information, please contact your child's Art teacher.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JCLewis". The letters are stylized and connected, with a prominent loop at the start of the "J".

Judith Lewis
Curriculum Leader for Art and Technology