

YEAR 12 – BRIDGING UNITS

A-LEVEL ART, Craft AND DESIGN



ST HILDA'S
COLLEGE

The 6th Form
@ St Hilda's

bridging
units

Name:

Anything is

POSSIBLE

YEAR 11 TRANSITION TO A LEVEL ART.

Congratulations on choosing to study A-Level Art. You have chosen to study a course that will develop the skills you have learnt previously in year 11 and encourage you to become a more independent learner through exploration, risk taking, hard work and teacher guidance.

By the end of the course, you will have a greater understanding of Art as well as the technical and communication skills needed to pursue an Art and Design course in higher education.

PREPARATION AND ORGANISATION.

Being prepared and organised are vital skills needed to complete any A-Level course. Art and Design A-Level subjects are extremely demanding in terms of the amount of practical work needed and the level of demand, depth, detail and knowledge you need in order to complete the course successfully. Keeping on top of your studies is crucial.

Introduction.

This bridging work will ensure you are prepared in September and that you are ready for an exciting, yet challenging year ahead. This work is designed to help you develop your awareness of the many areas within the fields of art and design and will guide you in starting to form your own personal style within this subject.

- This summer project consists of 6 mini projects.
- Read through the pages and choose the order in which you want to do them.
- You need to decide on a way to record the work that you do- whether it is making a blog, online diary or a homemade sketchbook.
- Be resourceful. Be inventive, there is really no need to spend a lot on materials or equipment.
- Deadline - Please bring your work into your first timetabled lesson with a view to complete all mini projects by **Monday 14th September 2026**.

Good luck and enjoy!

Tasks for Y11 Students moving to A-level Art, Craft and Design.

TASK 1

WHERE SHOULD I START?

Consider the following questions and write an introduction to your Summer Project Sketchbook:

- What do you already enjoy about Art?
- What subjects or themes in Art are you most passionate about? What is it about this subject matter that is interesting? Why?
- Can you tell us about any particular artists/styles or genres that you can relate to?
- Are there any particular techniques that you already enjoy using?
- Tell us about a particularly memorable exhibition or gallery you have been to, what you saw and what were the most memorable pieces there and why.
- Let us know what you are looking forward to once you start the course and why.



SUMMER PROJECT

TASK 2

SCULPTURE, ASSEMBLAGE & COLLAGE

- Look at the work of artist **Joseph Cornell**
- Gather a variety of objects or ephemera that suggest a time, place or emotion of your choice
- What can you use to put your objects in?

Cardboard packaging? Newspaper? An old book? An old jam jar?

A small drawer or box? A matchbox? An old fish tank that no one wants!

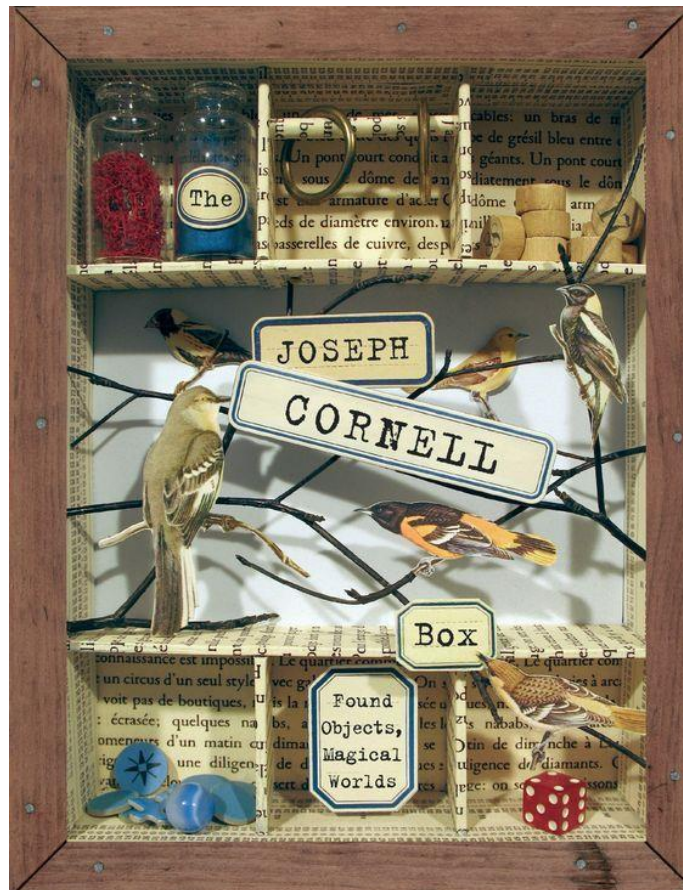
- What can you use to join things together?

