



# St Joseph's Catholic Academy Art Department

## A LEVEL ART KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



### IMPORTANT INFO

Coursework – 60% of the overall grade. This is made up of your personal project and written essay.

Exam - 40%. One project set by the exam board (completed in Year 13)

In Year 12 you will create a project on the theme Still Life & Portraiture to build your skills to A Level standard. Your personal project can be on any theme you choose, as you create the project. These projects will be made up of sketchbook work and larger pieces of work.



### INDEPENDENT STUDY TIME

Students will need to draw and paint outside of their lesson times to build their skills. We expect 4 hours per week to be completed outside of lessons. Individual tasks will be set, but students must take a self-directed and personal approach. The sixth form studio space will be available for students to use during study periods, lunchtimes and after school on designated days. This is an excellent way of ensuring work is completed.

### AQA A LEVEL Fine Art recent Grade Boundaries (2019)

A* - 79	D - 43
A - 74	E - 33
B - 63	
C - 53	



**Coursework is 60% and Exam is 40% of the overall grade**

**My Target Grade:  
What I'm work at:**



**What I'm working to:**

### PRESENTATION

In order to cover all Assessment Objectives ensure you have the following pages included in your sketchbook at least. Throughout your project will do more than one of each page e.g. x3 Artist analysis. Pages 4 – 6 can be seen as the process of researching and developing your work – you may do this many times in your project so might repeat pages 4-6 many times throughout your projects.

**REMEMBER you are not expected to complete all of this overnight! You will build up your portfolio over the course of each term so do not try to do it all at once!**



#### 1. Title Page and Mind-map to explore the theme

- Clear title
- Relevant inspiration images
- 3-4 different aspects of the theme
- Art/Photography Techniques you could use
- Keywords
- Initial ideas about the theme
- Higher levels** will have Initial Artist inspiration

#### 2. Mood board

- Should focus on one aspect of your theme
- Include a range of inspiration images (secondary)
- Inspiration will include images relating to theme and relevant artists, cultural movements
- Keywords
- Higher levels** will include initial sketches
- Annotation –summary of how your mood board has helped develop your ideas

#### 3. Primary Research

- Clear title
- Photographs that you have taken yourself
- Annotation –how do the images relate to your theme? When / When / Why did you take them? How do the images inspire you?
- Observational drawings based on your photographs –use a variety of media –show a variety of angles.
- Higher Levels** will include some initial sketches for final product based on sketches

#### 4. Artist/Photographer Research

- A coherent and logically structured extended response of between 1,000 and 3,000 words of continuous prose
- Include specialist vocabulary appropriate to the subject matter
- Include a bibliography that identifies contextual references from sources such as books and websites.
- Be legible with accurate use of spelling, punctuation and grammar so that meaning is clear.

#### 5. Experimentation

- Clear Title
- A range of different art samples
- Images that have inspired the material, technique or process
- Annotation –See AO1 on other side of sheet
- Evaluation of experiments
- Initial ideas sketches for your final piece & annotation

#### 6. Development work

- Clear title
- A developed study that combines the different materials techniques, processes which have come from your research pages.
- Photos that have inspired the study
- Annotation and Evaluation of your developed study

#### 7. Final Piece Plan

- Clear title
- Range of initial ideas for your final piece.
- Final design plan of your final piece –multiple views –annotated –higher levels will include completed areas of your final piece to showing confident control over materials.
- Evaluation of studies.
- Timeline plan of processes –draw out and label how you are going to create your final design

# AO1 EXPLORE

EXPLORE  
ANNOTATE  
THEME IMAGES  
ARTISTS  
RESEARCH

AO1 worth 25%

**AO1: Record Observations**  
Good quality drawings & photos you have taken yourself.

- Explore subject matter
- Different media, viewpoints, ideas

**DO I HAVE A RANGE OF SOURCES?**  
A themed mind map, a mood board, a range of artists/designers/makers with analysis of their work, your own photos, a trip to a gallery, museum or place of interest.

**QUESTIONS TO HELP YOU ANALYSE?**  
What do you see in the work?  
Does the artist rely on direct observation, memory, invention or imagination?  
Is the subject treated realistically, or is it exaggerated, distorted or abstracted?  
How has the work been designed?  
What colours have been used?  
How have these been arranged?  
Are they harmonious or contrasting?  
Are they used subtly or vividly or boldly?  
Has the artist used texture in the works?  
What materials has the artist used?  
What tools, techniques, process and technology has the artist used?  
Do you think the artist made use of supporting studies e.g. sketches, observation, drawings, moquette's and/or photographs?  
Do you think the work was produced rapidly, or over a considerable time span?  
Does the work successfully communicate feelings to do with life or nature?  
Is the work quiet or noisy, calming or disturbing, happy or sad?  
Can you imagine what the artist was feeling when he/she produced this?  
What words most effectively describe your feelings about this work?

**WHAT SHOULD I DO NEXT?**  
Create some initial drawings based on your source.  
Take some photographs inspired by my source which you can then draw from.  
Experiment with the same materials, techniques that my source uses.  
Combine the work of two sources.

