

GCSE Art & Design: Resource Sheet 3

A03 - Reflective recording: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.

Helpful definitions:

Insight is the ability to discern the true nature of something.

Relevant means having practical application.

Intentions are aims that guide actions or a course of action that you plan to follow.

What's the purpose of this A0?

Reflective recording is intended to:

- sharpen your observation, so that you become more visually perceptive
- increase discernment to gain insight into the underlying nature of what you are studying
- develop competence in selecting, interpreting and recording what you know, see, feel and think
- reflect on your recording to consolidate what you have learned, leading to a fuller understanding of it and making intentions clearer.

What is involved in reflective recording?

You need to show that you can:

- gather, select, organise and communicate visual and other information
- record your ideas, observations and insights using suitable forms of drawing, photography and writing, making sure they are linked to your intentions
- reflect on your recording as it progresses as part of reflective learning, pausing to think about your work and reviewing what you have learned in producing it
- use reflection in your research and enquiry to delve for deeper meaning and purpose in what you are doing.

What is a good way of showing reflective recording abilities?

Although sketchbooks or design notebooks are not specifically required for either of the GCSE components, they can be a good way of showing reflective recording abilities and of documenting the progression of your creative enquiry. They are particularly effective for recording, using images and words, interesting snippets of information, trying out possibilities and exploring materials and techniques. They are sometimes called *visual diaries* that, as such, will contain rough ideas and unfinished visual notes. Recording abilities can be demonstrated using other means of documentation such as in digital folders but, whatever format is used, recording should be seen as a process rather than as an outcome.

What must you consider to achieve your best in this A0?

A range of recording methods should be used, such as annotated or extended forms of writing, photography and especially the many kinds of drawing. You should select which of these is most appropriate for recording different ideas, observations and insights. Ensure that what you record informs your enquiry and shows a sense of purpose. You could look at artists' sketchbooks and designers' notebooks to see how they employ their recording skills and use these sources to inspire, extend and refine your own methods of recording.