

Art History Link-Up

Providing free Art History courses for sixth form state school students, in museums and galleries



Teaching at the Wallace Collection

An education in visual culture and literacy should be open and available to all. Art History teaches these skills; the creative industries, for which they are essential, generate £10 each minute for the UK economy, yet only ten state schools in the country currently offer Art History A level.

Learning to look at and understand our rich visual culture is more important now than ever before: the opportunity to learn about art and benefit from it should be available to every young person. We believe that a tangible qualification should be available to all students, especially as increasingly this may not be available at their school or college.

Art History Link-Up provides opportunities to study Art History for young people from diverse backgrounds based around learning at first-hand from museum and gallery collections, and currently offers free fast-track AS Art History to state maintained sector students in museums and galleries.

Current Projects:

Art History for Everyone

Fast Track A level Art History course for students from the state maintained sector, taught in museums and galleries

Diploma in Art & Visual Culture

An accredited award open to students nationwide currently being developed by Art History Link-Up

Art History Link-Up works with other cultural organisations to link young people to the art and architecture in public collections: our aim is to promote the benefits and enjoyment of Art History to as wide an audience as possible.



Teaching at the National Gallery

“What our students say:

“The course has helped me with all my other subjects and has opened my eyes to the skills and complexity involved in art and architecture: I now see the world in a different way.”

“I expected to be taught Art History by someone old and posh but the teachers were actually amazing. The course was not at all what I expected it to be”.

“I am now considering History of Art and Design at university – I probably wasn't going to apply before – and am also looking at relevant apprenticeship opportunities”.

“All the lessons are enjoyable, and I look forward to coming each week. Not only have Saturday mornings become one of my favourite days but I now know how to analyse art which is so fun!”





Art History For Everyone

Fast-Track AS level Art History
course for state school students



This is a fast-track AS level Art History course for state maintained sector students, offered free of charge in museums and galleries on Saturdays during term-time.

The fast-track AS course has been offered for the last four years to a wide range of state maintained sector students, many from BAME and/or widening participation backgrounds, and for the past two years on term-time Saturdays at museums and galleries.

Art History for Everyone is currently based at two venues: The Wallace Collection, generously supported by The Band Trust, and the National Gallery, with core funding from The Rothschild Foundation.

Colleagues at other museums and galleries have been generous with space and time. Classes have also been hosted at The British Museum, Victoria & Albert Museum, Courtauld Institute and Birkbeck, University of London's Art History Department.

Every student is offered learning support in the form of homework club, visiting expert advice on careers and FE/HE applications, and access to work experience in relevant sectors. There is significant and increasing demand for places.

From September 2018, students will study for an Extended Project Qualification which is the equivalent to half an A level in UCAS points. This will be taught alongside two units of the new A Level Art History course. Students have the option to study a further two units and sit the A level exam at the end of the second year. With the withdrawal of the AS level Art History by the exam board later this year, this structure is a future-proofed development of the current programme.

Outcomes

Some of the tangible benefits which students have identified as a result of our courses include:

- An additional accredited qualification, UCAS points and strengthened FE/HE applications.
- Career development and CV-building opportunities for a wide range of exciting and varied careers.
- New analytical and communication skills with cross-curricular application.
- Access to, familiarity with and understanding of works of art in the country's great public collections.



Diploma

An accredited award open to students nationwide currently being developed by Art History Link-Up



Diploma

Art History Link-Up is currently developing a Diploma in Art and Visual Culture.

This will offer school-age students the opportunity to study visual culture using local, regional and national collections, via online resources and teaching sessions using museum and gallery resources. The diploma will allow any student to acquire life-long skills and an accredited qualification.

Our aim is to form fruitful partnerships with organisations who are keen to support and promote the benefits of visual culture in schools and youth centres.

The topics for each level of the diploma are intended to be flexible and can be applied to the study of any art or architecture anywhere in the UK, regardless of the size or content of local museums. In this way we hope to engage young people in areas far removed from major national museums.

“ The course has helped me with all my other subjects and has opened my eyes to the skills and complexity involved in art and architecture: I now see the world in a different way. ”



Homework Clubs <



Teaching at the Wallace Collection

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Art History for Everyone: Participating Schools

Ark Globe Academy
 Aylesbury High School
 Bexhill College
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 The City of London Academy
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 The Tiffin Girls' School
 Three Rivers Academy
 Woodhouse College



Students Kira and Aidan discuss the importance of arts in education with HRH The Prince of Wales during his visit to the National Gallery as royal patron in March 2018 (photographs by Flo Brooks)

What one student said:

"I am so happy that we could make a difference by being your students at the Wallace Collection through last year. The course changed my perspective on everything that I thought I would accomplish and move into. And I wanted to let you know that I will now be taking up a joint course of Fine Art and History of Art at Leeds University."

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