

Art - Key Stage 3 Level Descriptors

	Assessment Foci 1 -	AF2 -	AF3 -	AF4 -
Level 8	Pupils develop, express and realise ideas in often original ways, confidently exploiting what they learn from taking creative risks and from their understanding of creative processes.	They exploit the potential of materials and processes independently, making both intuitive and analytical judgements to develop and realise their intentions.	They analyse, engage with, and question critically aspects of their own and others' work, identifying how beliefs, values and meanings are expressed and shared.	They confidently express reasoned judgements about their own work and that of others, demonstrating analytical, critical and contextual understanding.
Level 7	Pupils learn from taking creative risks that help them to form and develop their ideas and to create purposeful, imaginative work with some originality.	They demonstrate confident understanding and use of materials, processes and the formal elements, combining these thoughtfully to realise their intentions.	They analyse and comment on their own and others' work, appreciating how codes and conventions are used to express ideas in different genres, styles and traditions.	They explain how and why their understanding of the work of others affects their own ideas, values and practice.
Level 6	Pupils accept creative risks, exploring and experimenting with ideas independently and inventively and using a range of appropriate resources imaginatively to develop, design and make work.	They apply their technical knowledge and skills to realise their intentions, using the qualities of materials, processes and the formal elements effectively.	They interpret and explain how ideas and meanings are conveyed by artists, craftspeople and designers, recognising the varied characteristics of different historical, social and cultural contexts.	They provide a reasoned evaluation of the purpose and meaning of their own work and that of others.
Level 5	Pupils take some creative risks when exploring, experimenting and responding to ideas and selecting information and resources in order to develop their work.	When designing and making, they develop and use their technical knowledge and skills to manipulate the qualities of materials, processes and the formal elements appropriately.	They consider and discuss the ideas, methods and approaches that are used by artists, craftspeople and designers, relating these to both context and purpose.	They evaluate their own work and that of others, reflecting on their own view of its purpose and meaning.
Level 4	Pupils use a variety of approaches to explore and experiment with ideas, information and resources in order to develop their intentions.	They investigate and develop a range of practical skills and use the qualities of materials and processes purposefully to suit their intentions when designing and making.	They compare and comment on differing ideas, methods and approaches used by artists, craftspeople and designers, relating these to the contexts in which the work was made.	They discuss their own work and that of others and consider how they might adapt and refine their ideas, skills and processes.
Level 3				

