

Art & Design (Photography)

Exam board: AQA

Entry Requirements:

GCSE Grade 6 or above in any Art and Design endorsement or **in exceptional circumstances** a **significant** and varied Portfolio of photographs displaying evidence of long term sustained interest.

Course Content:

Our approach allows for a flexible structure and an excellent choice of experiences tailored to meet the needs and aspirations of each individual student.

The emphasis is on achieving a balance of technical skill, personal expression and contextual knowledge, with the first half of each topic being taught, and then further developed by each student's own aspirations.



Assessment:

The work will be internally marked during the course with External Moderation by a Visiting Examiner occurring at the end of the course.

The units that are studied are:

Component 1 "Personal Investigation" - This starts as a general introductory course experimenting with a range of media and approaches, then each student generates a topic of their choice to explore in detail worth 60% of the overall marks.

Component 2 "Externally Set Assignment" is the exam paper with 8 starting points. Students choose one to develop ideas during the preparatory stage and then complete a final piece in 15 hours of supervised study worth 40% of the overall marks

Photography overview

As a distinct subject, Art and Design is unique. The skills learned in Art disciplines are entirely transferrable to many situations due to the focus upon creative learning, experimentation and independent thinking. Stand-alone workshops/events also play a part in widening the student's range of experiences. A wide range of photographic options are available to each student from which to construct an individual programme. These include Experimental Imagery, Portraiture, Landscape, Still-life, Documentary, Photojournalism, Fashion Photography, Photographic Installation. Critical/Historical/Contextual studies permeate all areas and visits to Visual Art Exhibitions are an essential element. A site-specific visit is used as a starting point for one of the projects. Having your own camera would be a distinct advantage. As you will be learning **darkroom** photography as well as **digital** photography then it is highly recommended that you look into purchasing a 35mm SLR camera (Minolta Dynax are very good and about £20 from Ebay) and a Digital SLR camera (we use Nikon D3000 in school, about £100 from Ebay). The school will supply and develop black and white film and supply all printing materials.