

PHOTOGRAPHY

Exam board: AQA



Entry Requirements:

There are no formal requirements for A Level Photography, all that is needed is a love of taking photographs and a wish to explore a creative subject.

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

The skills learned in Photography are entirely transferrable to many situations due to the focus upon observation, 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 SLR camera is a must in order to achieve the highest grades. You will be learning **darkroom** photography as well as **digital** photography so it is highly recommended that you look into purchasing a 35mm SLR camera (Minolta Dynax SLR 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.