



King's College  
*The British School of Madrid*

Press Release

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## “What do you study to become an artist?” - An exhibition outlining the learning process of Art pupils from King's College Madrid



**Thirteen students from King's College Madrid will showcase the art pieces that have given them the opportunity to study in some of the world's most prestigious Art schools and universities. The exhibition will take place at the Adolfo Suárez Cultural Centre of Tres Cantos (Madrid) from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> September.**

Next Friday, 15th September, the exhibition “¿Qué se estudia para ser artista?” - (“What do you study to become an artist?” in English) - will open in the Adolfo Suárez Cultural Centre in Tres Cantos (Madrid). The display, organised by the Tres Cantos Council and King's College, The British School of Madrid, will give an overview of the learning and creative processes carried out by the Art students at the school.

As well as exhibiting the pieces that the students presented for their A Level exams, the exhibition includes the sketchbooks and drafts through which the young artists formulated and perfected their works.

For their A Level exams, each student completes a final piece and a portfolio of supporting work that reflects their hours of research and the development of their ideas and techniques.

In order to reveal to the public this artistic journey, the exhibition includes:

- **Final pieces**

During their last year in school, Art students from King's College have to produce an artwork based on a personal topic that interests them, as well as create another piece with a completely different theme.

- **Sketchbooks**

In their sketchbooks, the pupil must demonstrate a journey of discovery. This is done by annotating their sketches, which gives their final work both a visual and verbal outline.

- **Contextual exercise**

In a 3,000 word study, students analyse the work of other artists and designers, finding relevant connections with their own work. In this module, pupils contemplate elements like Art History, composition, style, influences and artistic relations.

“Even if students don't continue onto an Art degree, they take away with them the ability to think about and approach the world in a different way. Studying Art encourages students to be creative and imaginative, to question, to challenge, to make connections and combine ideas”, says Ian Robertson, Head of the Art Department at King's College Madrid.

A Level exams are generally considered among the most challenging internationally, and enable students to study at any university in the world. This year, the pieces created by King's College graduates have given them access to prestigious institutions such as the University of Cambridge, the University of Oxford, and the University of California, Berkeley, among others.

All King's College pupils study Art and Design until 14 years of age. At this point, they can choose to continue studying it for IGSCE, and, at 16 years of age, they ultimately decide if it will become one of their A Level subjects.

When they finish their studies at King's College, many of these graduates decide to carry on with their artistic studies, and choose university degrees such as Fine Arts, Design or Architecture. Others choose degrees from any other field, which A Levels also give them access to.

**The exhibition will be open in the Sala Van Drell of the Adolfo Suárez Cultural Centre (in the Tres Cantos Town Hall) from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> September.**

**For more information, please contact:**

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