



The Ecclesbourne School Sixth Form

Textile Design

A level- Subject information



Subject Overview

Students work towards an Art and Design A' level specialising in Textile design.

Learners can work creatively within the following area(s) of study, such as: • Garments/Fashion • Accessories • Soft furnishings • Printed and/or dyed textiles • Constructed textiles • Textile installation • Expressive textiles • Digital textiles.

The course of study is made up of two components: a Personal investigation (60%) and an Externally set task (40%). • The Personal investigation has two integrated elements: a portfolio of practical work and a related study which explores the context in which their chosen practical area of study exists.

Learners choose their own context for the Personal investigation and are given a choice of themes for the Externally set task, culminating in a 15-hour practical, creating a final piece.

What can you do to prepare for the start of this course:

- **Be inquisitive-** find and collect things which may be interesting in colour and texture and could inspire you.
- **Be snap happy-** Look for inspiration in the most unusual or regular places. Record things you see, places you go, people you see. Find your inspiration through your lens on all scales.

Continue your preparation.....

- **Experiment with different media-** try out new ways of making observational drawings through recording the texture , shape, colour, detail, light and shade by experimenting with different media. Small thumbnail sketches are perfect.
- Do you have fabrics or materials at home or from friends or family (they need to dispose of). Be a collector
- Set yourself a **Pinterest** account specifically for your inspiration or create a series of new boards on an existing account. Search key words like Free stitching, Fabric manipulation, Textile print and dyeing techniques, Textile designers, Stitch structures, draping, constructed textiles...
- **Purchase a sketchbook-** I recommend A3 size, landscape or portrait or a similar sized square format with a good weight of paper around 170-220gsm. (Art gecko are good quality)

Summer holiday preparatory work:

We will begin with a theme of ***'People and their environment' which will include sub themes of Aquatics, Structures and Decay***

Responding to this theme:

1. Take and collate around 14-16 photographs which depict your interpretation of this theme. If able to, please print on photographic paper- matt or gloss.
2. Research your ideas for this theme and bring your research to the first lesson. You may like to mind map this theme or consider how you could present your ideas in a new and innovative way.
3. Try to create 3-4 observational sketch drawings or studies. No need to be finished masterpieces. Try to be creative with the media you use.

Bring to your first lesson Happy Holidays!