

Year 11 → Year 12 AQA A-Level Art

Recommended Equipment List

- A3 sketchbook (170gsm paper or higher)
- A2/A3 portfolio case for storing work
- Quality drawing pencils (2H–8B)
- Colouring pencils (watercolour pencils if possible)
- Fine liner pens (various sizes)
- 30cm ruler
- Sharpener
- Eraser
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Black marker pen
- White gel pen
- Watercolour paint set
- Acrylic paint set
- Paintbrushes (various sizes)
- Mixing palette
- Charcoal sticks and pencils
- Soft pastels or oil pastels
- Posca or paint pens
- Tracing paper
- Masking tape
- Magazine cuttings for collage

Summer Activities for Students Moving into A-Level Art

1. Create a Visual Journal

Complete at least:

- 20 pages of observational drawings
 - 10 pages of mixed-media experiments
 - 10 pages of annotation and reflection
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2. Artist Research Project

Choose 3 artists and produce:

- Artist biography
- Analysis of 2 artworks each
- Practical response inspired by each artist

Suggested artists:

- Jenny Saville
 - Anselm Kiefer
 - Grayson Perry
 - Yinka Shonibare
 - Michael Craig-Martin
 - Tim Walker
 - Marina Abramović
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3. "100 Drawings Challenge"

Produce 100 small drawings during the summer:

- Hands
- Shoes
- Plants
- Buildings
- Pets
- Self-portraits
- Objects from around the home

This rapidly develops AO3 observational skills.

4. Photography Collection

Take:

- 50 original photographs
- Portraits
- Architecture
- Nature
- Texture studies
- Reflections and shadows

Organise them into folders ready to use as primary sources.

5. Gallery and Exhibition Research

Visit at least:

- 1 gallery or museum

Or complete virtual visits of:

- Tate Modern
- Tate Britain
- National Gallery
- V&A

Record:

- Photos (where permitted)
 - Sketches
 - Notes
 - Personal responses
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6. Material Experiments

Create a page exploring each of:

- Watercolour
- Acrylic
- Ink
- Collage
- Charcoal
- Monoprinting
- Digital manipulation

Link each experiment to an artist.

7. Read and Annotate

Research:

- The four AQA Assessment Objectives
 - How professional artists develop projects
 - Contemporary exhibitions and artists
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Summer Challenge

"One Object, Fifty Ways"

Choose a single object (e.g. a key, a shoe, a flower or a toy) and create 10 different studies using:

- Drawing
 - Painting
 - Photography
 - Digital editing
 - Collage
 - Abstract interpretation
 - Different scales and viewpoints
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Expectation for September

Students should bring: ☒ Their equipment pack

☒ An A3 sketchbook

☒ At least 30 completed sketchbook pages

☒ 50 photographs

☒ Research on 3 artists

☒ Evidence of gallery/exhibition engagement