



MAGDALEN COLLEGE SCHOOL

ART AWARDS (16+)

Art at Magdalen College School is vibrant, diverse and fun. All pupils are given the opportunity to discover and stimulate their creative ability and are taught in small groups by Art specialists in an atmosphere that is professional and friendly.

The Art Department is situated along the length of the top floor of the Michael Peagram Building. It consists of four studios that have floor-to-ceiling windows and skylights, designed for a wide range of two and three-dimensional work. These are supported by a computer suite and a well-equipped photographic darkroom. The department also shares facilities with Design and Technology, which houses a kiln and spray-painting booth, as well as woodworking machinery. Our students have the very best facilities to pursue any artistic activity they wish. As well as our own library, we are supported by an excellent Art and Design collection in the school's Sir Basil Blackwell Library.



The department is open to serious users, outside of lessons, allowing pupils to come in and work on Art during breaks, lunchtimes or after school. Lower School artists are welcome to join the Art Clubs, which meet on a weekly basis. There is also a Photography Club and annual drawing and photography competitions. Pupils are also encouraged to submit their own work to several prestigious Art competitions annually including the Big Draw; and the Royal Academy of Arts.

Art Scholars also have their own group, which develops higher-profile projects over the course of a year while allowing the youngest Scholars to work alongside those in the Upper Sixth. The department benefits from an 'artist-in-residence' programme, which affords opportunities for award-holders to work in a professional setting, and exhibit locally, through our partnership with Magdalen Road Studios.



An exhibition space runs the length of the department in which we display work as it is produced; artwork is also displayed around the school site. The academic year culminates in the Summer Exhibition, open to friends and family; staff and governors as well as selected VIPS. Most year groups will experience a trip or workshop each year.

MCS offers Art Scholarships to pupils entering the Lower Fourth and Lower Sixth. Scholarships are honorary in nature and do not carry a financial benefit. For financial assistance with fees, please look at our means-tested [Bursary scheme](#).

It is expected that all those awarded a Scholarship at 13+ will take GCSE Art. Awards are tenable for as long as the holder continues to study the subject.

How to apply

Please note that Art Scholarships will only be awarded to applicants who are going on to study Art at A Level. If a pupil would like to be considered for an award, he/she will be required to submit a digital portfolio which covers a range of processes and techniques. The digital portfolio should be no longer than 10 slides/pages, with no more than four images on each slide/page. PDFs or PPTs are fine, but please keep the overall file size to under 10MB. You may include short annotations if you wish.

Consider how to present and edit your work to show it at its best. Try to give a sense of your personality and artistic interests through this digital portfolio – personal sketchbooks would be just as good to see as finished GCSE work. Enthusiasm, imagination and technical competence will all be considered, although candidates are judged on artistic potential as well as on previous attainment. Evidence of drawing is important to include.



The application deadline is **Friday 10th October 2025**.

Pupils at 16+ must send their digital portfolios to registrar@mcsoxford.org by 8.30am on **Thursday 31st October 2025**. All members of the Art Department teaching staff assess these and will select a 'short-list' of candidates who will be invited to attend the Scholarship Assessment, which is on **Saturday 8th November 2025** for 16+ candidates.