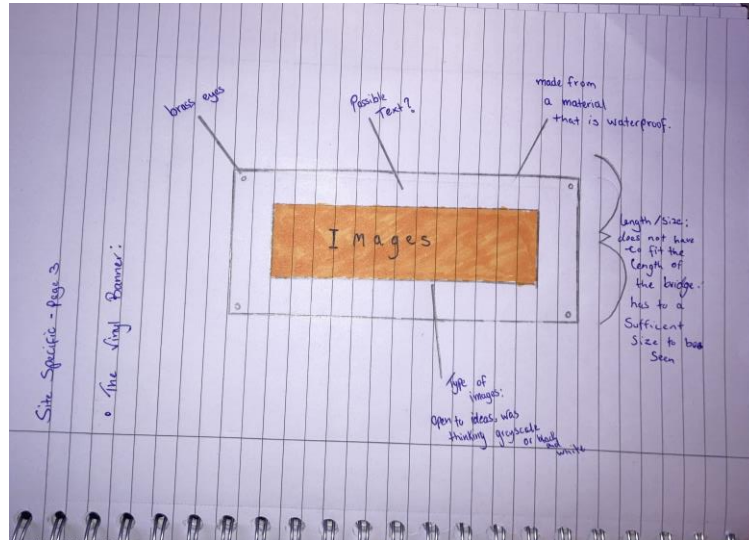


## Site Specific Proposal:

### Tawe / Y Tawe

**Summary** - A collection of images, held on Vinyl banner on the bridge or alternatively on the wall of the bypass.



### **Theme**

This theme is directed to a mixture mental health and the connection between the river tawe and things such as: suicides at the river, incidents and accidents as well as visits to the river under a lot of stress. the reason for this choice is personal. As I have witnessed in the recent month a student attempt suicide on the Tawe bridge, it was averted by help from response teams, thankfully they were not hurt, but this situation had made me reflect on struggles as a student, we have lots of responsibilities to uphold and our mental health is a factor of everyday life. But these responsibilities can get overwhelming at times because it is not completely educational for example: financial, personal, family related etc. Although everybody's situations are different, everybody whether they are a student or not deal with challenges in life and because of this the principals of dealing/coping with these challenging times throughout life remain the same which is why anybody could have been that person I had witnessed that night.

So, to summarise this the river tawe has had accidents and incidents in the past related to people accidentally falling in or crashing for example. It is renowned among local people for being an area where people go when they struggle with mental health issues, there have been people who go there in a state of struggle and do not go to any dangerous extent but only to go for a walk or run alongside the river bank to help combat stress etc. then there are those who do go to the extreme like what I witnessed. Myself I live 5 minutes away from the bridge itself and as I walk alongside the river most days I think about this more and more and I find it very troubling and sad that not many people realise it is a common occurrence including students like myself who live in accommodation who would go to the riverside track to clear their head. I suppose in a way there are two sides to this situation, one being a very sensitive topic with a negative outcome/outlook but then on the other hand the river provides some peace in a way to some people despite its connection to the negative stigma that surrounds it.

In order to create art in response to this I believe it will have to be very humane and gentle much like how the artist JR handles sensitive mediums and topics and use them to create art that is innocent but also respectful, which in turn raises awareness. That is where I have taken much inspiration from is JR's ability to conjure innocence from a sad or typically mixed stereotypes from a certain place. Good examples of this on a big scale that interested me was "kikito" and "face 2 face" - JR (shown below). There is an opportunity to display imagery or text that will have an impact, by addressing these sensitive topics we can desensitise them and the stereotypes that come with it. And this project would only further that and create a more reassuring and positive outlook on that area.

