

# **A-Level SUMMER WORK**

This is work that is set as the foundation for the beginning of your Art course. We are expecting you to complete and bring it to your first Art lesson in September 2019. Your commitment to effort and the quality of your work cannot be stressed highly enough, as this work will form the start of your first project. Poor-quality work will only result in a poor-quality work from then on. Also, remember this work will form our first judgements of you as artists.

Your starting point is:

## **SPHERES**

How you decide to approach the starting point is entirely up to you, but you must research at least one artist whose work you like and who uses a similar starting point to the one you have chosen.

Your holiday portfolio **MUST** include:

1. Information about the artist/s and examples of their work. (A good quality mood board)
2. At least 15 good quality photographs of your chosen starting point. (The Photos could be close ups and visually interesting. **MUST** be in focus)
3. At least 3 good quality studies working from your photographs or from life. These can be completed in pencil, black gel pen, pencil crayon, collage or could be a digital piece of work.
4. A finished, resolved piece of work in the media of your choosing.

## **DEADLINE**

First lesson in the new academic year in September, when you will put your work up as part of an exhibition. (be ready to discuss in front of your peers).

Any concerns or worries over the summer you can contact me over my school email:

[i.gibson@thepolesworthschool.com](mailto:i.gibson@thepolesworthschool.com)

Enjoy your summer and I look forward to seeing you back in for the new term.

Mr Gibson

## Course Details:

You will be following the AQA Fine Art Specification (7202/x/c). This is a two-year course culminating in a full A Level qualification.

## Assessments

Component 1: Personal investigation	+	Component 2: Externally set assignment
<b>What's assessed</b> Personal investigation – 7201/C, 7202/C, 7203/C, 7204/C, 7205/C, 7206/C		<b>What's assessed</b> Response to an externally set assignment – 7201/X, 7202/X, 7203/X, 7204/X, 7205/X, 7206/X
<b>Assessed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No time limit</li><li>• 96 marks</li><li>• 60% of A-level</li></ul>		<b>Assessed</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Preparatory period + 15 hours supervised time</li><li>• 96 marks</li><li>• 40% of A-level</li></ul>
Non-exam assessment (NEA) set and marked by the centre and moderated by AQA during a visit to the centre. Visits will normally take place in June.		Non-exam assessment (NEA) set by AQA, marked by the centre and moderated by AQA during a visit to the centre. Visits will normally take place in June.

You have to complete both components to qualify.

Your assessment is broken down into four assessment objectives;

- AO1: Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.
- AO2: Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops.
- AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress.
- AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements.

Taking A Level Art is very demanding but particularly so in terms of time. You will need to be well-organised and fully committed to get the most out of the course. On your timetable you are allocated ten contact hours every two weeks. These are your lessons with your teacher. In addition, it is expected that you spend a minimum of ten hours out of lessons. This could be working in the dedicated art sixth form area, at home or in the art classrooms. It is important to stress that you should get into good habits early on as the expectations are very high. Homework can be completion of class work but often means independent research, field work and developing methods and practises.

There is a very big gap between GCSE and A Level in Art in terms of technical skills needed, depth and breadth of investigation the resilience needed to cope with the pressures, you

will be expected to develop quickly from your GCSE practice to this new higher level. Term one can be especially tough as the transition to A Level is so demanding and your teachers will fully support you in this, but it can't be stressed enough, *you* are the person responsible for managing your time, completing deadlines and pushing yourself hard.

See you after the summer!

Mr Atkins

# Equipment List

Please find below a suggested list of materials for A Level Art:

- A1 plastic folder or portfolio
- A3 (or bigger) sketchbook
- A selection of drawing pencils-(B, 2B, 4B etc.)
- Masking tape
- Acrylic paint/Oil paint
- Watercolour palette or tin
- A selection of paintbrushes- (soft and stiff bristle)
- Pastels- soft/oil
- Soft coloured pencils or watercolour/Aquarelle
- Charcoal- compressed or pencil
- Selection of inks
- Selection of pens- fine liners
- Scalpel
- A3 cutting mat
- Art palette
- Selection of paper- cartridge/textured/watercolour

# Suggested Reading

## Websites:

<https://www.studentartguide.com/>  
<https://www.theartnewspaper.com/>  
<https://www.artforum.com/>  
<http://www.artnews.com/>  
<http://artreport.com/>  
<http://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/a-z>  
<https://www.artsy.net/artists>  
<https://artuk.org/discover/artists>

## TED Talks:

[https://www.ted.com/talks/alexa\\_meade?language=en#t-262476](https://www.ted.com/talks/alexa_meade?language=en#t-262476) Ted Talk by Alexa Meade- Your body is my canvas

## Books:

Thinking About Art: A Thematic Guide to Art History by Peter Huntsman (2015)  
What Are You Looking At? 150 Years of Modern Art in the Blink of an Eye by Will Gompertz (2016)  
Think Like an Artist by Will Gompertz (2015)  
Looking at Pictures by Susan Woodford (2018)  
The Art Book by Tom Melick (2014)  
The Art of Creative Thinking by Rod Judkins (2015)  
100 Artists' Manifestos from the Futurists to the Stuckists by Alex Danchev (2011)