

ART / PHOTOGRAPHY

A LEVEL TRANSITION

BOOKLET



A Personal Investigation

A year 12 introduction

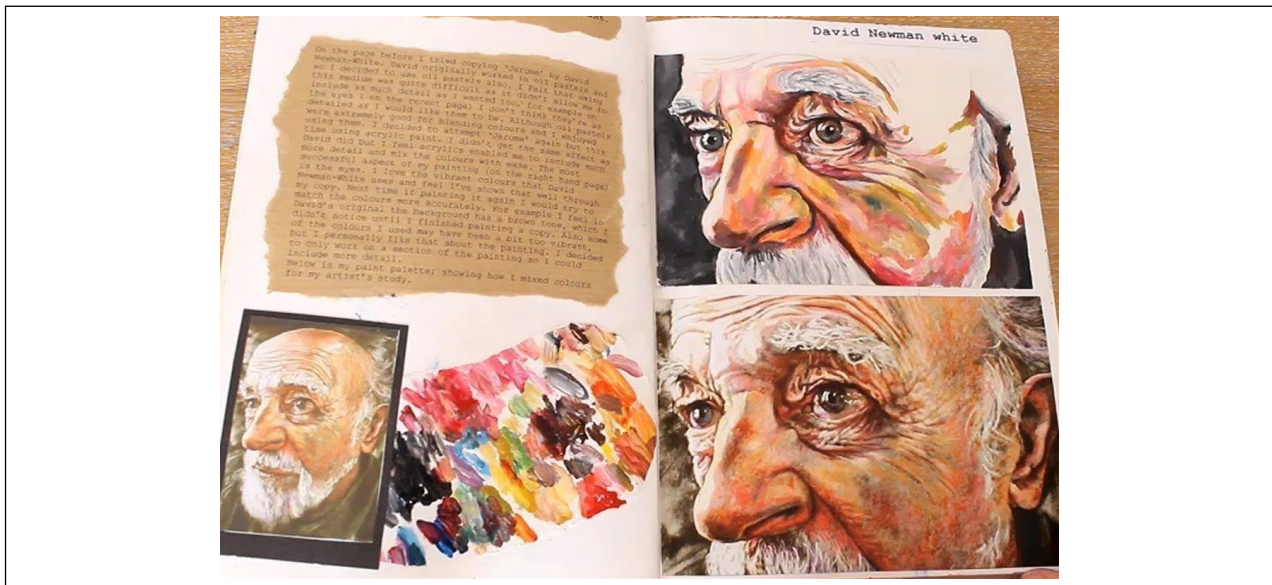
Art & Design with AQA

Yr. 12 A level – Personal Investigation

Welcome to A level Art and Design which includes Fine Art, Textiles and Photography. We look forward to working with you and helping you on your journey in art.

The course will enable you to show a rich variety of creativity with an exciting and innovative approach to media and ideas. You will have the chance to visit galleries as well as artist workshops.

The coursework consists of a 'Personal Investigation' project and an accompanying essay. Consider what you have enjoyed doing at GCSE, what media you like using, any themes you are interested in. Over the summer you need to identify Art / Photography work that you love. Print off at least 4 examples and bring them to your first lesson. Consider what you want your Personal



Investigation to be about. Here are some examples; identity, fairy stories, mental health ...

In order to begin preparing for the course we would like you to begin producing some work showing photography and observational drawing in a range of materials from real life. (Photographers can focus on taking photographs only). You should consider the formal elements of art in the work you produce, Line, Tone, Colour, Texture, Pattern, Shape and Form. Produce a piece of work linked to your idea for a Personal Investigation. We would also like you to try and visit at least one gallery (your local one will be ideal) and make notes, drawings etc on this visit. The work you produce in the holiday will be the starting point to our discussions when you arrive in September. Explore ideas, make observations, research and enjoy thinking about your theme. Think quality not quantity of the work you produce.

We very much look forward to meeting you and seeing what you produce.

During the Summer it is a great opportunity to read through the specification details in this document to familiarize yourself with the assessment objectives and the Personal Investigation.

Here are a range of art activities you could complete or dip into which will help you to develop and improve your skills, using the formal elements of art.

There are suggested online gallery websites to visit to gather inspiration and ideas on different artists also.

The most important thing is to just enjoy being creative and continue to build on your personal strengths in this subject, for example; if you really love painting, continue to paint and look for artists that inspire your painting style too. If you prefer Photography, then continue to develop areas of your medium that you enjoy such as 'depth of field' or 'digital manipulation'.