Art - Key Stage 4 Grade Descriptors

	Assessment Foci 1 -	AF2 -	AF3 -	AF4 -
Grade A*	Undertakes a wide range of in-depth investigations that provide well-considered, focused and insightful links to the development of sophisticated, expressive and imaginative ideas Demonstrates an excellent understanding of a wide variety of source material used for research and shows perceptive cultural understanding through independent, well-informed responses	Shows decisive, focused and well-considered refinement of ideas Demonstrates a very strong and sustained ability to experiment with a wide range of media, materials, techniques and processes Selects resources perceptively and imaginatively; choice of resources is clearly appropriate	Demonstrates a very strong, sustained and focused ability to record detailed observations and insights Demonstrates excellent understanding through well-considered and perceptive observations and insights that show sophisticated and imaginative connections to intentions	Demonstrates a very strong and sustained ability to present an informed and meaningful personal response, showing focused, in-depth and well-considered critical and analytical understanding Demonstrates an expressive, imaginative and sophisticated realisation of intentions Makes perceptive and insightful connections between visual, written, oral and other elements
Grade A	Undertakes a wide range of in-depth investigations that provide well-considered, focused and insightful links to the development of sophisticated, expressive and imaginative ideas Demonstrates an excellent understanding of a wide variety of source material used for research and shows perceptive cultural understanding through independent, well-informed responses	Shows decisive, focused and well-considered refinement of ideas Demonstrates a very strong and sustained ability to experiment with a wide range of media, materials, techniques and processes Selects resources perceptively and imaginatively; choice of resources is clearly appropriate	Demonstrates a very strong, sustained and focused ability to record detailed observations and insights Demonstrates excellent understanding through well-considered and perceptive observations and insights that show sophisticated and imaginative connections to intentions	Demonstrates a very strong and sustained ability to present an informed and meaningful personal response, showing focused, in-depth and well-considered critical and analytical understanding Demonstrates an expressive, imaginative and sophisticated realisation of intentions Makes perceptive and insightful connections between visual, written, oral and other elements
Grade B	Undertakes a range of purposeful investigations that provide appropriate and meaningful links to the development of independent and imaginative ideas Demonstrates a strong and consistent understanding of a wide variety of source material used for research and shows strong cultural understanding through personal and independent responses	Shows purposeful and considered refinement of ideas Demonstrates strong and consistent ability to experiment with a wide range of media, materials, techniques and processes Selects resources independently and thoughtfully; choice of resources is appropriate	Demonstrates a strong and consistent ability to record observations and insights Demonstrates strong understanding through considered and meaningful observations and insights that show purposeful connections to intentions	Demonstrates a strong and consistent ability to present an informed and meaningful personal response, showing thoughtful and consistent critical and analytical understanding Demonstrates a strong and imaginative realisation of intentions Makes considered and meaningful connections between visual, written, oral and other elements
Grade C	Undertakes sound investigations that provide relevant links to the development of informed ideas Demonstrates a good understanding of a range of source material used for research and shows sound cultural understanding	Shows effective and relevant refinement of ideas Demonstrates sound ability to experiment with a range of media, materials, techniques and processes Selects most resources independently; choice of resources is informed and usually appropriate	Demonstrates a sound ability to record observations and insights Demonstrates good understanding through informed and relevant observations and insights that show effective connections to intentions	informed and meaningful personal response, showing good critical and analytical understanding Demonstrates an effective realisation of intentions Makes informed and relevant connections between visual, written, oral and other elements
Grade D	Undertakes basic investigations that provide some superficial links to obvious and predictable ideas Demonstrates some superficial understanding of source material used for research and shows some cultural understanding	Shows basic and superficial refinement of ideas Demonstrates some ability to experiment with a small range of media, materials, techniques and processes Shows some ability to select resources independently; choice of resources is predictable and sometimes inappropriate	Demonstrates some ability to record observations and insights Demonstrates basic understanding through obvious and predictable observations and insights that show some connection to intentions	Demonstrates some ability to present an informed and meaningful personal response, showing basic critical and analytical understanding Demonstrates a basic realisation of intentions Makes obvious and predictable connections between visual, written, oral and other elements
Grade E	Undertakes limited investigations that provide literal links to simplistic ideas Demonstrates a limited understanding of source material used for research showing minimal cultural understanding	Shows limited and minimal refinement of ideas Demonstrates minimal ability to experiment with few media, materials, techniques and processes Shows limited ability to select resources independently; choice of resources is minimal and weak	Demonstrates a limited ability to record observations and insights Demonstrates weak understanding through observations and insights that are disconnected from intentions	Demonstrates limited ability to present an informed and meaningful personal response, showing minimal critical and analytical understanding Demonstrates minimal realisation of intentions Makes simplistic and literal connections between visual, written, oral and other elements
Grade F	Undertakes limited investigations that provide literal links to simplistic ideas Demonstrates a limited understanding of source material used for research showing minimal cultural understanding	Shows limited and minimal refinement of ideas Demonstrates minimal ability to experiment with few media, materials, techniques and processes Shows limited ability to select resources independently; choice of resources is minimal and weak	Demonstrates a limited ability to record observations and insights Demonstrates weak understanding through observations and insights that are disconnected from intentions	Demonstrates limited ability to present an informed and meaningful personal response, showing minimal critical and analytical understanding Demonstrates minimal realisation of intentions Makes simplistic and literal connections between visual, written, oral and other elements
Grade G	Undertakes limited investigations that provide literal links to simplistic ideas Demonstrates a limited understanding of source material used for research showing minimal cultural understanding	Shows limited and minimal refinement of ideas Demonstrates minimal ability to experiment with few media, materials, techniques and processes Shows limited ability to select resources independently; choice of resources is minimal and weak	Demonstrates a limited ability to record observations and insights Demonstrates weak understanding through observations and insights that are disconnected from intentions	Demonstrates limited ability to present an informed and meaningful personal response, showing minimal critical and analytical understanding Demonstrates minimal realisation of intentions Makes simplistic and literal connections between visual, written, oral and other elements

