

## Support Learning for Art at Key Stage 5

As you know, Art and Design is a very independent subject and requires skill, patience, hard work, motivation and above all, passion. Students studying Art need to be very self-disciplined to work in their own time and make artwork outside of structured lesson time. The Art Department feel that additional study is extremely beneficial to students and has a direct link to pupil progress and overall grades. We welcome and value any support that parents and carers can provide their child in encouraging them to undertake personal study at home.

Here are a list of suggestions that would be beneficial for any student studying an Art subject:

- Have an area at home where students can work on their art, such as a desk or table.
- Encourage them to be creative and use a variety of materials. Dirt sheets could be used if mess is a worry.
- Encourage students to take a camera when they go out, a simple photo could end up inspiring in their artwork. Wherever possible, encourage students to carry a small sketchbook so that they can make drawings.
- Have a supply of basic art materials at home, such as drawing pencils, paper, a rubber, a sharpener, coloured pencils, pastels, a basic set of watercolour or acrylic paints with brushes, etc.
- Encourage them to read newspapers and magazines which can be a source of inspiration. Get them to cut out images that could be used for ideas.
- Watch programmes that relate to art and creativity, such as the sky arts channel, the 'School of Saatchi' series on BBC2, 'Project Runway' (for textile students), 'America's Next Top Model (for photography students), etc.
- Visit local art exhibitions and make trips to London galleries. Fantastic (and free) art galleries are:
  - The Saatchi Gallery
  - Tate Modern
  - The Tate Gallery
  - The Photographers Gallery
- Get them to use beneficial websites to research artists and look at art. Websites that they could use are as follows:
  - [www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)
  - [www.nationalgallery.org.uk](http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk)
  - [www.artchive.com](http://www.artchive.com)