Glue? Elastic bands? Pegs? String? Shoelaces? Sellotape? Masking tape?

Garden wire?

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SUMMER PROJECT

TASK 3

SCULPTURE, ASSEMBLAGE & COLLAGE

The outcomes you create will be unusual, don't be afraid of the unconventional.

- Dada Artist Link - **Hannah Hoch**
- **Task:** Create a collaged portrait.

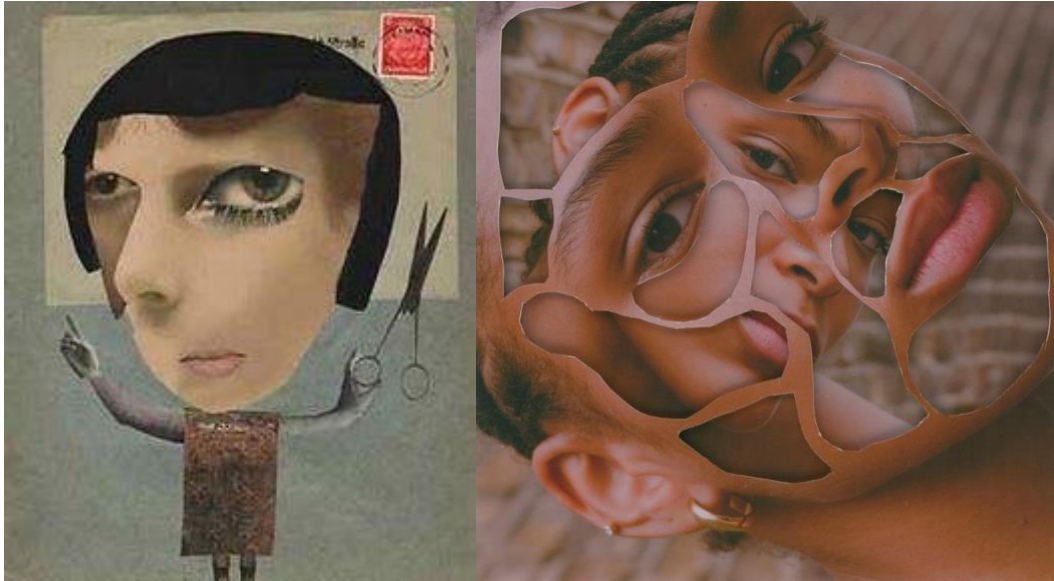
Consider strange combinations of scale and colour. Use photographs and pictures from magazines/internet/newspapers etc.

- Artist Link - **Rosanna Jones**
- **Task:** Create images by cutting out figures.

Could you use old photographs that someone has lying around in an old box? Or pictures from a magazine?

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SUMMER PROJECT

TASK 4

PORTRAITURE.

Research Portraits and find a variety of different styles you like and dislike – Pinterest is a really good tool

for inspiration or maybe take a Gallery tour online?

<https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/visiting/virtual-tours>

Print the images you find, create a mood board and make notes on your thoughts and feelings towards these pieces;

- Do you like/dislike the work? Why?
- What materials have been used?
- How has the artist used Visual Language? (What is the artist trying to communicate through the artwork – what is the work about?)

It is really important that you are able to analyse artwork and show how you may be able to use your findings to build your own ideas and concepts.



SUMMER PROJECT

TASK 5

PORTRAITURE.

Take some of your own portrait photographs, look at the work of Irving Penn and Annie Leibovitz as inspiration. Photograph yourself and other people? Again, think about visual language, what are you trying to convey in the photograph?

Use your phone or a camera if you have one. There are some tips below.

<https://photographypro.com/portrait-photography/>

Irving Penn



Annie Leibovitz



Anything is

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SUMMER PROJECT

TASK 6

PORTRAITURE.

Have a go at some portraits yourself. Look at the Rules of facial proportion and practise. Practise really does make perfect – we will be pushing you for accuracy when we start in September so practising now will really help.

Really study your face, draw what you see – not what you want to see – don't stylise and over exaggerate.

Draw the wrinkles and lines, draw the slightly wonky nose, the freckles, draw our beautiful imperfections.

It may help to start off by drawing just the facial features separately slowing building towards drawing a whole face. Start off with outlines and proportions, build up to tone (concentrating on range of tone, contrast and directional shading) then experiment with other materials you have at home. If you are struggling for materials, you could make your own pigments by drawing with coffee, beetroot water or use your pencil sharpening's to make black ink by adding a little water.

Look at the work of **Jenny Saville**, she doesn't hide her subjects' imperfections.

