



5 hours in... FINE ART

Research shows that the most successful students (i.e. those that make the most progress and get the highest grades) are doing between 20 and 25 hours of independent study per week by the end of Year 13. That may seem a lot, but it's something that you would build up to over the course of your A-Levels. In Year 12, we're talking something more like 15 hours per week. This equates to roughly 5 hours of independent study per A-Level per subject.

Remember that your independent study is divided into three types – **Consolidation, Reactive and Proactive**. How this is divided may vary from week to week or between subjects but one approach could be:

Consolidation - 45mins

After the lesson, you should consider your practical work carefully. Any new skills or materials that you tried in that lesson should be evaluated and this should inform the planning for your future pieces.

Reactive – 3hrs

This is your 'homework'. Each of your teachers should give you at least 1 hours' worth of homework each week. This could be linked to upcoming exams, preparation work for coursework or coursework that is currently being completed. This will be set research tasks, specific tasks missing from your sketchbook or additional tasks that will take your project forward.

If you find this takes more than 1 hour, that's fine, you can take this from the proactive phase (not from the consolidation phase though). Equally, if you find you finish your reactive work quickly, spend more time on your proactive work.

Proactive – 1hr 15mins

This is the section that will broaden and deepen your overall understanding of the subject you are studying. It will not necessarily involve work that has been set by your teacher, but instead it is about you doing the extra practice questions, reading articles, watching videos, TED talks etc. In Fine Art, this might contain some of the following Complete a set of practice past paper questions – available from the exam board website (1 hour)

- **Explore your current theme further by taking extra photographs, drawing from them or using them to inspire your future pieces of work.**
- **Visiting a gallery or exhibition to enhance your understanding of specific artists work or themes/movements that interest you.**
- **Experiment with a range of materials, trial and test different ways to produce artwork that links closely to what you have been doing in your lessons.**
- **Interview people about artwork, find out how they create it, what their opinion is and use this to inform your own ideas.**
- **Read articles about your chosen theme and find out more about the artists/artworks involved or influenced.**

Useful links

<https://www.studentartguide.com/>

<https://vasw.org.uk/whats-on>

<https://www.tate.org.uk/>