

Sketchbook Skills

Dates	Saturday 16 May 2026
Times	10.30–16.30 BST
Location	At the museum (Learning Studio and Galleries)
Tutor	Karly Allen
Level	Introductory



People sketching in galleries

Course Description

Join drawing tutor Karly Allen to explore fresh approaches to drawing and spark new ideas while engaging with a diverse range of artworks at the Wallace Collection. In the studio, you'll learn to work with wet colour washes, dry pigments, and collage elements to create a set of personalised papers for your sketchbook. Moving into the galleries, you'll experiment with a variety of materials designed for museum-based drawing. Whether you're a beginner or developing your practice, carefully structured prompts and guided exercises will build your confidence to draw independently, transforming future museum visits into opportunities for creative exploration.

Course Tutor

Karly Allen is a drawing tutor and lecturer in art history. A graduate of the Ruskin School of Art (University of Oxford) and SOAS (University of London), she has led workshops and developed learning programmes for national art collections for over 20 years, including the National Gallery, Courtauld Gallery, V&A and National Portrait Gallery. Karly enriches her teaching with her training as a mindfulness teacher and, as co-director of Limina Collective, contributes to the emerging field of mindfulness in museums. She specialises in approaches to looking and drawing in art collections, the history of the sketch aesthetic, and drawing to promote wellbeing and connection.

Previous Skills, Knowledge or Experience

None required. This course is designed as an introduction to the subject.

Equipment and Materials

Please wear clothes suitable for using messy materials. All materials and equipment are provided.

Joining Information and Format

For ages 18+. This Saturday Workshop will take place in the Learning Studio, Lower Ground Floor as well as galleries throughout the museum. We recommend participants bring a packed lunch. When walking through the museum, food must be packed away in a bag and liquids carried in a sealed bottle, flask or travel mug.
