

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Happy New Year!

The Heads of Subject in the Faculty have provided an update on what students will be studying and what they can expect in their subjects this term. We thank you for your continued support as we work together to help your student make the most of the opportunities ahead. Please click on the hyperlinks below to navigate directly to the subjects relevant to them.

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Kind regards,

Laurie Huggett-Wilde

Director of Faculty - Arts

Art & Design (Triple)	Back
This term, Extended Diploma students will complete their optional unit to enhance their portfolios. Students can choose from the following options: • Digital Image Capture and Editing (Advertising) • 3D Modelmaking (Prop or Model) • Painting (Layers) • Concept Art for Games (Apocalyptic Game genre). On completion of this they will then embark on their own branding campaign. This requires students to develop materials for self-promotion, such as an illustrated CV, branded products and visual content for social media. These 60 Guided Learning Hours (GLH) units will prepare students for their 70-hour exam schedule, which starts on Feb 27th and includes: • Unit 6: Managing a Client Brief • Unit 7: Developing and Realising Creative Intentions Together, these two exam units account for 47% of the second-year qualification. The themes for the exams will be announced closer to the exam timetable.	
This term students may notice an increase in independent study with attention on specialist skills and visual recording. The exams require excellent design skills so visual communication is key. Students will need to develop their ability to condense visual information into Presentations (PowerPoint) to convey their responses for the exam theme and brief. All lessons will be timed and research monitored.	
Independent study this term: The amount of independent study will vary depending on the option unit students choose to pursue. As exams begin, there will be a greater focus on research tied to real-world scenarios. Students are encouraged to explore a wider range of locations to support and develop their ideas. They are expected to dedicate approximately 12 hours to independent work outside of lesson time.	
Pro-study this term: Students are expected to use this in the normal way during their optional unit but are limited to pro study once the exam schedule is underway.	
Next assessment(s): Optional Unit 19th Jan Optional Unit – Aim A: 26th Feb	
Further links: Students are able to use the art studio at any time during their free periods. Drop-in workshops can be attended throughout the academic year.	Other reminders: Be prepared to visit locations at weekends and holidays to support primary visual research.

Contemporary Fine Art	Back
The Spring Term will see the students complete their coursework unit, worth 60% of the A Level, with the final EDUQAS submission the week of January 26. No coursework can be submitted after this date, EAAs do not apply for practical coursework. The 10-week Examination project starts February 3 in class and culminates in a 15-hour exam where the final piece will be made in early May, dates tbc. The 10-week exam project is a full sketchbook of the question chosen from an exam paper of 12 questions. This sketchbook classwork is 75% of the examination grade and has a strictly set scheme of work requirements each week for lessons and homework. <i>Please note that A Level Arts students do not have Study Leave from their A Level Arts lessons during the college February Mocks as the Fine Art lessons are their actual examination for this subject.</i> Our SharePoint site continues to include all set work with examples, PowerPoints, videos, and visual aids used in class to support personal study. Additionally, it provides details of our wider Arts curriculum, competitions, and careers within the Arts. There is also Boost section with further reading, videos, seminars, and conferences for students to enrich their studies in this subject as well as a How Artists Learn section full of creative metacognition hints for study and artists led 5-minute meditations.	
This term, students may notice the change in emphasis upon exam sketchbooks. Emphasis will be placed on book craft skills for the exam question chosen with increasingly sophisticated, rigorous work. Students are expected to fully engage in each lesson task to refine and complete successful work which covers the required Assessment Objectives for high grades in the exam process.	
Independent study this term: Students are required to complete weekly exam homework involving 5 hours' set work, often necessary for the completion of next week's exam practical tasks in class. Materials are available in the studios during Personal Study lessons, with a timetable of free rooms posted on each studio door. Students seeking to learn new processes or needing help with homework can attend workshops led by the Head of Art, also signposted on each studio door.	
Pro-study this term: For Pro-study this term, students should use their time wisely to complete the weekly research and written annotations or critical studies set during each week of the examination project. It is an essential contribution to the written content in their examination project.	
Next assessment(s): Final EDUQAS coursework submission; 60% of A Level- week of January 26, 2026. Exam submission; 40% of A Level – May 2026 at the end of students' practical 15-hour exam.	
Further links: Scheme of work, workshop timetable and full resources are available to students through the subject Share Point.	Other reminders: Coursework final EDUQAS submission deadline last subject lesson week of January 26, 2026, in D101. The exam starts February 2 in class, 15-hour final exam in early May.