# AO2 EXPERIMENT

EXPERIMENT WITH A RANGE OF MEDIA  
LINKING TECHNIQUES TO ARTISTS AND THEMES  
TEXTILES WATERCOLOUR CLAY MIXED MEDIA PHOTOGRAPHS PEN AND INK

AO2 worth 25%

**AO2: Research & Analysis**  
Explore the work of at least 2 artists.

- Analyse techniques, ideas and approaches
- Apply these to your own ideas.


**Have you experimented with a range of materials?**

- **Refine work:** Refine means to make things better and better as you go through your project. You could do this by using the same material, technique or process but making it better each time. Refine work by comparing your experimentations and evaluating them. What does and doesn't work?
- **Explore Ideas:** This can be as a sketch or completed outcome—it doesn't matter if it doesn't work, it's an experimentation, just evaluate it and explain your thoughts.
- **Experimenting with appropriate media, materials and techniques:** practice using a material, technique or process which suits what you are trying to do. Don't be afraid to experiment and combine different techniques to see what effect they give! Think outside of the box.

**Once you have completed your experimentation, what do you do next? You could:**

- Develop a more focussed study using your own images using the material, technique or process.
- Sketch an initial idea to show how you would use this experimentation in your work

**Evaluate your experimentation to help you refine your ideas and techniques:**  
**What** have you done? **-What** techniques did you use? **-What** inspired you? **-How** does it relate to your theme? **-How** have you done it? **-What** did you like / dislike about the technique? **-Was** it successful? **Why / why not?** **-How** could you improve? **-What** else could you try? **-Is** there anything you would change? **Why?** **-How** will you develop your work now?



# AO3 IDEAS

IDEAS LINKING TO ARTISTS WORK  
OBSERVATIONAL DRAWINGS PLANS  
ALL ARTWORK LINKING TOGETHER IN A RANGE OF EXPLANATIONS  
PLANS, DESIGNS IN DIFFERENT MEDIA ANNOTATION

AO3 worth 25%

**AO3: Develop Ideas**

- Develop at least 2 **composition ideas**
- Produce **detailed studies** of elements of your composition
- **Experiment** with materials & techniques

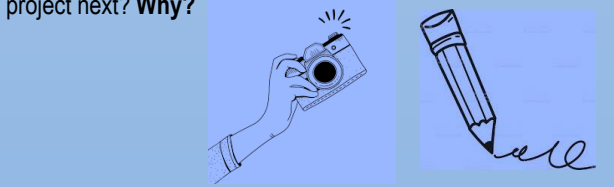
Recording ideas is really important to show your thought process and development.

- **Sketches** – Sketch out your ideas, they should be clearly inspired by your experimentations or research pages. Annotate these to explain your thought process.
- **Observational drawing**—Sketching objects that relate to your theme can help inspire ideas.
- **Take photographs**—take photos of people, objects, places as inspiration or take process photos when you are experimenting with materials, techniques or processes.
- **Annotation**—Annotation, ensure you annotate to explain your thoughts. underline any key points you have made/keywords. Explain where your ideas have come from.

**Once you have recorded your ideas, what do you do next?**

- **New sources**—develop your project by looking at a new source to show the next step in your project.
- **Observational sketches**—use the sketches to develop your next step.
- **Take photographs**—take photographs of what you think should happen next in your project and annotate them. All next steps should CLEARLY link back to AO1 and AO2. Ensure there is a link and it fits in with your project so there is a flow to your project.

**What materials, processes, techniques have you used in your study? Why? –How** does it link to the your project so far? **-Is** your experimentation inspired by any of your research pages? **How? Why? –What** developments would you make to your project next? **Why?**



# AO4 FINAL

FINAL PIECE OF WORK  
MEANINGFUL INFORMED RESPONSE LINKS  
SHOW UNDERSTANDING VISUALS AND ARTISTS RELEVANT

AO4 worth 25%

**AO4: Final Piece**

- Select your **best idea**
- Ensure your final piece shows **strong connections** to your observations, research and ideas development.

This assessment objective is mainly judged when looking at your project as a whole. It can be assessed by looking at the flow of your project, the work you have included in your project, what you have said in your annotation, and where your project lead to in the end including your final outcome.

**Personal, informed and meaningful response:** What are your feelings and reactions? It must be meaningful by relating to your source of inspiration at the beginning. Make sure everything links, flows well and is not random. Does your project tell a visual story? A personal response is **any** response where it is your own work. You can be inspired by designers but don't copy them, use their work as inspiration for your own.

**Demonstrates analytical and critical understanding:**  
**Combine** different materials, techniques and processes throughout your project. Make sure you have continually developed you ideas throughout.

Before creating your final outcome make sure you:

- Sketch out your final design, planning what materials, techniques and processes you will use.
- Make preparatory studies using the materials you will use.
- Annotate your drawings to explain your thought process—you can do this with photographs or sketches.

**Project reflection:**  
**What** was your initial theme and **how** were you inspired by it? **-How** did you begin your research? **Why? –How** do your studies reflect your own ideas (i.e. your personal response) **-What** would you do differently? **Why? -If** you were to develop this theme / project, **how** would you do it? **Why?**