



GOSFORD HILL
SCHOOL

Art & Photography Department



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Our vision and aims (Intent):

- Creative Expression: We aim to teach students to develop enquiring minds and the ability to express themselves through a wide variety of media, helping them find their voice as young people.
- Ambition and Inclusion: Our vision is to provide an inclusive, stimulating, and ambitious curriculum that enables every student to explore the world visually, critically, and imaginatively.
- Cultural Awareness: We introduce students to a diverse range of artists, craftspeople, and cultures to foster an understanding of how art reflects human experience and its vital role in society.
- Building Independence: We aim to inspire confidence and curiosity, encouraging students to take ownership of their artwork as experimental workers and independent problem solvers.
- Transferable Skills: Beyond technical ability, we equip students with resilience, visual literacy, and critical thinking skills relevant to their future careers and lifelong appreciation of the arts.



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Our approach to teaching (Implementation):

- Structured Progression: We provide a coherent sequence of artistic knowledge and technical skills—including drawing, painting, photography, and digital media—from KS3 through to KS5.
- Workshop Delivery: Lessons are delivered through practical workshops that offer increasing flexibility and choice as students mature.
- Adaptive Teaching: Lessons are designed to be accessible and challenging for all, using differentiated strategies to ensure students with SEND and other individual needs achieve success.
- Thematic Learning: At KS3, skills are developed through engaging themes such as 'Trees' and 'Journeys', while GCSE students refine their practice through themes like 'Identity'.
- Reflective Practice: We use verbal and live feedback, one-to-one tutorials, and regular reviews to support progress and encourage rigorous research and experimentation.



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How we measure success (Impact):

- Confident Independence: Students demonstrate success by using art rooms, equipment, and materials with growing independence and initiative.
- Critical Thinking: Our learners develop the ability to make meaningful connections between their own work and wider social, historical, and political contexts.
- Technical Mastery: Impact is evidenced through the development of high-level skills across traditional and digital media, from foundational observation to personal expression.
- Accredited Excellence: At KS4 and KS5, success is reflected in holistically assessed portfolios and externally set assignments that showcase sustained experimentation and conceptual development.
- Future Readiness: Students are successfully supported in their progression into further education and the creative industries.