Dance	Back
What will they be doing in class? This term students will be refining their knowledge of Rambert Dance Company (Richard Alston, Christopher Bruce and Siobhan Davies) and Independent Company Dance Scene in Britain 2000 – present time (Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui, Akram Khan and Jasmin Vardimon). Student will be building their knowledge and understanding of exam questions with particular focus on 25mark question. Practical, students will continue to work on creating their group choreography to their chose AQA set stimulus, as well as refining their solo and quartet in preparation for their exam in March.	
Outside of lessons: Engage with professional work and live performance work – Red Shoes Matthew Bourne (Jan) Chichester University Dance Experience Day LIPA (Liverpool Institute of Performing Art) workshop ROM Theatre Arts workshop Performance in the Annual Dance Show. New Ground performance at Horsham Dance festival and So You Want to Dance Develop comprehensive revision notes and flashcards in preparation for Written Exam in May. Utilise past papers and teacher feedback to enhance exam preparation. Intervention workshop Tuesday lunch time – for one to one or small group support and revision.	
What should you expect to see them doing at home? The homework assignments are shared weekly in Teams and are focused predominantly on developing and retaining knowledge of the practitioners of both the independent dance scene in Britain and Rambert dance company. They will continue to develop their ideas and approach to the choreography right up to the exam in March. They should also be dedicating time to rehearsal, reflecting on their progress relating to physical and interpretive skills for their solo and quartet performances.	
Pro-study this term: Pro Study tasks communicated via teams will contain further reading, videos, podcasts and documentaries for students to enrich their studies in this subject.	
Next assessment(s): Mock exams – Finished performance of choreography, Quartet and solos and full paper short answer questions, essay on Rambert, essay on ICDSIB and essay on Sutra. February Final practical exam of solos, quartets and group Choreography – March.	
Further links:	Other reminders: • On SHAREPOINT the focus will be the resources under the YEAR two tab. • Please feel free to email the Head of Subject – Amy Coughlan ayc@collyers.ac.uk

Drama & Theatre Studies	Back
What will they be doing in class? Students will concentrate on their Scripted Practical Exam performance, which accounts for 20% of their overall grade. Alongside this, we will explore "The Crucible", examining its themes, characters, and setting in depth. Students will also revisit Paper 1 content through mock exams, providing an opportunity to reinforce their understanding and practice exam techniques. Additionally, we will delve into the social, cultural, and historical contexts of the play, enriching their analysis and comprehension.	
What will they be doing outside of lessons? The upcoming term will be filled with enriching activities designed to foster independent learning. Students will undertake an in-depth study of "The Crucible", engaging with various adaptations to gain a comprehensive understanding of the play. They will also explore the Puritan Myth and McCarthyism, delving into the historical and social contexts that shaped the work. Additionally, students will refine their skills through scripted exam preparations, with a focus on style and role interpretation, providing a platform to showcase their growth and creativity.	
What should you expect to see them doing at home? This term, students will have the opportunity to practice their essay writing skills through mock Crucible essays. These essays will cover all three parts of the Written Exam 2. In addition, students will work on their coursework, which consists of three short essays, each one page in length. These essays are connected to their practical exam and serve as program notes for the visiting examiner. They are also marked and must be submitted by January.	
Next Term's assessment(s): Exam Prep: For Written Exam 1 and 2.	
Further links: Workshops:  Workshop Timetable	Other reminders: • On SharePoint the main focus will be the resources under the EXAM TWO tab. • Please feel free to email the Head of Subject – Neil Kendall nk@collyers.ac.uk

English Literature	Back
This term in English Lit we will be completing our poetry NEAs (coursework), which is worth 10% of the overall A level. The date of submission for the poetry coursework is in the final week of January. As well as coursework, students will continue studying the novels <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> and <i>Harvest</i> in preparation for the 'protest' exam (Paper 2). The English Lit mock exam will take place on Monday 9 February.	
This term students may notice increased focus on exam technique in lessons and Pro-Study in preparation for the exams in May. Workshops will continue to run with a similar focus. Students should be encouraged to discuss with their teachers which texts and tasks they need most support with.	

Independent study this term: Students should be reading over their set texts from year one, reading over their old essays and feedback, and attempting to re-write paragraphs of their own work, applying the feedback given by their teachers.	
Pro-study this term: continues to concentrate on supplementing in-class learning, although will also support preparation for the Lit mock exams with peer-marked essay tasks.	
Next assessment(s): Mock exams - Monday 10 February	
Further links:	Other reminders: Please remember to purchase the Pro-Study booklets via MyProgress or by paying directly at the finance office - £5 for printing costs. Any subject queries can be directed to the Head of English – Paul Abbott – pja@collyers.ac.uk

