

**Staff**:

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**KS3**

In **KS3** the Art Department has created a curriculum journey where learning will be structured around the fundamental knowledge of the ***Formal Elements.***

**Colour, texture, pattern, tone** and **shape & form** will each become a project focus and repeatedly underpinned throughout the three years. Having this consistent focus allows for effective engagement, reinforced understanding and will also inspire and challenge students, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to experiment, invent and create their own works of Art and Design.

At the start of each KS3 year, all students will complete a timed drawing assessment (The Peg Test). Using the same object (a peg) to draw from each year enables highly accurate assessment when comparing with previous years and also allows the students to demonstrate just how they have developed in their skills and creativity.

In **Year 7** students will create an exciting range of outcomes including intricate ‘relief’ beetle designs, African masks, 2D still life exploration and 3D jellyfish. They will all learn the fundamentals of Colour Theory and how to mix and blend paint.

In **Year 8** Cubist portraits will be explored in response to Picasso. Chinese dragons, natural forms and 3D food outcomes will all be developed through diverse approaches.

**Year 9** will create Pop Art comic book strips, develop still life printing and create 3D Mexican skulls!

**GCSE**

For **GCSE** Art, we have created a flexible course content where a skills-based approach has been designed to allow students to develop their knowledge and understanding enabling them to expand their skills to explore, create and communicate their own ideas.

Students will demonstrate these skills through the development, refinement, recording, realisation, and presentation of their ideas through a portfolio and by responding to an externally set assignment.

Students are nurtured to become independent learners who are equipped with the skills to continue the subject with confidence at AS, A-level and beyond.

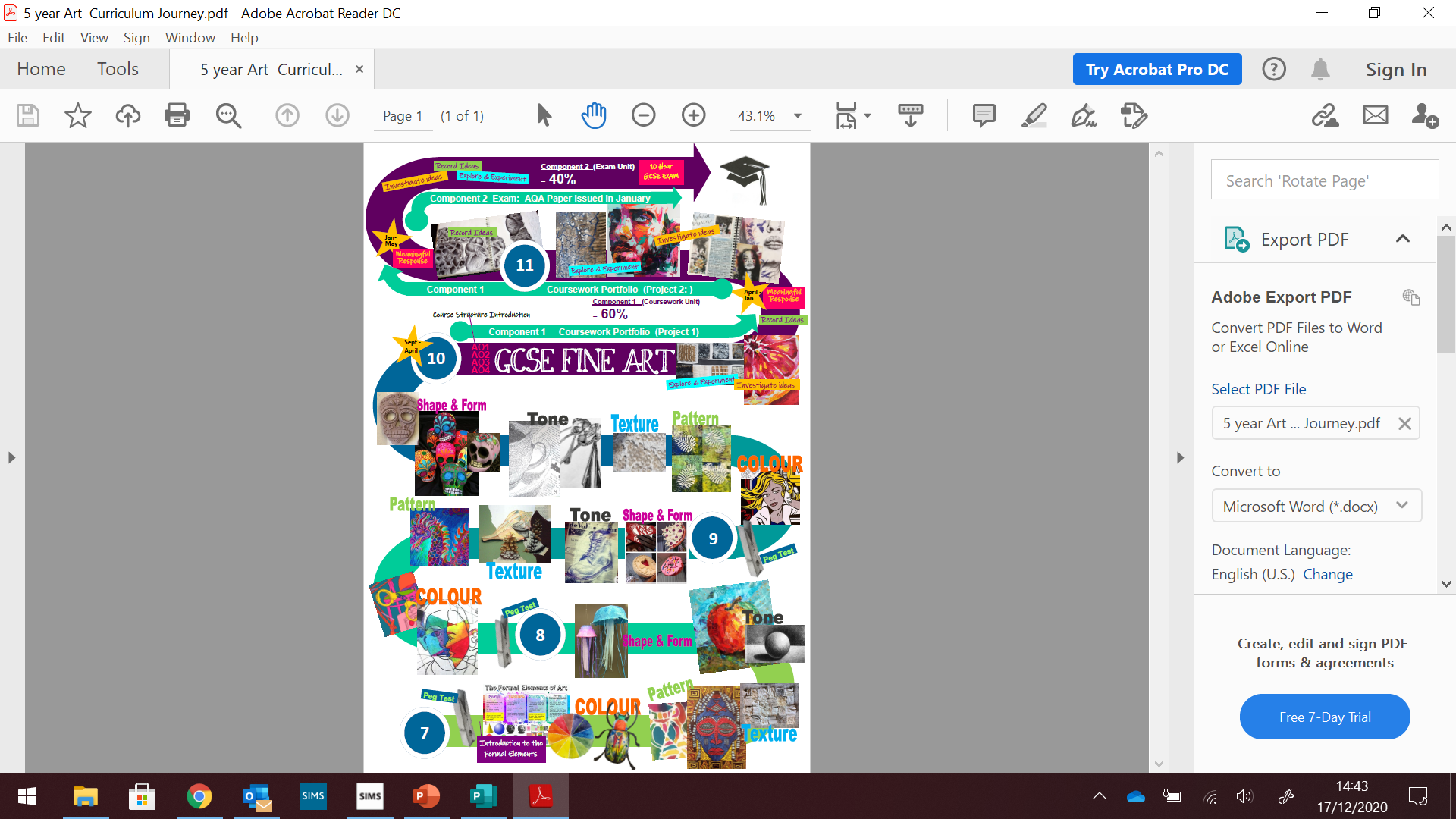
**Introduction to AQA GCSE Fine Art Course:**

GCSE students will begin their KS4 journey by analysing the course specification and what is expected from them. Students will be taught about the components and their weightings alongside rules and important deadlines. A main focus will be given to the Assessment Criteria where all four Assessment objectives will be discussed and documented in new portfolios for reference. This knowledge of course criteria will be consistently embedded in the students learning over the two years, so they become completely familiar with what is required to ensure they strive for their personal best.

Students will then begin their first of 3 projects. They will start to explore a variety of media and techniques (AO2) through observational study (AO3) on a much larger scale than before. Students will also be taught how to analyse artists and sources (AO1) and what is expected when responding to them. They will initially be taught as a whole class to boost self-esteem, create harmonious class rapport and produce immediate successful portfolio outcomes.

Around April, Year 10 Students will start their second project. After class discussion and brainstorming on their new theme, students will again have several teacher-led classes. However, students now recognising the required structure of a portfolio from Project 1 will commence earlier in their own individual direction to allow for greater diversity in outcomes. They will carve out more creative pathways through becoming independent learners. These two projects are classed together as **Component 1** (see curriculum journey diagram), which is the students coursework unit and makes up 60% of their overall grade.

Their third & final project (**Component 2)** is their **externally set assignment** whereby students will be issued their official AQA exam paper. This will require another body of study that commences in the January of Year 11 and ends in a 10-hour exam. This last Component 2 Project is worth 40% of the student’s overall grade.



**Five Year Curriculum Journey Map**

**AQA GCSE ART ASSESSMENT GRID**

