



Fine Art

A Level Preparation

One of the most important things you could do to prepare for the A Level Fine Art Course is to get inspired. Get into the habit of viewing and responding to existing artworks.

Our art department has a Pinterest site full of interesting artists for a whole host of topics. Join Pinterest and click the link below. You could start making your own Pinterest boards with inspiring artists.

[Xav's Fine Art Pinterest](#)

You could explore our local galleries. Their websites have heaps of exciting resources, past exhibitions and information. Click on the links below to take you to their websites.

[Manchester Art Gallery](#)

[The Whitworth Art Gallery](#)

The Tate website has lots of great resources, as well as activities and exhibitions, its online collection is searchable by theme, materials and art movement among others. It's a great site for learning about art and finding inspiration.

[The Tate - Collection Archive](#)

You could also visit a gallery from the comfort of your own home. These fantastic British Galleries have virtual tours of their collections.

[The National Gallery - Virtual Tour](#)

[The Hepworth Gallery - Virtual Tour](#)

[The Tate Modern - Virtual Tour](#)

[The Courtauld Institute of Art - Virtual Tour](#)

[The National Portrait Gallery - Virtual Tour](#)

It is also important to keep drawing and making as you prepare for A Level studies. The following tasks will help you develop your practical skills along with helping you reflect on works of art.

Practical Tasks

Task One: Drawing – Cropped and Close Up



1. Gather a collection of interesting objects from around your house and set up a still life arrangement by placing them together on a surface. You could use a lamp or a torch to light them and create interesting shadows.
2. Use a camera or your phone to take photos of the objects. Try to get close-up and use interesting angles to create unusual compositions.
3. Make a series of drawings from these photos. You should not draw the whole object but a cropped close-up section of it. You could use a variety of materials and should take your time with each drawing.

-----Task Two: Mark-making

Mark making is a term used to describe the different lines, patterns, and textures we create in an artwork. A dot made with a pencil, a line created with a pen, a swirl painted with a brush, these are all types of mark making. Mark making can be loose and gestural, or structured and controlled such as hatching.

To explore mark making further [click here](#) for an excellent overview of mark making in different art movements from the Tate website.



1. [Click here](#) to search our Pinterest board of artists who focus upon drawing and mark making. Choose one artist to respond to.
2. [Click here](#) to search our Pinterest board of photos of organic objects, choose one to draw from.
3. Draw from your chosen photos using the style of the artist you have chosen. You can use any material but focus upon the types of marks, tone and texture.
4. Create a response sheet that includes the artists' image, your chosen photos and the drawings you have made.

Thankyou from the Fine Art staff: Dani Morrison Andy Gornall Shaun Steele