English Lang&Lit	Back
This term in English Lang/Lit we will be continuing to study <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> and completing the coursework projects. The first draft of coursework is due for submission in the first week of February . The English mock exam will take place the following week on Monday 9 February . It will consist of a <i>Streetcar</i> question, a <i>Handmaid</i> question and a Duffy question. It will be a three-hour exam.	
This term students may notice increased focus on exam technique in lessons and Pro-Study in preparation for the exams in May. Workshops will continue to run with a similar focus. Students should be encouraged to discuss with their teachers which texts and tasks they need most support with.	
Independent study this term: Students should be reading over their set texts from year one, reading over their old essays and feedback, and attempting to re-write paragraphs of their own work, applying the feedback given by their teachers.	
Pro-study this term: continues to concentrate on supplementing in-class learning, although will also support preparation for the mock exam with peer-marked essay tasks.	
Next assessment(s): Mock exams Monday 10 February	
Further links:	Other reminders: Please remember to purchase the Pro-Study booklets via MyProgress or by paying directly at the finance office - £5 for printing costs. Any subject queries can be directed to the Head of English – Paul Abbott – pja@collyers.ac.uk

English AS	Back
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This term in AS English Language the two new topics will be Occupational Language and Dialect. For both of these modules, students will be learning about new language theories as well as reinforcing the theories introduced before Christmas. The English mock exam will take place at 9:00am on Monday 10 February. It will consist of a Paper One three-question exam.	
This term students may notice an emphasis in incorporating theory into written tasks. This is an essential part of how to achieve well in Paper Two. For Paper One, we will continue to practice close textual analysis with a focus on understanding how to identify terminology and discuss its functions.	
Independent study this term: Using the SharePoint and teacher resources to revise the different theorists.	
Pro-study this term: Continuation with language quizzes.	
Next assessment(s): English mock exam will take place at 9:00am on Monday 10 February.	
Further links:	Other reminders:

EPQ	Back
This term, students will finalise and compile their EPQ submissions. The term will begin with students presenting their projects to the class. Once these presentations are complete, they will focus on drafting and submitting their final reflection on the entire EPQ process, followed by printing and collating their final submission for assessment. Students are expected to attend all EPQ sessions until their work is fully submitted and approved by their supervisor. Once this is completed, they will be placed on study leave and will no longer need to attend EPQ lessons.	
This term students may notice that once presentations are done, there is only one final task – reflection. This is important and should be given plenty of time and attention, but there is pressure to complete EPQ soon after February half term. Whilst this can seem a little challenging, the timing is key to minimise the impact on examined subjects and to ensure students can turn their attention to their summer exams as soon as possible. Every effort should be made to meet the deadlines, to ease strain on the students further down the line.	
Independent study this term: Students should be spending approximately 2 hours of independent study on their EPQ, outside of the lessons. This will include preparation and practice of their presentation and work on the final tasks in their logbooks. All EPQ assignments are set centrally on Teams, but students should manage their own projects and workload.	
Pro-study this term: As above.	
Next assessment(s): N/A – there are no assessments in EPQ	
Further links:	Other reminders:

Workshops are available every Wednesday at lunch time and in A3 at 14.05 in B103.	Final submission of complete EPQ project: W/c 23 Feb 2026 Workshops are available every Wednesday at lunch time and A3 at 14.05 in B103.
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French	Back
This term in French, we will continue the revision of the film <i>La Haine</i>, which should take about two weeks. In these lessons, we will review social, cultural and political context, characters, themes and director's techniques. We will also focus on essay planning and essay writing with an essay completed in class in exam conditions. We will also study and discuss the topics of the political engagement of young people (Unit 4 – <i>Les ados, le droit de vote et l'engagement politique</i>) and strikes and protests (Unit 5 – <i>Manifestations, grèves - à qui le pouvoir</i>). In Unit 4 students will examine the French political system and its evolution and discuss arguments relating to the vote. We will also discuss engagement levels of young people and their influence on politics, as well as the future of politics and political engagement. In Unit 5, we will explore the important role of trade unions in France, consider different methods of protesting and discuss different attitudes to strikes, protests and other political tensions. Each topic includes a strong focus on vocabulary building and grammar practice. Students will develop their understanding of those topics of study whilst learning exam techniques to improve the four skills (reading, listening, speaking and writing). One lesson will be in the computer room to allow students to work on their listening skills, and there will also be one speaking lesson to discuss the topics of study and prepare for students' individual projects.	
This term students may notice that they are expected to discuss and answer in French. The students may notice that the speed of delivery continues like in the first year and expectations are high for work completed on time. Students will also carry out work in class under exam conditions. This should give the students a feel for how much time they can or should spend on each task in the exam.	
Independent study this term: Homework is set twice a week (on Mondays and Thursdays) on Teams. Students will be expected to correct their own work (corrections available on SharePoint), but work will be checked by teachers at the beginning of the class and some of the students' work will be collected weekly. Due to the speed of delivery and its heavy content it is important the students learn vocabulary and grammar on a regular basis (not just before the tests). Students are also strongly encouraged to immerse themselves in the language. Watching films in French (available on Sharepoint), listening to free podcasts such as Innerfrench.com regularly will greatly improve listening skills.	
Pro-study this term: Pro-study is set on Teams and is due on Fridays. The schedule and resources are on Sharepoint. Students will be revising first year topics focusing on translation in both into French and into English.	
Next assessment(s): French mock essay – 6th February (in-class) French mock exam – 12th February Speaking mock exam – beginning of March (date to be confirmed) Regular vocabulary tests on Monday, followed up by a re-test on Thursday if necessary. End of unit tests take place every 3-4 weeks. Next end of unit assessment (Unit 3) will take place w/c 5th January.	

