

PHOTOGRAPHY A LEVEL

Level: A LEVEL Photography

2 Year Course

Awarding Body: AQA

Photography is a means of communicating in a visual way. It should challenge the way we think about the world, and encourage us to think about the work of photographers and other lens-based artists. The emphasis of this course will be on using photography as a creative and expressive means to communicate ideas, thoughts and feelings.

It is useful for students to have a good English GCSE, grade C or above.

Course Structure and Content

Year 1

Coursework Portfolio

Students will undertake a series of projects in order to build up a coursework portfolio. Beginning with a theme, students will develop skills and knowledge by exploring a wide range of media and techniques including darkroom processes which may include photogram, 35mm film, the use of acetates, image manipulation packages and digital photography.

Students will also be required to undertake research and explore the ideas surrounding artist's work, including the methodology of lens-based practitioners, relating this to the development of their own work. The first year is like a foundation course where students are encouraged to build on strengths learned at GCSE or KS3 to begin to specialise in one area.

Mock Controlled Assignment

This takes the form of a timed test responding to a theme of interest. Students will have five hours of controlled time to develop their idea into a final outcome.

Year 2

Personal Investigation

This comprises of a major practical project developed on an individual basis, which has a personal significance and direction. Students will choose their own themes in consultation with members of staff. Students will explore and investigate a personal topic which also involves writing a 1000-3000 word essay relating to your practical work.

Controlled Assignment

This takes the form of a timed test responding to a question set by the exam board. Students will have eight weeks to prepare and fifteen hours of controlled time to develop your idea into a final outcome.

Progression

Our aim is to expose students to as broad a range of methods and approaches as we can. We will encourage students to develop their work in line with their own interests and strengths as well as equipping them with a solid foundation of skills. This enables students to build up a solid portfolio of work both for the examination and for entry to art related courses beyond A level; Degree courses in Film Photography, Media, Advertising, Art and Design. Some courses will require a pre-course general Art Foundation Course. The course will support careers in Advertising, Journalism, Film Photography, New Media Design, Film, Media and Fine Art.

Entry Requirements

GCSE in Art is **not** essential to be accepted on the Photography course. It is useful to have a good English GCSE, grade C or above.

Contact

For further details please contact Mrs J. Tice, Head of Photography.

PHOTOGRAPHY YEARLY COURSE FEES

£50 per year, payable on Sixth Form registration day. This will cover all specialist darkroom materials, A3 glossy printer paper, acetates, photocopying, 35mm black and white film. In addition to the above students will be required to purchase a black square sketchbook for coursework and one for exam @ £7.50 each. A4 paper- we supply all printing paper together with the use of an excellent quality printer, however if students wish to print out on A4 glossy paper for their sketchbook they will need to purchase this separately.

