## YEAR 11 FINE ART COLOUR THEORY AND ACRYLIC PAINTING – Knowledge Organiser All terms

# Primary Secondary Primary Secondary Secondary

### **PRIMARY AND SECONDARY COLOURS**

- Primary colours are the 'starting' colours.
   They can not be mixed by other colours.
   These are red, blue and yellow.
- Secondary colours are made by mixing an equal amount of 2 primary colours together.
   These are orange, purple and green.
- On the colour wheel, a secondary colour is sandwiched in-between the two primary colours that make it.



### **WARM AND COOL COLOURS**

Warm colours — such as red, yellow, and many evoke warmth because they remind us of things like the sun or fire.

Cool colours — such as blue, green, and purple evoke a cool feeling because they remind us of things like water or grass.

Warm and cool colours are split in half on the colour wheel.

Tertiary Colours are made by mixing an uneven amount of primary colours. For example, a yellow-orange would be made with a bigger ratio of yellow than red.



## everything between white and red is a red and black is a WHITE PURE RED RED everything between red and black is a SHADE



Every colour can have what is called a tint and shade. A tint of a colour is a lighter version of that colour, and a shade is a darker version. These can be used to show where the shadows and highlights are in an image.

A tint is created by adding white to the colour.

A shade is created by adding black to the colour.





### **ACRYLIC PAINTING TIPS**

- Have all your colours pre mixed
- Don't overload your paintbrush
- Add a small amount of water to your brush to help the paint spread
- Don't add too much water- this will dilute your colour
- Hold you brush at the bottom for maximum control
- Change the position of your hand and your work rather than twisting your hand
- Build up colour from light to dark
- Wash brush in-between using different colours
- Use a paper towel to take paint/water off the brush when blending







Different types of brushes make different types of marks. Choose an appropriate brush depending on the effect you want and the size of the area you are painting.

### **COMPLIMENTARY COLOURS**

Complimentary colours are pairs of colours that, when placed together compliment one another by making each other appear brighter. The pairs of complimentary colours are opposite one another on the colour wheel.



Yellow

Purple

Blue Orange



