



Art Grade Descriptors

Strand	Developing	Proficient	Confident	Mastery
Observational Drawing	Draws simple forms with limited accuracy; basic line and shape.	Draws from observation with improving proportion and detail.	Draws accurately from observation, showing tone, texture and form.	Highly accurate drawings with refined control and intention.
Use Of Line, Tone and Texture	Experiments with line and tone inconsistently.	Uses line and tone purposefully to describe form.	Controls line, tone and texture to create depth and contrast.	Manipulates line, tone and texture with sophistication and expression.
Colour Theory and Application	Identifies basic colours. Limited media control.	Uses primary, secondary and complementary colours appropriately.	Applies colour theory confidently to create harmony or contrast.	Uses colour with understanding to enhance meaning.
Technical Control with Materials and Techniques	Tries limited materials with guidance.	Uses a range of materials competently and safely.	Selects and controls materials independently.	Combines techniques innovatively with confidence.
Composition	Simple arrangements with limited spatial awareness.	Organised compositions with some balance and focus.	Thoughtful compositions considering balance and scale.	Dynamic compositions that guide the viewer intentionally.
Recording Ideas	Basic sketches or notes.	Records ideas using sketches and annotations.	Clear, thoughtful recording showing development.	Extensive recording with insight and refinement. Annotations show critical understanding.
Contextual Understanding, Analysis and Evaluation	Identifies basic facts about artists. Simple opinions about work.	Describes how artists use materials. Explains strengths and improvements.	Analyses artists' work and links to own practice. Evaluates using art vocabulary.	Critically evaluates contexts to inform own work. Critical reflection with precise justification.
Independence and Resilience	Needs frequent support.	Works independently for short periods.	Manages challenges independently.	Autonomous, resilient, reflective learner.