

Something to do over the summer:

We want to hit the ground running in September and, in order for you to gain a head start in understanding yourself as a creative and for us to get to know you, we have an exciting mini project for you to complete over the summer.

We would like you to gather **50 images, objects and words** that inspire you. These images and objects can be photographs you have taken, objects that you possess, images of work by other artists and makers, found objects, magazines articles, drawings you gather, etc. You may find these images in books, on the internet, in journals, from own photos, from visiting exhibitions, galleries or landmarks. **Be inquisitive across a wide range of subject matter.**

Choose imagery that excites you from a creative perspective. We do not want a photo of your dog simply because you love your dog (we love dogs too!) for example. We would recommend that you need to gather more than 50 images to start with and then refine them afterwards.

Next consider the images and what you like about them - is it the **colour, form, texture, line, shape, material, process** that you find inspiring or are engaged by?

Once you have collated and considered this **write a list of 50 words** that are linked your chosen imagery and objects. Look for themes, ideas and patterns that connect what inspires you.

When you start in September bring these images and words with you. We will then ask you to populate your personal desk space with them and discuss them with the group so we can all get to know each other and begin to understand what inspires us.

Some suggestions of interesting reading or listening from the staff team:

Books/Audiobooks:

- Atomic Habits – James Clear
- Wabi Sabi For Artists Designers and Poets – Leonard Koren
- Fewer Better Things – Glenn Adamson
- A Case for Working with your Hands – Matthew Crawford
- A Field Guide to Getting Lost – Rebecca Solnit
- Stollen Focus – Johann Hari
- Every Tool's A Hammer: Life Is What You Make It - Adam Savage
- The Creative Act: A Way of Being - Rick Rubin

Podcasts:

- gemJunkies
- TOAST Podcast
- On Design
- Material Matters
- Making Design Circular

Enjoy your summer! We look forward to seeing you September.