

ART SUMMER TRANSITION WORK

Observational Drawing Practice

Over the summer, you will complete a series of drawings based on **direct observation**. This means drawing from real life, not from images found online. Observational drawing is a key skill at A Level and will help you improve your accuracy, confidence, and ability to record ideas visually.

What to Draw

You should complete drawings from the following:

- **Portraits** – yourself (self-portraits) or others
- **Interiors** – rooms or spaces you spend time in
- **Objects** – personal items that represent your identity (e.g. belongings, hobbies, meaningful objects)

How to Approach Your Work

- Work from **real life wherever possible**
- Spend time looking carefully at your subject before drawing
- Aim to capture:
 - Proportion and scale
 - Tone, light, and shadow
 - Texture and detail

Experimentation

Try a range of different approaches:

- Media: pencil, pen, charcoal, ink, or biro
- Scale: quick sketches and more detailed, longer studies
- Style: loose, expressive drawings as well as more careful, detailed work

Expected Outcome

- Produce **at least 8–10 drawings**
- Show a **range of subjects, materials, and styles**
- Present your work clearly in your sketchbook

Key Reminder

Focus on **practice, not perfection**. Your drawings do not need to be “finished” pieces—what matters is effort, observation, and willingness to experiment.