Further links: Workshop timetable: Thursdays 1.20pm-2.05pm	Other reminders: Check Teams for your assignments and use SharePoint to access all your resources French film club – Friday enrichment Paris trip – 12-15 March
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German	Back
This term in German we will be finishing racism (Unit3), cover Union Deutschland und die Europäische Union (Unit4), Die Politik und die Jugend (Unit5) and Die Wiedervereinigung und ihre Folgen (Unit6). We will finish racism in the first week and discuss how people resist racism and show moral courage to fight against it. We then continue with our remaining units and we will discuss how the EU has evolved and Germany's role within it; discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the EU for Germany and understand the impact of EU expansion on Germany; we will discuss the ways and extent to which young people engage in politics, discuss priorities for youth politics in Germany, discuss the priorities of young people and the role of pressure groups; discuss the events and developments which led to German reunification; discuss and contrast the desired and actual outcomes of reunification and discuss and compare the culture and identity of the old and new federal states. In addition, we will finish our literature, repeat the film and write essays under exam conditions each week. The students are expected to continue with their Translation workshop to improve their grammatical and translation skills.	
This term students may notice that the lessons will have to be conducted in German, but the grammar lessons remain in English. Students are expected to discuss and answer in German! The students may notice that the speed of delivery continues like in the first year and expectations are high for work completed on time. Students will also carry out work in class more and more under exam conditions. This should give the students a feel for how much time they can or should spend on each task in the exam.	
Independent study this term: It is highly expected of students to do individual research, to watch or read the news in German at least once a week and do some extra reading. Students should engage with the SharePoint site and use the resources given e.g. News, Films, extra Grammar etc.	
Pro-study this term: The schedule and material/documents can be found on the SharePoint site, but I have also uploaded the documents onto TEAMS as an assignment with a deadline. Students have 2 weeks to complete the document which consists of grammar and vocabulary from the first year, and some documents consist of grammar essays built on the second year's topics. All the activities should give the students the confidence in applying the grammar and understanding it. Every 2 weeks students should hand in a hardcopy and download the next one.	
Next assessment(s): There will be regular vocabulary tests and an end of unit grammar test. 11 February (Internal MOCK) The third Assessment PR3 (MOCK) will be in the week commencing 2 March.	
Further links: Workshop timetable – individual support will be given as required	Other reminders: Students should go over the first year's material and do as many practice papers as they can. Students should also be

	aware what goes on in Germany or the German speaking countries and make sure they use the current issues in their lessons. It would be a good idea to do exam style papers and past papers.
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Geography	Back
This term, Geography students will begin by continuing their study of the Carbon Cycle, before transitioning to the topic of Migration a few weeks before Half Term. In the final week before Half Term, students will complete their formal Geography mock exam. After Half Term, the focus will shift to the Synoptic paper, which challenges students to draw connections across the various topics they have studied so far. This focus not only prepares students for Paper 3 of their final exam but also serves as an effective revision tool, reinforcing their understanding of key content.	
This term students may notice that their teachers are pushing them to revise first year content, as they will be examined in the summer on content that they studied as far back as September and October 2024!	
Independent study this term: Students need to be revisiting first year content, as well as revising for their mock before Feb Half Term.	
Pro-study this term: Pro-Study is being used to encourage the additional reading that students need to be doing at A Level. We will be directing students towards interesting reading across the internet, but also asking them to take some detailed notes from the exam board textbook.	
Next assessment(s): Mock exam – week of 9th Feb Migration timed essay – week of 2nd March Timed paper 3 – week of 13th April	
Further links:	Other reminders:

Graphic Communication	Back
The Spring Term will see the students complete their coursework unit, worth 60% of the A Level, with the final EDUQAS submission the week of January 26. No coursework can be submitted after this date, EAAs do not apply for practical coursework. The 10-week Examination project starts February 3 in class and culminates in a 15-hour exam where the final piece will be made in early May, dates tbc. The 10-week exam project is a full sketchbook of the question chosen from an exam paper of 12 questions. This sketchbook classwork is 75% of the examination grade and has a strictly set scheme of work requirements each week for lessons and homework.	

