Challenge 1: Research
Spend a couple of hours researching what makes a good sketchbook. You will find amazing examples of GCSE and A-level sketchbooks here: https://www.studentartguide.com. Really look at the pages analysing what materials they have used and how they layout the pages. Read the articles, don’t just look at the imagery. Follow the links and get lost in a world of imagery and creativity.

Task 1: Create an opening page in your sketchbook about the AQA Fine art A-level and what it will entail. The easiest way would be to present your findings in a visual display/ mind map/ mood board etc.
https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/how-to-make-a-mindmap-creative-ideas

Areas to cover:
What is Fine art? Through images and text explain about what type of art is classed as Fine art.
What does AQA Fine art A-level expect you to produce over the last year of the course? Are there areas that you must provide evidence of?
Here are some websites pages to help you.
http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/art-and-design/AQA-7242-7202-OE-FLYER.PDF
http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/as-and-a-level/art-and-design/subject-content/fine-art

Challenge 2: What to draw.
In your sketchbook create a list, mood board, mind-map about your situation right now. Think about your immediate environment and the people and objects around you.
https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/how-to-make-a-mindmap-creative-ideas

Start to list them in groups, here are some examples:
Feelings: Isolated, trapped, enclosed, thankful, protected, dazed, confused etc.

Situation: Lockdown, protect the NHS, Covid 19, Key workers, facemasks, gloves, social distancing, essential trips, food, toilet roll, Lack of food, too much food etc..................

Environment: The kitchen, a sink, bedroom, the sofa, tidy spaces, untidy spaces, the garden, my desk, a table.
Usual viewpoints: under the stairs, view from under the table, under the bed, in the fridge .........

Random objects: water glass, a pen, plate of food, packet of biscuits, ice cream, drinks can etc.............

People: sleeping, talking, arguing, hugging, relaxing, working, reading, playing etc..........................
Challenge 3: How to draw

Using your initial thoughts from challenge 2 start to create a visual journal about your environment and your experiences. Use a combination of drawings, paintings and text/words to illustrate your suggested themes using a range of materials and processes of your choice.

Develop and refine your observational drawing skills by looking closely at the people and everyday things around you.

https://www.studentartguide.com/articles/art-sketchbook-ideas#art-sketchbooks

Challenge 4:

To keep going and try to complete the whole sketchbook. It should be full of information, a visual diary/journal of your life between now and September! Don’t be afraid to experiment and learn from practising, this is what A-level is all about.

Research artists’ sketchbook and learn from others.

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