



CERAMICS (ART: 3D DESIGN)

In order to succeed in A level Ceramics, in addition to the obvious skills and techniques involved in working with clay, candidates will also be required to hone their skills in the following key areas:

- Ability to select, gather and collate pertinent research material
- Use research material to help inspire own original ideas
- Show a gradual and meaningful development of possible design ideas
- Present research and developmental designs in a creative and logical manner
- Ability to annotate design ideas with clear explanations

The L6 project will be a broad topic based around 'Structure, Pattern and Texture' which will enable pupils to eventually focus on their preferred choice of Independent Project.

Bearing this in mind, start thinking about whether you would like to concentrate your work over the next few weeks on 'Structures in Nature', or 'Man-made Structures'.

First Task:

Take some photographs of relevant images which you could possibly use in your project, for example:

- **Natural Structures:** Close up pictures of various fruits/vegetables (outside surface, cut up segments) flowers, plants, bark, leaves, etc.
- **Man-made Structures:** Close up pictures of architecture, machinery, cogs, wheels, backs of clocks/watches, different angles of furniture etc.

Whichever you choose, try to collect a good variety of interesting patterns, colours, textures and forms, that could ultimately be transferred onto a clay surface.

- Using your photographic research as a source of inspiration, experiment with drawing some sections of your images using a variety of different media e.g pencils, black biro/pen, paints etc. - whatever you have available at home.
- Try using some mixed media backgrounds to work on: this could include cardboard, brown paper bags, tracing paper (kitchen greaseproof paper) or even newspapers

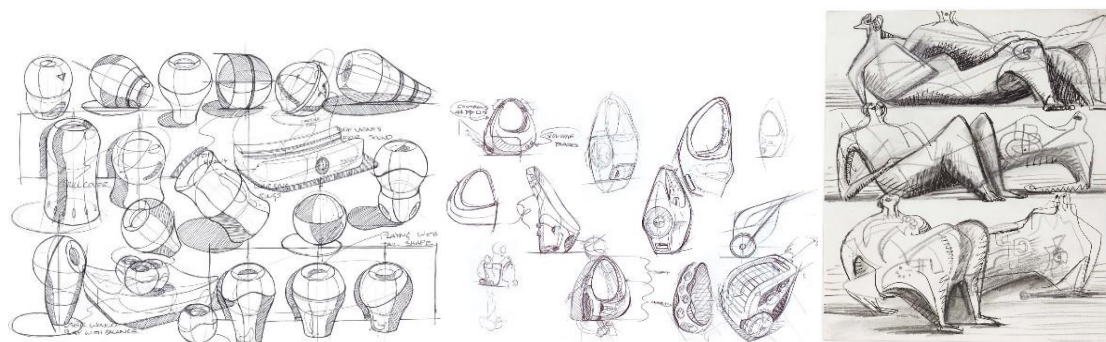
Second Task:

Really think about how you present your work, as it makes a huge difference in effectively communicating your ideas and will ultimately help to enhance your final grade.

- Try to present your photos and drawings from last week in an individual and creative format - If you have a sketchbook of your own to work in that would be perfect, if not simply work on larger sheets of paper. You can also include more drawings and ideas, as well as some written notes to explain your ideas.

Third Task:

- Research a selection of different Ceramicists and/or Designers/Architects etc whose work is loosely related to your own chosen topic. Using their work as an initial source of inspiration, try to create a gradual progression of your own developmental designs - see examples of different sketches shown below. Keep thinking about how you present your work and add written comments to explain ideas.



Try to experiment with some sort of three-dimensional test pieces which reflect some of the ideas you have been exploring over the last few weeks. Here are a few suggestions to help you:

- If you are researching Natural Structures, try looking at [Andy Goldsworthy](#) who uses completely natural elements to make his sculptures - go foraging outside and create your own 3D sculptures using twigs, leaves, pebbles etc
- If you are researching man-made Structures, look at some of the many examples of recycled art using cardboard boxes, plastic bottles/containers, cans etc - just check out cardboard sculptures on google and you will be amazed at the creations!
- If you have any plasticine lying around, try creating some small experimental maquettes (a model for a larger piece of sculpture)

Make sure that you take photos of all of your creations – hopefully they will get better as you gain more experience.

Fourth Task:

- Look back at all of the work you have produced over the last few weeks and produce one final drawing/design for a piece of sculpture. Try to make your drawing look as three-dimensional as possible, using whatever materials/media you want.