Please note that A Level Arts students do not have Study Leave from their A Level Arts lessons during the college February Mocks as the Fine Art lessons are their actual examination for this subject.

Our SharePoint site continues to include all set work with examples, PowerPoints, videos, and visual aids used in class to support personal study. Additionally, it provides details of our wider Arts curriculum, competitions, and careers within the Arts. There is also Boost section with further reading, videos, seminars, and conferences for students to enrich their studies in this subject as well as a How Artists Learn section full of creative metacognition hints for study and artists led 5-minute meditations.

This term, students may notice the change in emphasis upon exam sketchbooks. Emphasis will be placed on book craft skills for the exam question chosen with increasingly sophisticated, rigorous work. Students are expected to fully engage in each lesson task to refine and complete successful work which covers the required Assessment Objectives for high grades in the exam process.

Independent study this term: Students are required to complete weekly exam homework involving 5 hours' set work, often necessary for the completion of next week's exam practical tasks in class. Materials are available in the studios during Personal Study lessons, with a timetable of free rooms posted on each studio door. Students seeking to learn new processes or needing help with homework can attend workshops led by the Head of Art, also signposted on each studio door.

Pro-study this term: For Pro-study this term, students should use their time wisely to complete the weekly research and written annotations or critical studies set during each week of the examination project. It is an essential contribution to the written content in their examination project.

Next assessment(s): Final EDUQAS coursework submission; 60% of A Level- week of January 26, 2026. Exam submission; 40% of A Level – May 2026 at the end of students' practical 15-hour exam.

Further links:

Scheme of work, workshop timetable and full resources are available to students through the subject Share Point.

Other reminders: Coursework final EDUQAS

submission deadline last subject lesson week of January 26, D101. The exam starts February 2 in class, 15-hour final exam in early May.

History

[Back](#)

This term in History, students will be focusing on their Paper 3 mock in February which will cover The Radicals, The Chartists, The Trade Union Movement and the Contagious Diseases Acts alongside Breadth 1 & Breadth 2 which focus on the Reform of Parliament. They will also begin the revision lessons on Mao's China & Russia. Students will be focusing on exam skills and revision techniques.

This term students may notice an increase in exam practice activities and that in every lesson there will be a focus on either source skills or essay planning.	
Independent study this term: Students are expected to follow a 50:50 model of learning where students match their lesson hours with independent study time, engaging with weekly reading, exam practice and pro study, as published on the schedule. The schedule will outline weekly deadlines to draft sections of the coursework exam.	
Pro-study this term: This is set weekly on the schedule and on/or Teams and prefaces the lessons. It consists of reading and note-taking from the Edexcel recommended textbook, Protest, Agitation & Parliamentary Reform, 1780 - 1928	
Next assessment(s): Students are assessed regularly. They have weekly content quizzes on Teams and write exam-style paragraphs assessed by the student, peers and teachers. There are four key assessments, teacher assessed and graded each term, with grades recorded in Mark book on MyProgress. All assessments are on the schedule, key assessments indicated in bold font. Their Mock Exam will be on Monday, 9 February in the afternoon.	
Further links:	Other reminders: The 2A Support Workshop is on a Monday lunchtime in V104 and the Intervention Workshop is on a Friday lunchtime in V105.

Law	Back
This term in A-Level Law: students will be finishing off the substantive law, Tort Law and then moving on to study Human Rights.	
This term students may notice: an increased level of difficulty with the Human Rights module. This is because it is international law which includes rules and principles that students will not have come across before.	

Independent study this term: should focus on revision. This will include ensuring they revisit past learning from year 1 in addition to current learning. It is encouraged that students keep a revision folder where they keep revision materials, condensed materials, and continue to revise little and often, using active revision methods.	
Pro-study this term: continues with directed weekly tasks that are set and posted in TEAMS assignments. All pro-study is directly linked with current learning.	
Next assessment(s): Students are assessed in a variety of ways, including teacher Q & A, peer discussion and quick fact check tests, through to more formal assessments such as in-class assessments and mock exams. The next formal assessment in class is w/c 12 th January. The next mock exam will be w/c 9 th February.	
Further links: Law Society every Friday	Other reminders: In order for students to achieve their potential, attendance to all lessons is essential. Students should be conducting at least 6 hours of independent study, per subject, per week.

