

Welcome prospective year 12 student. Here is a starting point to help you to make the transition from GCSE to A level photography.

Best wishes,

Mr McGrath (art subject leader)

Summer photography transition activities.

To prepare you for the course it is important to start to produce a photo sketchbook of ideas and photographs. You should be prepared to hand in a minimum of 30 photographs for your first lesson after the summer.

Choose from the following photography exercises and start to record your ideas and images in a book. This can include drawings and should have thumbnail images which document your thoughts on your images. You might also digitally manipulate your images and explain the process you have used. Your book should show how you have improved your photographs by technical means, for example using the manual settings on your camera, cropping or lighting. Try changing the ISO setting and try different apertures and shutter speeds.

Colour: Produce a series of photos on this theme. You could focus on a specific colour, colour contrasts or unexpected colours.

Shape: A series of photos where your choices are dictated by shape. You may set up or find subjects which are all circular for instance.

Flaws and imperfections: This may involve looking for things which are in a state of decay or by helping things on their way. It could be fragments of things or damaged objects.

Concealed/ revealed: Produce a series from this starting point. Photographs through a rain on window will give the outside world a sense of being concealed.

Photographers: Choose a well-known photographer and respond to their techniques or ideas by producing your own responses. Try to add your own personal twist in the images.

Suggestions... Irving Penn, Bill Brandt, Edward Weston, Muybridge, Rodchenko, Cindy Sherman, Man Ray, Tacita Dean, Laura Letinsky, Alex Prager, Martin Parr

Visit art galleries such as York City Gallery or the YSP to gain a wider appreciation of art and design.

Find websites to discover new ideas. The guardian/ art/ photography is a good source of current images.

www.photonet.org.uk

www.art2day.co.uk

www.tate.org.uk