

# Key Stage 4

Overview of AQA GCSE

# Art and Design



## One-Year Plan



### Half Term 1

#### Introduction to Art and Design Principles

In the first half term, students will be introduced to the fundamental principles of art and design. This will include an exploration of the elements of art such as line, shape, form, space, colour, and texture. Students will engage in a variety of practical activities that encourage experimentation with different media, including drawing, painting, and digital techniques. The focus will be on developing observational skills through still life and portrait studies, allowing students to understand the importance of composition and perspective. Additionally, students will begin to research and analyse the work of established artists, which will serve as a foundation for their own creative practice.



### Half Term 2

#### Developing Personal Themes and Ideas

During the second half term, students will be encouraged to develop their own themes and ideas for their artwork. This will involve brainstorming sessions and sketchbook work where students will explore personal interests and influences. They will learn how to create a mind map to visually organise their thoughts and concepts. The emphasis will be on developing a personal voice in their artwork, and students will be guided in creating a series of preliminary studies that reflect their chosen themes.



### Half Term 3

#### Techniques and Processes in Art

In the third half term, students will focus on refining their technical skills and understanding various processes in art and design. Workshops will be conducted on different techniques such as printmaking, sculpture, and mixed media. Students will have the opportunity to experiment with these techniques, applying them to their ongoing projects. The aim is to encourage students to take risks and explore new methods of expression. Additionally, students will be introduced to the concept of the artist's portfolio, learning how to document their work effectively and reflect on their artistic journey.



### Half Term 4

#### Contextual Studies and Art History

The fourth half term will shift focus to contextual studies and art history, where students will investigate the relationship between art and society. This will involve studying different art movements, styles, and the artists of various artworks. Students will be required to research specific artists and their contributions to the art world, presenting their findings through visual presentations. This exploration will help students understand the broader context of their own work and inspire them to incorporate historical references into their projects. The half term will culminate in a project that combines their personal themes with historical influences.



### Half Term 5

#### Explore and Combine

The final half term students will further explore new mediums and materials for their theme project. Using various techniques from 2D to 3D elements, students will evaluate their learning experiences. Combining their interest with reflected materials, students will plan, sketch and then create an idea for their final outcome.



### Half Term 6

#### Finalising Projects and Preparing for Assessment

In the fifth half term, students will begin to finalise their projects in preparation for assessment. This will involve refining their artwork based on feedback received throughout the year and ensuring that their final pieces effectively communicate their chosen themes. Students will be guided in the process of self-evaluation, reflecting on their progress and identifying areas for improvement. This half term will also include mock assessments to familiarise students with the evaluation criteria.