Music	Back
This term, students will complete their study of the remaining set works: Stravinsky's Rite of Spring and Saariaho's Petals for solo cello. In the second half of the term, focus will shift to intensive revision in preparation for the final A-Level exam. Students will also finalize their composition coursework, with recitals scheduled for the end of the term.	
This term students may notice an increase in pressure on them with many elements of the course reaching their final stages. This inevitably brings stress but if students take a measured approach, working consistently across the subject they will succeed. There will be also a lot of help a support sessions with Alison and composition workshops with Ben.	
Independent study this term: All students are expected to actively engage with all aspects of the course outside of lessons. Computers are available in the library for composition work, and a new practice room booking system has been implemented to support rehearsal for recitals. As part of their independent study, students are encouraged to seek individual guidance from BRD, especially for support with composition.	
Pro-study this term: This will now be set in Teams Assignments to make it clear to students what is expected. It will be more apparent now how Pro-study is related to the course, predominantly focusing on contextual work for the music we are analysing in history. There will be inevitable disruption to registered pro-study sessions, but the work should still be completed.	
Next assessment(s): Mock recital piece performance 5th May. Mock A level history exam Thursday 12th February.	

Final composition coursework submission, (20% of final grade) 31 st March. Final recitals (30% of final grade) 25 th March	
Further links:	Other reminders: Your coursework equates to 60% of your final A level. It is important that full use of support and resources available outside of lesson time including workshops, computers in the library and practice.

Music Practitioners	Back
This term in Music Practitioners we will finish the externally assessed Unit 387E: Rehearsal Skills & Live Music Performance (Performing Pathway students only) and Unit 388E: Live Sound Recording & Sound Reinforcement (Performing Pathway students only). We will also start the final part of the course Unit 320: Music Dissertation.	
This term students may notice controlled conditions during the external assessment will continue to be different to the rest of the year as the same restrictions will apply as GCSE, A Levels and other exams i.e. no phones, internet, watches, feedback from the teacher etc. There will be interim deadlines for each Task to help keep students on track with their work. It is expected students endeavour to meet each of these interim deadlines. The final deadline is the last opportunity for students to submit work for their external Unit before it is collated by the teacher and given to the exam board. Due to the nature of an external assessment, there will be no first submission or teacher feedback – like an exam.	
Independent study this term: ALL students will need to make use of 2A Workshop time to keep on top of any work they may have to do to meet deadlines IF controlled conditions lesson time was missed due to illness, college trip etc. The workshop times will have a member of staff present to maintain appropriate controlled conditions. The classroom can be used for Unit 320: Music Dissertation or any relevant work that is not part of the externally assessed coursework. The times when the classroom is available are on a poster by the classroom door and shared in the class's Teams group. Performing Pathway students only will need to be preparing for rehearsals as described in class and the Live Music Performance Support SharePoint page. When the rehearsal rooms are available and bands have been created, Performance Pathway students only will need to organise, book and attend ONE rehearsal per week in college as part of the exam board's guided learning hours for the course. Technology Pathway students only will need to organize, book and attend ONE tech team meeting per week in groups of 2-4 to practice setting up and using the college's live sound equipment in college as part of the exam board's guided learning hours for the course.	
Pro-study this term: This initially focuses on the skills needed for the externally assessed Unit and later for Unit 320: Music Dissertation.	
Next assessment(s): All upcoming assessment details can be found in the student's Music Practitioners Teams group. The externally assessed Units will be completed this term – Unit 387E: Rehearsal Skills & Live Music Performance (Performing Pathway students only) and Unit 388E: Live Sound Recording & Sound Reinforcement (Performing Pathway students only)	

- Unit 387E/388E:
 - Task 1 = 23rd January 16:30
 - Task 2 = 13th February 16:30
 - Task 3 = 27th February 16:30
 - Task 4 = 6th March 16:30
 - Unit 387E/388E Final Submission (ALL four Tasks) = 24th March 16:30

The final deadline exists to support any potential missed controlled condition time due to illness, college trip, university interview etc.

Further links:

Other reminders: A significant number of Music Practitioners students have 25% extra time – this has been accommodated into the existing controlled conditions lessons and deadlines. Any other exam support students may be entitled to will be provided during the controlled conditions e.g. reader, prompt, rest breaks etc.

Philosophy

[Back](#)

This term, students will have two lessons with James and two with Nick, except for E block, where both sides of the course will be taught by James.

With James, students will continue their exploration of the Metaphysics of Mind. They will begin by studying three Physicalist theories: Philosophical Behaviourism, Mind-Brain Type Identity Theory, and Eliminative Materialism. Following this, they will examine Functionalism, a theory of the mind that is neither Physicalist nor Dualist, before the Easter break.

With Nick (or James for E block), students will continue their study of the Metaphysics of God, focusing on further arguments for God's existence, including cosmological and ontological arguments.

