



# **Photography A-Level**

Looking to study **Photography**? This document will give you the details about the course including modules, exams and expectations. If there are any questions, please ask.

## **Subject leader**

J Barrett

## **Entry Requirements**

5 separate subjects passed at grade 5 or about. These subjects should include English (Language or Literature) at grade 5 and Maths at grade 4 or above. Pupils should have an APS of 4.25 or above. Interview required with Art Department to determine suitability if student does not hold a grade 5 at GCSE Art.

## **Course Information**

The course is a two- year course. Your final grade will be based on your portfolio/course work (50%), Essay (10%) and externally set assignment (40%).

The A Level Photography course enables students to be introduced to digital and non-digital photography techniques and elements through which they will learn to explain and refine their thinking and develop as working photographers.

Through initial structured workshops students develop their practical photography skills and are introduced to digital photo editing and manipulation. Projects are independent pathways where students produce individual and unique pieces. In the first year of the course students complete one project and create a large portfolio of work towards course work and develop personal concepts through extended experimentation and photographer/artist analysis. Either the first-year theme, or a brand-new theme, can form the start of the Y13 unit. Students are required to produce an essay based on a personal investigation theme. This is a critical and visual appraisal or theoretical study of any aspect of the visual arts.

## Overview

A-level Photography (over two years)

Students through these two large assignments work to fulfil 4 grading criteria:

AO1-Develop ideas through sustained, informed and focused investigations

AO2-Explore and select appropriate resources, reviewing

AO3-Record ideas and reflect critically

AO4-Present a personal and meaningful response

Year 12 Module	Year 13 Module
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Portfolio- students work through a self –propelled investigation of a negotiated theme based on individual interests, skills and abilities. Through a series of specially designed theory and practice workshops, students will learn about historical and contemporary photography practices. Students will be introduced to specialist photographic skills and creative methodologies in a supportive environment, to develop your curiosity and creativity.</li><li>Students complete an accompanying essay related to their personal investigation.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Portfolio- Theme is continued from Y12 or a brand-new theme can be explored. Students work through a self- propelled investigation on a theme based on individual interests, skills and abilities. Students will expand and build on the foundations established in Y12, exploring themes of practice, contextual studies and professional development.</li><li>Externally set assignment- Students are given a starting point/theme and work in sketchbooks to develop, refine and explore ideas. All progress, ideas, medium manipulation/experimentation, artist research/ inspiration is documented through sketch books, and final larger outcome. (15 hours)</li></ul>

### **University Courses and Careers**

This course successfully prepares students for direct entry onto an Art Foundation Course and a range of Art related Degree courses such as Architecture, Engineering, Photography, Graphic Design, Fine Art, Fashion, Photo Journalism, Marketing and Printmaking. Several Students each year choose to undertake Art-related further education and gain places on highly competitive Art Found and Art degree courses.

### **Exam board used for A Level**

Edexcel

9ADO

9PYO

Link to the specification from the exam board

<http://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels.html>