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Looking at the big picture

Below: Caius Bearder used images of refugees in his AS-Level work. (15305833)



Sammy Fowler's work combines elements of documentary footage and street art. (15305789)



Oliver Le Marquand with some of his portraits. (15305796)

GCSE students joined AS and A-Level pupils in showing their work at the end of year art and photography show at Elizabeth College. **Shaun Shackleton** went along to find out more...

Below: Matthew Stockreiter, 17, with his final AS-Level piece. (15305800)



STRESS, the refugee crisis and technology were just three of the subjects covered in the Elizabeth College GCSE and A/S Level Art and Photography show. The subjects are as popular as ever among the boys. 'We have a big group in Year 12 AS - 14, which is quite big for us, and eight photography students too and we also have filmmaking,' said Adam Stephens, head of the creative art faculty. He said that over the past few years there has been more emphasis on drawing. 'The word "drawing" doesn't actually appear in the assessment objective of the exam specifications, it says "recording", but we've always done a lot of drawing at the college.' Pencil drawing was a part of Oliver Le Marquand's AS work, including a couple of self-portraits. 'I experimented with different

mediums,' said the 17-year-old. 'I painted my girlfriend in watercolours. It was quite difficult at first. Then with the self-portraits I added them in to portray stress - the step up to A Level has been quite stressful,' he admitted. Happily, he then added: 'My girlfriend really likes her portraits.' 'I discovered the bleaker areas of Guernsey and made comparisons to the refugee crisis,' said Caius Bearder. 'I then put in figures and made them deliberately ghostly to represent what we see on the television and in the papers, the negative side of the crisis.' Caius said that he preferred to work in black and white. 'I find it more dramatic. Colour can be distracting.' Caius is interested in studying jewellery-making, hopefully in Glasgow, and has recently had work experience at Catherine Best. 'It was made by an old computer from IT,' explained Matthew Stockreiter, 17, about his final AS

piece. 'I was fascinated by electrical components, so texture is a big thing in the work. 'I also added a sprue from a model-making kit and covered it all in black acrylic paint.' Matthew, who hopes to continue his study of art at university, doesn't have a title for the work. 'It's an organised mess,' he said. The refugee crisis also informed the GCSE work of 16-year-old Sammy Fowler. 'It's my images combined with images of refugees,' he said. 'I printed photos out on a photocopier and repeated them four times, and then used spray paint and created a wire effect to represent a fence.' The results were a cross between documentary footage and street art. 'I'm going on to do AS and A2 art and I'd like to take the subject at university.'