Welcome prospective year 12 student. Here is a starting point to help you to make the transition from GCSE to A level art. Best wishes- Mr McGrath (art subject leader)

Summer art activities

Aim to produce a sketchbook of studies and larger drawings. It is important that you practise your observational drawing. The sketchbook could be a combination of thoughts, photographs and drawings. Your sketchbook should also reference artists to make connections with. We are requesting a minimum of 5 x A4 or A3 drawings based on a starting point of your choice with annotations to explain your ideas and inspiration. You may also use other materials if you have them.

Start to consider a theme for your drawings which will give them a coherence to form a series.

Suggested themes...

Natural and artificial. Spaces and environments. Flaws and imperfections. Conceal and reveal. Time and decay.

You could start off by looking at everyday objects. An object may be symbolic or have its own history. You might focus on a small section of your object and enlarge it. You may choose to focus on the flaws of the object and contrast with a different item. There could be a sense of transformation in how you could reimagine your object or subject. Capturing a striking contrast between natural and artificial elements is something you could aim for. Equally you may choose to draw other subject matter such as portraits which are partially concealed by a hand or a type of material.

Try to make your 5 drawings connect. For instance, you could record an object which changes or face which becomes gradually revealed. You could aim to use a different style or drawing implement for each drawing. You could draw on an unusual surface such as a map.

Artists

Find at least 2 artists and allow their intentions to influence yours. This may be a visual or conceptual influence.

Christo, Jim Dine, Arman, Sarah Lucas, Mona Hatoum, Lisa Milroy, Karl Blossfeldt, Ryan Tippery, Gillian Lambert, Ed Fairburn

Useful websites to visit www.tate.org.uk www.balticmill.com www.moma.org www.art2day.co.uk www.studentartguide.com