After Half Term, the focus will shift to the topic of Religious Language, where students will explore the meaning and implications of religious statements such as "God made the world".

This term students may notice that there is, in places, an increased level of difficulty and rigour in the second-year work. Particularly in Metaphysics of God, the examiners require the students to have close reference to the logical form of the arguments presented. In the metaphysics of mind, some of the subject matter can be quite abstract and some of the concepts involved can be rather subtle. Consolidation of understanding outside the lesson will be necessary, and students should seek workshop help if they are finding the topics difficult.

Independent study this term: Students should also regularly consolidate their notes and practice their revision on a weekly basis. They may also consider viewing and attempting past paper

questions after they have been briefed on question content by the teachers. All past papers and mark schemes are readily available on the Philosophy SharePoint.

Pro-study this term: Students should keep up with the required reading, accessible online in the freely provided textbook. Students should be watching the Massolit video lectures. Details on both are available on the schemes of work. There will also be practice questions set on Teams during the term. For Metaphysics of God, there is some required advance preparation required each week. Tasks will often be set in lessons which need some time to be completed in Pro Study time.

Next assessment(s): Students have their mock exam just before the half term break, a three-hour assessment that draws on topics from the first and second years (all students have received multiple emails and a Teams message, about the content to be examined). After half term the students will sit a final 5 questions in exam conditions, before Easter.

Further links:

Workshops (Venue A106 at lunchtime (1:20- 2:05 pm))

Monday *Epistemology*

Tuesday *Metaphysics of Mind and Metaphysics of God*

Wednesday *Invitation-Only Workshop*

Thursday *Moral Philosophy*

Friday *Improvers Workshop*

Other reminders:

All students should have bought and should be using “My Revision Notes: AQA A-level Philosophy Paper 2 Metaphysics of God and Metaphysics of mind” as their primary go-to for revision and learning alongside the class notes.

Photography

[Back](#)

This term, students will work towards completing the Personal Investigation unit, which accounts for 60% of their A-Level marks, with the official NEA exam board deadline on January 29. No coursework will be accepted after this date. Students will finalise their sketchbook work and create their final piece(s), which may take the form of prints, magazines, books, or 3D outcomes.

The Externally Set Assignment (exam unit) will begin in class on February 2. Students will receive an exam paper with a selection of starting points and will choose one question to focus on, developing their personal responses. During the preparatory study period, students will create critical, practical, and theoretical preparatory work and supporting studies, which will inform the resolution of their ideas for the 15-hour controlled assessment.

Please note that A Level Photography students do not have Study Leave from their A Level Arts lessons during the college February Mock as the Photography lessons are part of their actual examination preparation period.

This term students may notice emphasis will be placed on skills and outcomes for the exam question chosen with increasingly sophisticated, rigorous work evidenced in student sketchbooks. Students are expected to fully engage with each lesson to refine and complete successful work which covers the required Assessment Objectives for high grades in the exam process.	
Independent study this term: each week students are expected to update their sketchbooks (digital or traditional physical), with work completed in class and independently. Photoshoots must be completed in the college studios, at home or on location. Students must use the exam checklist/planner to ensure all work is successfully completed to a high standard.	
Pro-study this term: Students must organise their sketchbook and plan photography study/photoshoot time within their weekly timetable, linked to their exam question. Each week complete focused research or read and include a relevant 'Article of the Month' in their sketchbook from our archive, add notes, thoughts and comments, or listen to a photography podcast, visit an online (or in person) exhibition writing up thoughts and experiences in their sketchbook. All resources and links can be found on the Pro Study page of the A Level Photography SharePoint site.	
Next assessment(s): Use project checklists to prepare for hand in. All work to be submitted on Teams or to class teacher by 4.30pm on 29th January. Assignments set using Teams for monitoring of project work.	
Further links All students welcome for extra study time, help and support.	Other reminders: Personal Investigation Final Deadline (60%)- Thursday 29th January 2026 by 4.30pm. Externally Set Assignment (40%) starts from 2nd February 2026, 15-hour exam early May (See MyProgress exam timetable).

