

Photography

Head of Department:
Mrs L Waddell

'The Creative Industries have been growing three times as fast as the national economy.' (Financial Times)
Photography is an exciting course which will suit organised students who enjoy being creative. Even if you are not thinking of an Art related career there is a strong link between the arts, because of the creative thinking skills you develop, and educational success. GCSE Photography could lead onto A Level Art, Design or Photography, needed for art related degree courses, but also recognised for University entrance along with other A Levels.



GCSE Photography

Awarding Body: AQA
Possible Grades: 9-1

Course Outline

Year 9 students are taken through all the basics of photography from darkroom use to camera techniques. They will have the opportunity to take and develop their own films and create some really exciting work. They start with Photograms which teaches them how to use enlargers and develop the images created. They then move on to basic camera use looking at textures, developing their films and printing from them in the darkroom. Each successive project then builds on skills and techniques, until students are confident with a range of photographic procedures and can start to direct their own work, all this work forms a portfolio.

Year 10 students continue to develop their skills and Year 11 students have the opportunity to work on an extended personal unit.

Critical studies

The study of both contemporary and past photographers is a vital part of the course and students are expected to produce written work as part of their classwork and homework.

Assessment

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| Coursework | 60% |
| Practical Examination | 40% |

Students are assessed on all work produced. Homework is directly linked to classwork and usually follows on from the lessons, requiring students to present the work they have produced in their lesson time. It takes approximately 2 hours per week.

At the end of the course the portfolio and extended personal unit are submitted and students undertake a ten-hour exam with a designated period of time for preparation.

Students are graded on four assessment objectives: recording from observation and imagination; analysing and evaluating images; developing and exploring ideas and techniques and realising intentions.



Specification weblink:

<http://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/art-and-design/specifications/AQA-ART-GCSE-SP-2016.PDF>

Recommended textbook: None at present