Art - Key Stage 5 Grade Descriptors

	Assessment Foci 1 -	AF2 -	AF3 -	AF4 -
Grade A*	A2 convincingly communicates evidence of an inventive development of ideas through investigations; perceptively analyses objects, ideas, images and artefacts; demonstrates evidence of a mature understanding of purposes, meanings and their related contexts; quality of language is mature and fluid and is fully engaged with informing development of ideas and images.	A2 communicates evidence of an inventive exploration of the use of materials, processes techniques and resources; convincingly selects and demonstrates a mature understanding of reviewing and refining ideas, successfully identifying and interpreting relationships.	A2 perceptively records and analyses images, objects and artefacts; evidence of a mature understanding of intentions, meanings and their related contexts; quality of language is perceptive and analytical fully aiding the recording process.	A2 presents evidence of a personal, creative, mature engaged and informed response realising intentions; fluently and perceptively articulates the connections between visual, written, oral or other elements; perceptive understanding and use of appropriate language..
Grade A	A2 convincingly communicates evidence of an inventive development of ideas through investigations; perceptively analyses objects, ideas, images and artefacts; demonstrates evidence of a mature understanding of purposes, meanings and their related contexts; quality of language is mature and fluid and is fully engaged with informing development of ideas and images.	A2 communicates evidence of an inventive exploration of the use of materials, processes techniques and resources; convincingly selects and demonstrates a mature understanding of reviewing and refining ideas, successfully identifying and interpreting relationships.	A2 perceptively records and analyses images, objects and artefacts; evidence of a mature understanding of intentions, meanings and their related contexts; quality of language is perceptive and analytical fully aiding the recording process.	A2 presents evidence of a personal, creative, mature engaged and informed response realising intentions; fluently and perceptively articulates the connections between visual, written, oral or other elements; perceptive understanding and use of appropriate language..
Grade B	A2 communicates evidence of a confident development of ideas through investigations with an equally confident analysis of objects, ideas, images and artefacts; demonstrates evidence of a detailed and sustained understanding of purposes, meanings and their related contexts; quality of language has confident structure and informs and clearly explains ideas and intentions.	A2 communicates evidence of a confident and detailed exploration in the use of materials, techniques, processes and resources; confidently selects and demonstrates a sustained understanding of reviewing and refining ideas.	A2 confidently records observations, ideas and insights in visual and other forms; demonstrating an informed and sustained understanding of intentions, meanings and their related contexts; quality of language has well-organised structure that confidently aids recording and observations.	A2 presents evidence of a confident and informed response in realising intentions; confidently articulates sustained connections between visual, written, oral or other elements; confident understanding and use of appropriate language.
Grade C	A2 develops ideas through coherent investigations by a thoughtful analysis of objects, ideas, images and artefacts; shows relevant understanding of purpose and meaning; quality of language has good grammar and spelling and gives clarity.	A2 develops a coherent exploration in the use of appropriate materials, techniques, processes and resources; presents a relevant understanding of reviewing and refining ideas.	A2 coherently records observations, ideas and insights in visual and other forms; demonstrates relevant understanding of intentions, meanings and their related contexts; quality of language good in structure and clearly informs recording process.	A2 presents a personal, coherent, response and demonstrates a thoughtful realisation of intentions; explains some relevant connections between visual, written, oral or other elements; coherent understanding and use of appropriate language.
Grade D	A2 provides a basic development of ideas through investigations by an uneven analysis of objects, ideas, images and artefacts; some awareness of purpose and meaning; quality of language aids development in a basic way but is inaccurate and poorly structured.	A2 provides a basic exploration in the use of materials, processes and resources; shows basic awareness in understanding with some refining of ideas.	A2 shows a basic recording of observations, ideas and insights in visual and other forms; quality of language relates some elements of observed response but in a basic form with inaccurate spelling.	A2 presents a basic personal response; with some accurate realisation of intentions; demonstrates some connections between visual, written, oral or other elements; basic understanding and use of appropriate subject language.
Grade E	A2 shows a partial development of ideas through investigations; demonstrates a limited understanding of objects, ideas, images and artefacts; shows an incomplete understanding of purpose; quality of language fails to aid development and has limited grammar and spelling.	A2 shows a partial exploration of materials, processes and resources, demonstrating a limited selection and use of ideas.	A2 partially records observations, ideas and insights in visual and other forms; quality of language uneven and disconnected from task with limited grammar and spelling.	A2 presents personal response that partially realises intentions in a limited way; makes uneven connections between visual, written, oral or other elements; partial understanding and use of appropriate subject language.