

# TOTNES ART & DESIGN FOUNDATION COURSE

The Totnes Foundation Course is an intensive one year full-time (or two year part-time) 'post A- Level' Art & Design course, that delivers a thorough grounding in the basic principles of art and design. The course's main aim is to secure its students a place on a BA (Hons) degree that requires the Foundation Course as a prerequisite to entry.

It is unique in Devon for a number of reasons. It is taught over five days a week, and includes an integrated A/S qualification in art history. Most distinctively it underpins all art and design practice with an emphasis upon the central importance of drawing and the formal elements.

The 2014 Totnes Art & Design Foundation Course Summer Show featured the work of our 32 Foundation students.

Each year the students show their final major project at this public exhibition, but before they can put their work on the walls they spend three weeks transforming their studios into a contemporary gallery space.

This year's private view was attended by well over 200 people, including parents, staff and members of the local arts community. The final show was slick and professional, a testament to the hard work and creativity of the students involved.



"For my Final Show I displayed my observations of Brixham Fish Market in the form of drawing and mixed media illustrations."



Stella Isaac

## ...my year on the Totnes Art & Design Foundation Course

After attending St Cuthbert Mayne School, I undertook my A-Levels at Kennicott Sixth Form Centre at KEVICC. I thoroughly enjoyed attending the sixth form and I was impressed by Kennicott's staff and the friendly environment. It was here that I decided to pursue a career in Art and Design. I gained a place on the Totnes Art and Design Foundation Course which shares the same site as the Sixth Form Centre.

The Foundation Course has helped me to realize what I want to do for my degree after being unsure about the opportunities that art and design had to offer. I have explored many different specialisms and materials from sculpture to life drawing, and print making to textiles and my special interest in the application of pattern within illustration.

My tutors fully prepared me for my university applications through one to one tutorials on portfolio layout, and 'mock interviews'. This led to me gaining offers at many universities, and accepting my place to start BA (Hons) Illustration at Falmouth University for this coming September.

I have met many people from different sixth forms across Devon. We had a residential trip to London, which included visiting various galleries and museums, and undertaking tours of top London Art Colleges. The trip was also a great chance for us to get to know each other socially. This social aspect is crucial, as the sharing of ideas and support that your colleagues give you is a vital part of the course's success. This foundation year has helped me gain greater confidence in my work and has given me a level of professionalism needed for university study.



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Further details about the course can be found at [www.kingedwardvi.devon.sch.uk/foundationart](http://www.kingedwardvi.devon.sch.uk/foundationart) or by contacting Bruce Timson, Foundation Course Leader at [btimson@kingdwardvi.devon.sch.uk](mailto:btimson@kingdwardvi.devon.sch.uk)

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