

PHOTOGRAPHY

'YOU DONT TAKE A PHOTOGRAPH, YOU MAKE IT'

WHAT IS THE COURSE ABOUT?

Photography is an exciting and technical course that gives everyone the freedom and inspiration to interpret different topics, taking into consideration your own interests and aspirations. The course is designed to bring out the best in all those who have chosen it, whilst also equipping you with the life skills to continue the subject with confidence at AS, A-level and beyond.

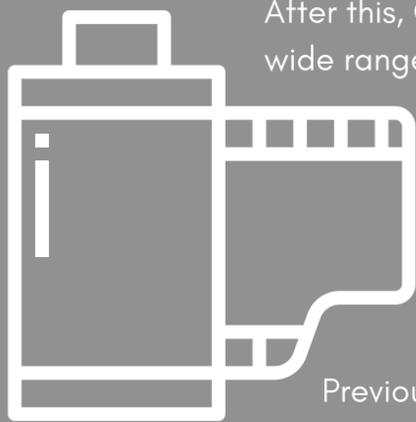
You will study a range of photographic styles, such as: portraiture, location photography, experimental imagery, installation, documentary photography, photo-journalism, simple moving image: film, video and fashion photography.

You will have the opportunity to develop and apply your photographic knowledge, understanding and skills specified when developing a personal project.



SUBJECT CONTENT

When you start your GCSE in photography, you will initially be studying skill-based lessons, focused on developing technical knowledge with manually using digital cameras, setting up lighting and using Photoshop. Throughout this time, you will develop a strong knowledge of the assessment objectives and formal elements used within a photography GCSE, social and contextual sources and how culture impacts photography.



After this, GCSE projects are aimed at you exploring and experimenting with a wide range of photographic styles, tools and techniques, and learning how to write about your work. You will develop your knowledge of photographic styles, including portraiture, landscape, still life, architecture, and fashion photography, as well as using a wide range of classical and modern photographers and artists to inspire your work. In Year 11, you will complete an externally set assignment, an independent project based on a starting title set by the exam board.

Previous titles have included 'Spaces', 'The Elements', 'Human Figure' and 'Out of Place'. Through this, you will have the chance to convey meaning and purpose from a chosen starting point, utilising the formal elements of art and photography and your knowledge.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

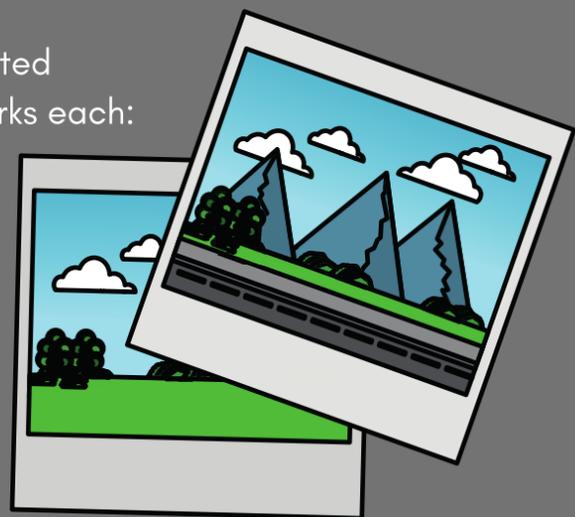
The course has two components, comprising of:

Component 1 (accounts for 60% of your qualification) – a 'Portfolio' selected from the two years of study. The portfolio will include the best work from a variety of projects developed from given starting points.

Component 2 (accounts for 40% of your qualification) – an 'Externally set assignment'. The externally set task is set by the exam board, this includes a number of starting points or project briefs for you to choose from. You will select a starting point dependent on your interests alongside your skills and develop a project leading to a final outcome. The final outcome is then completed over 10 hours under exam conditions. This 10-hour period is completed over two consecutive days.

The course is marked using a total of four equally weighted assessment objectives (AO) with a possible total 24 marks each:

- AO1 – Photographer and contextual research and investigation
- AO2 – Experimentation and refinement of skills
- AO3 – Recording ideas through annotation, drawing and photography
- AO4 – Presenting a personal response



WHAT SKILLS ARE REQUIRED?

Resilience – Artistic creations are born through problem solving, e.g. How could I use this light to create a shadow? It takes time to create, especially when editing. In an increasingly competitive world, where people are being asked to continually develop new skills, resilience is essential to achieving success.

Engagement – Showing creative thinking, being able to think on your feet, approach tasks from different perspectives and thinking ‘outside of the box’ will distinguish your photography work from others.

Self-Awareness – Every time you enter the photography room you should be in a position where you know exactly what you are doing and the materials you need because you have organised your time effectively beforehand. You should be aware of your own strengths and development areas in order to make independent decisions.

Passion – You must have the passion to follow through with artistic endeavours, no matter how challenging, so that you learn to associate passion with a feeling of accomplishment.

Empathy – You need to be able to appreciate and understand how others express their feelings and ideas in their art work.

Communication – You need to be able to explain your personal ideas and choices clearly.

Teamwork – You need to be able to understand that feedback is part of learning and it is not something to be offended by or to be taken personally. It is something helpful. You should be open to collaborating with your peers.



STUDYING PHOTOGRAPHY MAY LEAD TO:

- Forensic photographer
- military photographer
- teacher
- portrait photographer at a studio
- wedding photographer
- self-employment
- journalist
- nature photographer
- fashion photographer
- photo editor
- school photographer,
- special event photographer,
- film photographer,
- media,
- advertisement,
- marketing,
- website design,
- graphic designer,
- sports photographer



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

You may get the opportunity to attend museums and galleries that exhibit photography. This will give you the opportunity to see what work others do so that you can use this to inspire your own work and broaden your own practice.

Field visits will be organised for photo shoots of the surrounding area so that you begin to build a strong portfolio of work.

