

Year 12 Summer Project: AQA A-Level Art and Design: Fine Art

Welcome Back – Year 13 Preparation

This summer project is designed to support the development of your Personal Investigation and strengthen your ability to analyse, synthesise and refine ideas independently. The work you complete should directly inform and develop your Personal Investigation, providing a strong foundation for Year 13.

Task 1: Complete Your Victoria and Albert Museum Visit Write-Up

Using the notes, sketches, photographs and observations collected during your recent museum visit, produce a detailed visual analysis of the exhibits, artworks, designers or objects that were most relevant to your Personal Investigation.

Your write-up should include:

Visual Evidence

Photographs from the visit

Sketches and observational studies

Notes and recordings made on the day

Analysis

Discuss:

Materials used

Construction methods and processes

Aesthetic qualities

Function and purpose

Historical and cultural influences

Sustainability considerations (where relevant)

Reflection

Consider:

What interested you most and why?

Which artists, designers, architects or objects relate to your Personal Investigation?

What ideas, techniques or approaches could be applied to your own work?

How has the visit developed or challenged your thinking?

Minimum Expectation

2–4 well-developed sketchbook pages based on your museum visit.

Task 2: Extract and Develop Ideas

Using your museum research pages as a starting point, identify opportunities to improve and further refine one of your existing explorations or outcomes.

Select:

An artwork, concept, theme, media experiment or practical investigation from your Personal Investigation that has potential for further development.

Consider how influences from the museum visit can be used to develop your ideas in new and meaningful ways.

Task 3: Create a Minimum of Four Additional Development Pages

Produce at least four A3 sketchbook pages that demonstrate a clear process of experimentation, development and refinement.

You may choose to work through:

Sketching
Drawing
Mixed media experimentation
Photography
Painting
Printmaking
Materials testing
Digital techniques
A combination of approaches

Development and Refinement

Show how your ideas evolve rather than simply presenting finished outcomes.

Your pages should demonstrate:

Experimentation
Testing alternatives
Problem solving
Modification and improvement
Visual connections between research and practical work

Annotation Expectations

Annotations should explain:

Why changes have been made
What inspired the development?
Which museum references influenced the work?
What has improved
How have your ideas become stronger?
Which refinements were successful?
What would you develop further?
What still needs investigation?
What possibilities remain unexplored?

Evaluation and Reflection

Throughout the project, consider:

What was successful?
Which ideas have the greatest potential?
Which experiments were most effective?
Which visual references were most influential?
What challenges emerged?
What are your next steps?

Minimum of 2 pages of analysis of work from your museum visit and 4 pages of refinement of ideas and/or experimentation of media and/or preliminary sketches