KS3 GRADE DESCRIPTORS

Target Grade: .....

Art and Design

	Recording & Use of Media	Proficiency in Handling Materials	Analysing & Evaluating	History of Art & Context
Pre -Foundational	**Initial Attempts:** Some missing or unfinished tasks; very limited visual recording; limited control of media and a lack of independent ideas.	**Supported Practice:** Requires significant support and guidance to handle tools and media safely and correctly.	**Minimal Reflection:** Offers minimal written or verbal reflection on their creative journey or final pieces.	**Limited Awareness:** Demonstrates a limited awareness of historical or contemporary artists and designers.
Foundational	**Basic Recording:** Simplistic ideas and designs; demonstrates some basic ability when using art equipment and processes.	**Basic Handling:** Demonstrates a basic, functional handling of tools, software, or physical art materials.	**Simple Comments:** Makes simple, descriptive comments about their own artwork.	**Basic Naming:** Able to name specific artists but displays little deeper understanding of their work or styles.
Emerging	**Growing Control:** Developing visual recording skills while exploring a limited range of creative media.	**Technical Growth:** Developing stronger technical control over materials during practical applications.	**Identifying Targets:** Clearly identifies personal strengths and specific areas to improve in their work.	**Descriptive Insight:** Describes the work of specific artists and identifies simple influences on their own practice.
Developing	**Skilful & Consistent:** Accurate recording of observations with appropriate, deliberate media choices.	**Secure Application:** Secure, reliable use of specific techniques and tools within a project.	**Explaining Choices:** Explains the reasoning behind creative decisions and uses evaluation to actively refine work.	**Informed Practice:** Explains exactly how the work and techniques of artists directly inform their own project work.
Secure	**Advanced & Confident:** Confident recording using a wide range of media; produces refined, highly focused visual information.	**Purposeful Execution:** Competent, highly purposeful manipulation of physical or digital materials to achieve an outcome.	**Thoughtful Insight:** Thoughtful, deep evaluation that directly informs ongoing improvements and portfolio design.	**Effective Analysis:** Analyses artists, movements, and cultural contexts effectively using a precise visual vocabulary.
Advanced	**Masterful Mastery:** Extraordinary, unexpected, and outstanding recording with masterful media control and independent refinement.	**Exceptional Mastery:** Exceptional technical mastery, showing high levels of creative innovation and independence.	**Critical Thinking:** Exceptional critical thinking skills that lead to highly sophisticated refinement of ideas.	**Sophisticated Analysis:** Highly sophisticated understanding of historical and contemporary practice that informs original, mature outcomes.