**Film Studies summer task**

The following independent research tasks are designed to best prepare you for the starting Film Studies and introduce you to some of our core study areas.

Once you have engaged with the research activities you can apply the knowledge and understanding in a written activity. Make sure to bring this along to your first Film Studies lesson. You can complete the task in writing, or type and print out yourself; please do not email.

**Independent research**

During the summer spend four hours a week completing some of the following research activities:

* Complete the following online British Film Institute (BFI) course [Film Education: A User’s Guide](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.futurelearn.com%2Fcourses%2Ffilm-education-a-user-s-guide&data=04%7C01%7C%7C1c7ca16588cf44eea73a08d934b60e30%7Cd3ed4799347f49f3b5e7da823c95e8d9%7C0%7C0%7C637598778780332370%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=xInIYEmzA9W0E2IV7INQPrPtuk7XCqaS7LNDNqmg5ko%3D&reserved=0)
* Listen to [Kermode and Mayo’s Film Review podcast](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.podbean.com%2Fpodcast-detail%2F9jb6p-355b5%2FKermode-and-Mayo%2527s-Film-Review-Podcast&data=04%7C01%7C%7C1c7ca16588cf44eea73a08d934b60e30%7Cd3ed4799347f49f3b5e7da823c95e8d9%7C0%7C0%7C637598778780332370%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=Lom7spDjjMkgrlbRLycn0nOycVUlVcj0PmlxLh0rQaI%3D&reserved=0). Make a note of any of the opinions about film that are shared in the show by the presenters, guests and listeners. To what extent do you agree or disagree with these views?
* Read an issue of Sight & Sound Magazine (available in all good libraries and newsagents) making sure to watch a film that is reviewed. How far do you agree with the critic? Read and compare this to a review you find on-line. How does it differ in terms of language and depth of analysis?

Organise your notes in a new ring-binder; this will be the start of your Film Studies subject folder.

**ACTIVITY: a life-changing film**

Choose a film that has made a significant impact on you. Perhaps it changed the way you think about a subject, and resonated with you on a personal level, or possibly it has fuelled your passion for cinema through its style? Maybe it has motivated you to make a film yourself?

Write at least **600 words** on the film exploring how the film has made such a significant emotional and psychological impression on you. Consider the following points:

* What sort of an impact did it have? Did it shock you or affect you emotionally? Did it make you think about something you had never considered before, or think about something in a different way?
* Was it a film which has ‘stayed with you’ over the years and which you have kept returning to and thinking about?
* Is it a film which is your favourite and which you absolutely love? If so, you will need to tell us what it is about this film which is so brilliant – in your opinion!
* Is it a film which has a message or a moral or perhaps a film with a brilliant, unexpected twist?
* Is it a film which shows us something about society, human nature the future or ourselves?
* Does it have a particular visual style and sound design that gives you pleasure?
* Is it a film which was experimental or unusual in some way or a film which influenced or even started a particular cinematic movement or franchise?
* What do you know about the cast and crew of the production? Has this knowledge informed the way you have responded to the film?
* Have you found your emotional and psychological response to vary through repeated viewings on the film? Are these subtle or extreme differences? What factors could account for these varieties of responses?