

Photography - A Level

Contact Person: Ms R Davies

Course Outline:

This course will introduce you to photographic techniques and thinking, enabling you to explore a range of potential outcomes. You will learn camera control (digital and traditional), Photoshop techniques, and traditional darkroom skills to print images. You will be expected to plan, resource and develop projects in an increasingly independent manner, with the aim of communicating your creative ideas in the photographic form of your choice.

There are two units of work to complete each year. In Year 13 these are 'Component 1: Personal Investigation' and Component 2: Externally Set Assignment'. During the Personal Investigation you are required to conduct a practical investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme, supported by written material (between 1000-3000 words). The Externally Set Assignment is published by AQA in February of each year, and following a preparatory period of work you will undergo a 15 hour (3 day) supervised exam, during which you will culminate your investigation.

Skills/Aptitudes Developed/Required:

A high level of commitment is needed, as you will be expected to work independently. You will have to take many photographs in your own time, and not just during lessons. Workbooks/ journals and personal research are essential, and form an important part of your assessment. Entry requirements are a grade 4 in Photography GCSE. Grade 4s in Fine Art will also be considered if evidence of an active interest in Photography can be shown.

Additional Considerations:

We expect Photography students to make regular visits to local photographic exhibitions, to read reviews, and to keep up to date with contemporary creative thinking.



Progression Post-18

Foundation Course Diploma in Media Arts (diagnostic courses designed to help students to target a specialist area for study within the Arts).
Degree Level Course in Photography, Art, Design and Graphics.

Careers in any number of creative industries: galleries, education, design, media, advertising.