



### Why is the study of Photography important?

In an ever changing creative & digital world, the building of creative & digital skills is essential to access & interpret the information around us. Photography is a valuable subject for all that study it and has important wider benefits in your personal and social development. These include building your resilience, self-esteem, individual creativity, a sense of self expression, problem solving and indeed how you view the world. Photography trains your brain to think critically and to appreciate and see things creatively. Creativity exists in everybody and by studying Photography you learn about your own creative expressions and that of others from our past. It provides an exciting means to explore the cultures of the past and present in our world. It is a vital aspect of recording everyday life and plays an important role in our human experience. It requires you to use both sides of your brain and develops your ability to think academically, emotionally, physically and spiritually.

The photography course is a chance for students to develop their skills further and learn new ones: an opportunity to use their imagination through experiments and investigations into a range of photography skills & ideas.

Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of lens & light based media, techniques and processes, both traditional and new technologies. They will experiment with Digital SLR cameras, the formal elements & software such as Photoshop to manipulate their images. They will take influence and analyse from past & present photographers, helping to inform their ideas & work.

### What skills will the study of Photography teach you?

The skills you will learn through Photography include:

- Recording from direct observation with a camera, exploring the formal & technical elements.
- Investigating & researching the work of photographers & artists, linking to their own work and taking influence.
- Experiment with a wide range of ideas, technologies & processes.
- How to critically analyse other's & your own work effectively and understand or develop a personal meaning.
- To develop creative ideas and progress these into a personal outcome.

### What will you know and understand from your study of Photography?

- How to use a camera effectively to capture a desired image.
- How to use editing software in a range of ways on your Photographs.

- How to research other photographers and influences effectively.
- How to critically analyse your own & others work.
- How to respond creatively to other influences to develop your own processes & ideas.
- How to experiment with a range of physical techniques on your own images.
- How to develop a creative, final response.
- How to evaluate your own creative journey.

### How can you deepen your understanding of Photography?

Photography is all around us, and taking an interest in the images that you may see on social media and everyday advertising and imagery will help you develop an understanding of how this has been created or affects the audience. You will also have the opportunity to deepen your understanding of Photography through extracurricular opportunities, where you can continue to develop your creative ideas, or work on specific projects. During enrichment you will have the opportunity to meet other photography enthusiasts from other year groups, where you can share ideas, critique each other's work and continue to develop your technique.

### How are you assessed in GCSE Photography?

*There are 6 assessment points each year that we term Praising Stars®. We assess how students at their current stage of study are on track to reach their end of stage targets which are formulated on aspirational expectation from their KS2 starting points. We make an informed prediction from our holistic assessments based on our subject mapping of expectation across the Photography curriculum.*

Photography is assessed through a range of internal and external assessment. The coursework portfolio element is worth 60% of the final GCSE mark & must contain at least 2 units of work (projects). A final project, set by the Exam Board, is worth the remaining 40%. All work is finally assessed at the end of the course and externally moderated

### Key Assessment Objectives

*The 4 key learning objectives for Photography are:*

AO1: Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources

AO2: Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes

AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses

AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language

### How can Photography support your future?

There are a wide range of creative media, photography & art based courses offered post-GCSE students at colleges and sixth form providers. Due to Photography being a wide ranging curriculum this allows for many avenues to be explored into higher and further education. There are a vast range of courses offered at university that target digital media, photography & creative processes

### Study of Photography can lead to a wide range of careers:

- Secondary School Teacher
- Web designer
- Graphics design
- Fashion designer
- Furniture maker
- Architect
- Video production
- Illustrator
- Branding designer
- Town planning
- Animator
- Game designer
- Online content creator
- Film maker
- Photographer
- Magazine editor
- Press Photographer

### GCSE Fine Art Course Overview

Term	Year 1	Year 2
Autumn 1	The formal elements of Photography and understanding the camera	Development of light drawing in a personal pathway
Autumn 2	Introduction of Pattern & Texture (Project 1) in Photography - taking images based on this theme and learning how to research and analyse others work	Producing a light drawing individual final response
Spring 1	Photoshop editing skills - apply this to the pattern and texture theme	External exam paper
Spring 2	Physical experimentation and development of individual personal direction	External exam paper
Summer 1	Producing a final response to project 1.	External exam paper
Summer 2	Introduction to light drawing (Project 2) - How to use the camera's slow shutter speed.	Internal assessment & external moderation.  Students produce a response to a live brief or competition for personal pleasure & development.