

# A Level Photography

A Level Photography is part of the Art and Design curriculum. Photography is a practical course, incorporating a range of creative techniques and processes. You will work on several mini projects in the first year, working with various cameras and studio equipment, working to several mini-briefs to explore the genres of photography. A Level Photography will give you the opportunity explore your own ideas in a creative way, while encouraging you to experiment with various techniques, including digital cameras, more traditional film and image manipulation software, such as Adobe Photoshop.

Through the 2 years on this linear course, you will be encouraged to develop a sense of enquiry, an ability to take practical and intellectual risks and make considered decisions by exploring contemporary and historical references. You will show evidence of trying to extend your own work and others by exploring examples from different cultures and time periods and presenting their findings as a portfolio of work.



## How will I be assessed?

All your work will be assessed against the following equally weighted Assessment Objectives.

**AO1** – Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.

**AO2** – Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops.

**AO3** – Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress.

**AO4** – Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and, where appropriate, makes connections between visual and other elements.

## What skills will I develop?

- Critical thinking
- Problem-solving
- Communication
- Practical skills



### What might I progress to?

Past students have progressed to degrees in Photography, Fine Art, Illustration, Architecture, Interior, Fashion, Graphic and Games Design, textiles and teaching.

#### Year 12:

Students will select a theme to work from and create a body of work that takes them on their own independent and artistic journey.

Themes:

- Exposure and Composition
- Identity
- Landscapes
- Image manipulation

#### Year 13:

The course is made up of two components:

#### Component 1: Personal Investigation (60% of A Level 120 marks)

The personal investigation theme will be determined by you and your teacher, assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.

The Personal Investigation consists of two integrated parts:

##### Part 1: Your practical portfolio

A major in-depth critical, practical and theoretical investigative project/outcome/s based on themes and subject matter that have personal significance.

##### Part 2: Your personal study

An extended written element of 1000 words minimum, which may contain images and texts and must clearly relate to practical and theoretical work using an appropriate working vocabulary and specialist terminology.

#### Component 2 Externally Set Assignment (40% of A Level – 80 marks)

The Externally Set Assignment consists of two parts:

##### Part 1: Preparatory study period

The externally set assignment materials are released from 1 February (in the second year of the course) and will consist of a series of visual and written stimuli, which are presented to you at the start of the preparatory study period.

You select one of the stimuli and use it as a starting point from which to elicit a personal response. Responses are developed during the preparatory study period. They should take the form of critical, practical and theoretical preparatory work/supporting studies which inform the resolution of ideas in the 15 hours sustained focus study.

##### Part 2: 15 hour period of sustained focus work

You will create your final ideas from the preparatory work during the designated 15 hours exam time and they must show how your planning relates to the outcome/s. The period of sustained focus work must be completed under supervised conditions. Both the preparatory work and sustained focus work will be assessed together, using the assessment objectives. You will be required to select, evaluate and present your work for assessment. The Externally Set Assignment will be set by the exam board (Eduqas), assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.