

HILLS ROAD ART AND DESIGN DEPARTMENT

NEW AS LEVEL ART AND DESIGN STUDENTS

INDUCTION DAY JUNE 2011

Welcome to you all – we hope you have an enjoyable day – these are some notes to help you settle in and start your course quickly and effectively when you return in September.

Firstly there are a number of things you should have with you at the start of term:

1. Your vacation work (see notes further on);

2. A reasonable range of basic art materials:

a selection of drawing pencils; HB, 2B, 4B

a selection of coloured pencils

good quality paintbrushes; No. 1, 4 and 8 (make sure they come to a point)

a container to keep your pencils and brushes in;

a set of paints (for use at home) – minimum basic set: Black, White, Red, Yellow, Blue

chalk and oil pastels

a pair of scissors, sharpening knife and rubber

Beyond this as many of your own art materials as possible (both dry and wet) are always useful – especially at home as they broaden the range of options available to you. You also may have other less traditional materials you can play with. Quality art materials are great, but great art can sometimes be made with very humble ingredients that may well be just what you can find around – not simply the things you can buy from an art shop.

3. An A3 sketchbook (when you start the course you will probably want others, in various sizes and in various sizes and types of paper); good value sketchbooks are on sale in the Art Department;

4. An A4 exhibition study notebook; (also on sale in the Art Department);

Note: the A3 and A4 books are available today at induction, if you do not purchase them today please buy 'portrait' format spiral bound with good quality cartridge paper – and not the style with perforated pull out pages – they tend to fall out.

Summer Vacation Work

The vacation work is an integral part of the course and it should be done as carefully as possible and handed in during the first week of term. Expect to spend at least 1 - 2 hours on each piece.

Do this work as soon as possible and certainly before your GCSE level results come out. Use whatever materials for "drawing" you think appropriate to the subject (i.e. pencil, ink, pastel, watercolour, oil, wax crayons, collage, felt pens, ball pens, conte, charcoal etc.) Do be brave and try a variety of materials; certainly use different materials for each piece of work. If you are unhappy with anything, don't pull out the page, simply turn over and continue – we like mistakes in art because that is how we learn!

All work is to be done from observation (that is working from what you can see directly in front of you). You could also include photographs on the same theme which you have taken or from magazines to support (but **not** instead of) your drawings:

- A. Do at least three separate drawings in either your sketchbook (each drawing could continue over a double spread) or on separate long pieces of paper.
- B. Select parts of large areas (at least 6' in actual length). Mark it out if necessary before you start:
- C. Make sure you select an interesting, complicated "patch" to work from.

Do each of your three drawings from three quite different areas. Choose an outside location (No more than one in your garden – make the effort to go out and discover a really interesting location).

Suggested situations to work from:

- a) shadows and buildings
- b) old stone wall (possibly with vegetation creeping through)
- c) mud crated floor (possibly a dried up stream or marshland)
- d) stony beach (with various sized stones)
- e) rotting wooden fence (possibly with vegetation creeping through)
- f) derelict buildings
- g) overrun graveyard
- h) area of rubbish, discarded materials
- i) area of riverbank
- j) area of broken rocks
- k) looking into a stream or rock pool