

LOWER SCHOOL GRADE DESCRIPTORS

ART

The type of work produced in the Lower School and the way a project is completed reflects GCSE. The quality and quantity of work produced increases over time, but the method of producing a portfolio of work remains much the same throughout. The sketchbook is a journal of the project. Work is also created outside of the sketchbook, but every decision, experiment and observation made along the way should be recorded. Annotations (brief written notes) should be made by the pupil on every page to explain and describe decisions, thoughts and ideas that cannot be shown easily using images. *Every page the book must have at least one annotation*, indicating pupil perception of current position, how it can be improved, how it links to other areas studied and *what was learned by doing it*.

YEAR 7	4	The baseline for most year 7 Pupils. Work lacks thought and is either rushed, messy or clumsy. Early Year 7 work can sometimes attract this level, simply because the Pupil has not yet developed the skills necessary to make a successful Artwork. There may be little or no evidence of research in written work. Research may simply be copied with little thought. Work has some degree of skill and control but there may still be errors of judgement caused by a lack of experience and / or control of the materials.
	5	Evidence of growing skill and control. Pupils are starting to develop confidence with materials but some aspects of the work can still appear hesitant or clumsy. Research starts to consider the context of Artist's work but understanding may not always be clear.
YEAR 8	6	Pupils have developed control of the materials and are using them in an appropriate context. Some parts of the work may still be unrefined, but the work is successful for the most part. Research is good with the context of the work being fully understood. The aesthetics of the work studied are also considered and analysed.
YEAR 9	7	Pupils are starting to exploit the potential of materials. They are experimenting independently to see how the materials can be used to create the best effect. Nearly all of their Art work will be successful. The sketchbook will be used as a tool and will contain some tests and a range of ideas and potential outcomes. Research and analysis is mature and considers all aspects of the work, including the concept / idea / meaning.
	EP	Pupil's work will show a very high level of control and consideration for aesthetic quality. Pupils will understand the potential of materials because they will extensively play and experiment with materials both inside and outside of their sketchbook. Pupils will produce far more than the required amount of work, using the Art rooms at lunch time and after school. They are interested in the subject for its own sake. They are undertaking wider reading about Artists researched in lessons, because they are genuinely interested in learning why and how they made their work. Pupils will be visiting museums and galleries of their own accord and will make notes on these visits in their sketchbook. Pupils actively participate in discussion and may even help other Pupils with their Art work, both in and outside of lessons. Research considers the deeper meaning of the work as well as the implications of it's meaning within society (how others will view and interpret the work).