Politics	Back
The second year of Politics is taught in 2 sides, with KDC teaching US Politics while NBP teaches the political ideas unit. This term in the US unit we are examining in depth Congress, The President, the US Supreme Court including rights. In the political ideas unit, we will be studying feminism in depth.	
This term students may notice that there is a substantial amount of 'flipped learning' – work that it is essential to complete in advance of lessons, generally due to be uploaded by the start of the week. This will require students to be organised, independent and mindful of deadlines, to ensure that they get the most out of lessons.	
Independent study this term: Students aiming for high grades are encouraged to engage in extension reading. They should also stay updated on current affairs, particularly through sources like BBC News, to	

become familiar with key political concepts, issues, personalities, and examples, especially those related to the US. Independent study will be assigned via Teams and must be uploaded by the first Politics lesson of the week.	
Pro-study this term: Students will be set 2 pieces of US Politics pro-study each week (1 after each lesson) and will also be expected to note one PowerPoint with flipped learning tasks ready for their Political ideas lessons. All work is on the schedule (see below) and should be uploaded to Teams by 8.30am of the start of the following week.	
Next assessment(s): Their next assessment will be in mid-January and mocks week starts on 9th February. The Politics mock exam is on Tuesday 10th of February.	
Further links: Politics workshops take place on Thursday lunchtime.	Other reminders: There is a Politics Instagram account that highlights relevant examples. Students can choose to follow this if they would like to: @collyerspolitics

Spanish	Back
This term in Spanish we will study the Hispanic Multicultural Society and the Youth Today which will involve learning new vocabulary and grammar. We will also continue to work on the novel 'Como agua para chocolate' as well as start to revise the Film Pan's labyrinth and improve essay writing. In the Speaking lesson we will check improved versions of their IRP presentation.	
This term students may notice a similar speed to last year at which content is delivered. More Spanish will be used in the class. Students are expected to complete their work at a high standard in time in class and at home.	
Independent study this term: Students must complete weekly tasks: Some to be checked in class and some to hand in to be check by the teacher. Students are encouraged to read and listen to the news in Spanish: Examples given in the induction booklet. Examiners tend to set questions-based news items. They will have to continue to work on their chosen topic for IRP (Individual Research Project) by researching further information on the aspect they would like to discuss during the Speaking exam.	
Pro-study this term: it will combine 1A revision tasks for Paper 1, consolidate content for Paper 2 (film and novel) and gathering facts for Paper 3. 1A revision tasks will be self-marked and handed in with proof that the self-marking has taken place.	
Next assessment(s): There will be weekly vocabulary tests and end of unit tests approximately every 3 weeks. A 2h 30m mock exam is scheduled on 11th February (paper 1) as well as Speaking mock (Paper 3) at the end of February and essay writing mock (Paper 3) before we break for Easter.	

Further links: Workshop timetable: Thursdays lunch time	Other reminders: Bring headphones compatible with college computers which support a 3.5 mm round jack to the computer session on Tuesdays. Pay £15 for the printing cost of Booklets via My Progress Shop (one payment for the whole year) if you have not already done so.
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Textiles	Back
The Spring Term will see the students complete their coursework unit, worth 60% of the A Level, with the final EDUQAS submission the week of January 26. No coursework can be submitted after this date, EAAs do not apply for practical coursework. The 10-week Examination project starts February 3 in class and culminates in a 15-hour exam where the final piece will be made in early May, dates tbc. The 10-week exam project is a full sketchbook of the question chosen from an exam paper of 12 questions. This sketchbook classwork is 75% of the examination grade and has a strictly set scheme of work requirements each week for lessons and homework. <i>Please note that A Level Arts students do not have Study Leave from their A Level Arts lessons during the college February Mocks as the Fine Art lessons are their actual examination for this subject.</i> Our SharePoint site continues to include all set work with examples, PowerPoints, videos, and visual aids used in class to support personal study. Additionally, it provides details of our wider Arts curriculum, competitions, and careers within the Arts. There is also Boost section with further reading, videos, seminars, and conferences for students to enrich their studies in this subject as well as a How Artists Learn section full of creative metacognition hints for study and artists led 5-minute meditations.	
This term, students may notice the change in emphasis upon exam sketchbooks. Emphasis will be placed on book craft skills for the exam question chosen with increasingly sophisticated, rigorous work. Students are expected to fully engage in each lesson task to refine and complete successful work which covers the required Assessment Objectives for high grades in the exam process.	
Independent study this term: Students are required to complete weekly exam homework involving 5 hours' set work, often necessary for the completion of next week's exam practical tasks in class. Materials are available in the studios during Personal Study lessons, with a timetable of free rooms posted on each studio door. Students seeking to learn new processes or needing help with homework can attend workshops led by the Head of Art, also signposted on each studio door.	
Pro-study this term: For Pro-study this term, students should use their time wisely to complete the weekly research and written annotations or critical studies set during each week of the examination project. It is an essential contribution to the written content in their examination project.	

Next assessment(s): Final EDUQAS coursework submission; 60% of A Level- week of January 26, 2026. Exam submission; 40% of A Level – May 2026 at the end of students’ practical 15-hour exam.

Further links:

Scheme of work, workshop timetable and full resources are available to students through the subject Share Point.

Other reminders: Coursework final EDUQAS

submission deadline last subject lesson week of January 26, D101. The exam starts February 2 in class, 15-hour final exam in early May.