

Art Vocabulary Progression Year 1 – Year 6

Some vocabulary appears across more than one year group, as pupils **revisit and refine their understanding** through different units. This deliberate revisiting enables pupils to **consolidate and deepen their knowledge of art language**. As they progress, they apply this vocabulary with **increasing accuracy, complexity and creative intention**, reflecting their growing technical skill and artistic understanding.

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|---------------------|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| Monochromatic | <p>Tier 1: draw, line, shape, drawing</p> <p>Tier 2: continuous, doodle, erase, pressure, represent, sketch, tone, value, vertical, horizontal, zigzag, gallery</p> <p>Tier 3: graphite, monochromatic</p> | <p>Tier 1: line, shape</p> <p>Tier 2: artist, celebration, collage, culture, decorative, designer, enclosed, evaluate, organic, pattern, repeating, space</p> <p>Tier 3: chromatic, geometric, graphite, monochromatic, mehndi, henna</p> | <p>Tier 1: line, shape, drawing</p> <p>Tier 2: continuous, highlight, illusion, landscape, observational, outline, portrait, positioning, realistic, representation, shading, tone, value, proportion</p> <p>Tier 3: monochromatic, self-portrait, still life</p> | <p>Tier 1: shape</p> <p>Tier 2: form, gradient, horizon, illuminated, inspiration, tone, value</p> <p>Tier 3: atmospheric, cross-hatching, one-point perspective, vanishing point, perspective, hatching, stippling</p> | <p>Tier 1: line</p> <p>Tier 2: abstract, composed, contrast, expression, form, inspired, organic, realistic, style, technique, texture, value</p> <p>Tier 3: geometric, monochromatic, photorealism, medium, mixed media, perspective</p> | <p>Tier 1: shape</p> <p>Tier 2: blend, smudge, pressure, form, organic, observe, portrait, proportion, realistic, reflection, reference material, value, tone, shading, texture, contrast, refine, composition, vertical, horizontal</p> <p>Tier 3: graphite, monochromatic, geometric</p> |
| Chromatic | <p>Tier 1: colour, line, paint, painter, painting, handle, dot, shape, real</p> <p>Tier 2: abstract, decorate, gallery, inspire, feelings, emotions</p> <p>Tier 3: primary colours</p> | <p>Tier 1: colour</p> <p>Tier 2: artist, contrast, evoke, inspire, landscape, original, portrait, process, vivid, feeling, emotion</p> <p>Tier 3: colour wheel, complementary colours, primary colours, secondary colours, still life, medium, colour palette</p> | <p>Tier 1: painting, mixing</p> <p>Tier 2: abstract, annotate, blending, brushstroke, composition, creativity, techniques, texture, transparent, famous</p> <p>Tier 3: acrylic, chromatic, watercolour, medium, illustrator, illustration, realism</p> | <p>Tier 2: annotate, collage, composition, context, design, drafting, form, photography, representation, texture, transparent, value,</p> <p>Tier 3: curator, Victorian medium, mixed media, architect, architecture, watercolour</p> | <p>Tier 1: colour, shape, line</p> <p>Tier 2: angular, collage, composition, form, inspiration, opaque, proportion, space, texture, tint, tone, transparent, value, portrait, replica, symbolism, miniature, commissioned, memorialising</p> <p>Tier 3: portraiture, sitter, Victorians, medium, palette</p> | <p>Tier 2: composition, proportion, realistic, rubbing, symbol, synthetic, transfer, trace, translucent, collage, form, sustainable conceptual, protest</p> <p>Tier 3: climate change, geometric, photo-realistic, sustainability, mixed media, acrylic, contemporary</p> |
| Sculpture with clay | <p>Tier 1: create, nature, press, roll, flatten</p> <p>Tier 2: 3D, emotion, experiment, imprint, inspired, layer, sketch, texture tile, clay</p> <p>Tier 3: ceramic, coil, kiln, pottery, sculpt, slab</p> | <p>Tier 1: colour, join</p> <p>Tier 2: 2D, 3D, clay, decorate, form, imprint, inspired, pattern, relief, represent, shapes, texture, tile</p> <p>Tier 3: ceramics, pottery, primary colours, secondary colours, score and slip, sculpture, varnish</p> | <p>Tier 2: ceramic, column, experiment, impact, imprint, influence, inspired, relief, sphere, texture, clay</p> <p>Tier 3: climate, pinch pot, pottery, score and slip, varnish, wedging, primary colours, sculpture, secondary colours</p> | <p>Tier 1: join</p> <p>Tier 2: balance, carve, dimension, form, imprint, model, pattern, proportion, texture, shape, symbolism</p> <p>Tier 3: Ancient Egypt, sculpture, harmony, canopic jar, varnish, slip, score, coil</p> | <p>Tier 2: combinations, composition, context, expression, mould, manipulate, kneading, condition, compress, shade, tint, tone, notable decorative</p> <p>Tier 3: score and slip, ball clay, earthenware clay, stoneware clay, porcelain, faience, analogous colours</p> | <p>Tier 2: blend, condition, context, gloss, malleable, manipulate, moulding, realistic, style, tone, shade, tint</p> <p>Tier 3: ceramic, hand-building, kiln, kneading, hyper-realistic, sculpture, tertiary colours, varnish, colour palette</p> |