

## YEAR 12 ART & DESIGN FOUNDATION STUDIES

### Year 12 Initial Sketchbook Work: 'Close-up'

Thank you for deciding to join the A-Level Art and Design course. The enthusiasm and commitment you have already shown, are essential for the next exciting stage of your artistic development and of course the continued practice of drawing.

Good quality drawing must be evidenced for demonstrating technical competence, an assessment objective for Advanced Level Art and Design. Drawing is also essential for supporting creative thinking and development work. The analysis of line, form, tone, colour, pattern, and texture provide the key elements relating to art, including: Fine Art, Art Textiles and Three-dimensional studies. The beginning of the course sets out to achieve improvement of drawing and refinement of analytical skills, through observation and recording with accuracy. The continued practice of drawing will strengthen existing skills and be a priority focus during the transition period.

The theme '**Close-up**' is therefore a technical drawing challenge. Drawings must be presented in an A5 spiral bound hard back sketchbook and be supported by your own close-up photography. Display the photo on the left hand page. See the examples. You may consider a macro lens for close up photography, which can be clipped to your phone improving clarity of detail, and magnification.

The term 'drawing' does not mean drawing with a pencil. You are expected to use a wide variety of drawing media, pen, pencil, paint, paste, charcoal, ink and collage, any media of your choice for each study and to show off talent. You must try to be accurate when representing and illustrating qualities and effects from life or a photographic image. Decide which media or combination of media will be the most effective for a realistic portrayal.

Selection of subject matter for drawing is important. You can choose interesting close up areas from inside and outside of the home environment: crumpled fabrics, rusting metal, inside a flowerhead, reflection on chrome, machinery... The close up may not be immediately recognizable because you are only drawing a small section, an extraction of detail. Aim for the drawing to fill one page of the A5 sketchbook.

When taking close up photographs, remember the purpose. Avoid repetition, too much of the same thing, will be boring to draw. Think about the formal elements of art and design, line, form, tone, colour, pattern, and texture. What do you like to draw? Which of these elements do you like the best? Select close up area to translate into an impressive collection of observations. Aim for 8 close-up drawings/ 8 A5 pages accompanied and complimented by own photography. You can include extra photographs. Display across a double page before the main photo and drawing on the facing page.

Grouping images and drawing will help the organisation and flow of the sketchbook.

Consider lighting and contrasts of tone for creating dramatic contrasts within photography and drawing. Think about combining colour and textural detail. Think about light passing through delicate surfaces for interesting translucent and overlapping effects. Think about distorted reflected imagery seen on shiny surfaces. Think about mixing bits of clothing in your wardrobe or look for textures in the garden or when out on a walk. Experiment with

photography. Give yourself a good selection of images to draw from. An investigative approach is a requirement of advanced level work. Avoid images from the internet.

Not all drawings need to be made from a photograph. You may work first-hand, directly from the subject matter. Do include photographic images relating to the drawing and showing investigation.

The technical challenge is to visually represent subject matter from life or photograph as precisely as possible. Aim for accuracy and realism.

You may wish to consider the paper or surfaces you draw/paint on. You can include some textural surfaces with scraps of corrugated card, textured wallpaper, and wrinkled tissue paper for specific effects essential to the drawing showing attention to fine detail.

The quality of drawing produced during the transition period will be used as a baseline assessment for Year 12 and be an indication of commitment.

Good luck. We look forward to viewing and discussing your drawings in September.

## September 2021

On return to college, the sketchbook will be further developed, to include replications of surface textural qualities making inventive and experimental use of non-traditional art materials. You will be encouraged to analyse close up surfaces and experiment with plaster, ceramics, textiles, sand, grit, foil. The experience will broaden your knowledge of drawing materials and challenges ahead.

The quality of drawings and craft work workshops will be assessed during the Autumn term.

Mrs Sabery