Have a look through and select things you would like to look at:

You could:

Mind map ideas,

Montage found images,

Take your own photographs

Research artists' / photographers' work

Make your own versions / interpretations of artists' / photographers' work

Draw, paint or use any media to focus on the formal elements and your ideas for your Personal Investigation.

A Level Art & Design Assessment

60% Coursework –
The Personal Investigation project and accompanying essay

40% Exam – An externally set exam theme, including 15 hour exam, conducted over 3 days.

The assessment objectives:

AO 1- Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations

informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding

AO 2 - Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops

AO 3 - Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress

AO 4 - Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and where appropriate make connections between visual and other elements.



Starting the A Level course – Term 1

During the first term you will develop your skills whilst exploring your title. You'll do this through workshop activities, experimenting with a variety of methods and learning new techniques to develop your own ideas.

Working in class should be completed and developed outside of the classroom for homework, helping to develop a strong personal portfolio for submission later in the course.

You will need to have a set of your own equipment. You will be able to buy an art or photography kit from the department.

During GCSE and A level courses we suggest that students have an Art kit of the following materials:

- Pentel Oil pastels pack of 25
- Faber-Casell 9000 Art pencil set. Pack of 12 8b,7b,6b,5b,3b,2b,b,HB, F, 2H
- Willow charcoal Medium
- Wolff's carbon pencil pack of 4, B,2B,4B,6B
- Derwent academy watercolour pencil crayons in a tin pack of 24
- Faber-castell artists black drawing pens pack 4
- A2 Polyfolder with punched handle
- Daler-Rowney Acrylic introductory set of 10 x 22ml paints
- Round Nylon brushes sizes 0,2,6,10
- Pack of 3 Sable substitute flat brushes $\frac{1}{4}$," $\frac{1}{2}$ " , $\frac{3}{4}$ "
- Power pritt stick
- Masking tape
- Putty rubber
- Tear off palettes for oil and acrylic paints pack of 40 sheets
- Palette knife
- Stabilo permanent pen - medium nib

During GCSE and A level Art and Design - Photography we suggest that students have a kit of the following items:

- A3 Clear plastic portfolio with carrying handle
- Plastic stud wallet
- Range of coloured acetate filters
- Sharpie fine liners (pack of 12 colours)
- Universal mobile phone camera lenses – fish eye, micro and super wide
- Selfie stick
- Small mobile phone tripod
- USB Flash drive 32 GB
- A4 acetate (box of 100 sheets)
- A4 Photo- plus Inkjet paper

More specific tasks:

Create a piece of work for each of the formal elements of Art/Photography. Each piece will combine all the formal elements naturally but make your focus one of the following for each piece. Use a variety of different media or use the materials that you particularly liked using at GCSE. You might even look at the way artists use the formal elements in their work and try these techniques too.

The formal elements of Art:

- **Tone**
- **Texture**
- **Colour**
- **Shape / Form**
- **Line**
- **Pattern**



Here are some examples of Personal Investigation project titles:

- *Landscape - An Appreciation of Light and Colour*
- *Texture – An expression of emotion*
- *The Use of Symbolism within Portraiture*
- *Still Life as a Reflection of Identity*
- *An Investigation into Gender Roles within Contemporary Art*
- *Fairy Tales and Fables Within Installation Art*
- *Perceptions of the Male Gaze Through Feminist Art*

When thinking about your title, pick a topic which enables you to look at many different types of art or artists / photographers:

You need a clear focus which **relates to materials and process or the way artists approach a topic through composition and technique.** A title of 'Abstract Art' or 'Fish' is too broad, not specific enough and therefore limiting.

INSPIRATIONS:



ARTIST: PAUL WRIGHT



I prefer these two styles to the others.

van den boog →

I am inspired by each of these existing use of colour. I want to use techniques like these in my future work. Like using red and purple in shadows. I also want to use more 'brain' techniques. Eg: using the smoke to create something like the piece and that painting uses some blue eg: on the nose.

I did some copies of selected of the inspiration images



ARTIST: PAUL WRIGHT



I like the painting technique



Not van den Boog only from machines or. These artists go beyond and playfully combine to create a unique style of colour. The colour all contribute to form an original piece - colour that may not seem that they go together at all but join and create a beautiful piece. While they are not hyper-realistic they capture the human form beautifully.



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