

Introduction to studying A level Textiles:



**These following tasks are designed as an introduction to the A-level Textile course. They will be set as your first week’s homework when you begin in September. However, as you have an extended summer, I would suggest that you make a start on the work, or even better still, complete it so it lightens your workload for the first week you start College as it will help to prepare you for the course:**

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| 1 | **Personal Statement- Why do you wish to study A-level Textiles?**  |
| a | I would like to know a little more about you, so for your initial task I would like you to create a written piece, a bit like an artist statement, about why you wish to study A- Level Textiles? Please use the questions below to help prompt you to write your personal statement: - What do you enjoy about textiles? - What aspect of textiles do you enjoy most? (e.g. making garments, being creative, exploring colour or using a wide range of media/ materials to create artwork)- Who/ what are your inspirations? (this could be family members or the environment around you, an exhibition you have seen etc.) - What is your favourite textile technique? (weaving, knitting, felting, stitching, applique etc)- What was the first textile item you made/ the first thing you ever made out of materials (with or without stitch)? How old were you? - What has been your favourite piece of textiles/ textile art you have made? Why? What significance did it have? (you may wish to display a picture alongside your written statement to demonstrate what you made.) - Which are your favourite artists/ textile artists or designers? Why do you like about their work? (you may wish to insert some pictures from your Pinterest board into this answer)- Why do you wish to study A-level Textiles? (This could be to balance your other subjects, to expand your creative knowledge, have an outlet for your creativity or to explore a future career in textiles/ art/ design.)-How do you think that this course will impact your future studies after A-levels? Do you have a future creative degree you wish to study or a dream job?You can present this written statement in either a word document (or an equivalent) or Powerpoint.  |
| 2 | **Contextual Research (artists research):** |
| a | For your second task, please sign up to Pinterest (if you do not have an account already) and create a new board called ‘A-Level Textile Inspiration’. * On this board, please add any artists, textile artists and/ fashion designers that you admire or you find inspiring. If you want an idea of some contemporary textile artists have a look at www.62group.org.uk or [www.textileartist.org](http://www.textileartist.org) or www.vogue.co.uk
 |
| b | Follow the ‘Callywith Textiles’ Pinterest page- <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/amyscragg9035/boards/> |
| 3 | **Creative making:** |
| ab | For your third task, I would like to assess your creative skills, so please select one of the textile artists from your Pinterest board or www.62group.org.uk or [www.textileartist.org](http://www.textileartist.org) and using whatever resources you have at home, recreate a section of their artwork using similar resources, or use their work to inspire a piece of your own textile artwork. Consider what resources you already have access to at home, try to resourceful rather going out and buying new items, if you can. What do you have available to you? e.g.scraps of fabric, thread, hand needles, thread, acrylic paint, paintbrushes, buttons? OrJoin the TextileArtist.org community stitch challenge 2020 on Facebook and choose one of the challenges from one of the weeks and create a hand stitched outcome. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stitchchallenge/about/>Week 1- Sue Stone challenge (stitch swatch)Week 2- Cas Holmes Challenge (observational hand stitch applique) Week 3- Emily Tull Challenge (eye observational stitch)Week 4- Richard McVetis Challenge (couching)Week 5- Emily Jo Gibbs Challenge |

**Please source the following things for your start for the course:**

A pair of dressmaking scissors

A basic pencil case with biros, pencils, rubber, a ruler etc

**Be prepared to bring in money during the first week of the course for a textile pack which will include the following items for the course:**

* Embroidery scissors
* Paper scissors
* Pins
* Selection of hand sewing needles
* Embroidery threads
* Wooden embroidery hoop
* Sketchbook
* A3 plastic portfolio
* An initial selection of sewing machine thread (Good quality thread)
* Set of Watercolour paints
* Set of paintbrushes
* Fineliners
* Double sided tape and a pritt stick

You may already have some of these items at home, if you do collect them together, write down what you have so we can take some items out of the pack for you.

**All the best and enjoy your summer. Look forward to meeting you all in the Autumn term.**

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