

Creatures of the Deep: Formal Elements and Mixed Media

Module/Unit of Learning	Taught During	What will students learn?	How does this help to build a broad and strong foundation?	Links to other Subjects
Skill Building: Formal Elements & Mark Making	Autumn Term	<p>Students learn how to handle materials confidently. They develop pencil control, tone, shading and texture, and explore different mark-making techniques using pencils, pens, paint and oil pastel.</p> <p>They also learn how to look closely at objects and record what they see through simple observational drawing.</p>	<p>This term builds the essential technical foundations needed for success in Art.</p> <p>Students learn how to make controlled and intentional choices with media, giving them the confidence to develop more expressive and complex work later in the year.</p>	<p>Oracy: explaining techniques and giving feedback.</p> <p>Mathematics: symmetry, 2D/3D shape, geometric vs organic patterns.</p>
Artist Studies: Vincent van Gogh (supporting) & Yelland James (main)	Spring Term	<p>Students learn how artists use mark-making, colour and surface to create meaning.</p> <p>They study Van Gogh to understand expressive brushwork and emotional use of colour.</p> <p>They then explore Yelland James' mixed-media work, learning how to layer materials, create rhythm and build visual texture.</p> <p>Students practise taking inspiration from an artist rather than copying directly.</p>	<p>This phase develops artistic thinking — students begin to understand how ideas shape artwork and how to make purposeful stylistic choices.</p> <p>They gain confidence analysing artwork, talking about intention and applying influence to their own studies.</p>	<p>Oracy: discussing and evaluating artwork.</p> <p>English: visualising language in <i>The Kraken</i>.</p> <p>History/Cultural Understanding: comparing historical and contemporary art.</p>
Final Project: Mixed-Media Card Relief Outcome	Summer Term	<p>Students combine their skills to create a layered card relief artwork based on sea-inspired forms.</p> <p>They make composition decisions, blend and apply paint with control, layer card to create depth, and use mixed-media mark-making (e.g., sgraffito) to add detail and texture.</p>	<p>This final project brings together skill, creativity and independence.</p> <p>Students learn how to plan, refine and resolve an artwork from start to finish, preparing them for more complex projects in Year 8 and beyond.</p>	<p>Oracy: reflecting on choices and presenting outcomes.</p> <p>English: interpreting descriptive imagery.</p> <p>Mathematics: spatial planning and composition.</p>