



Art and Design: Photography

Exam Board: AQA

The main purpose of any course in Photography and design is to develop your ability to appreciate the visual world, respond in a personal and creative way and perhaps even contribute for the benefit of everyone.

Entry Requirements:

9–5 GCSE Photography (if taken).

This is not always a requirement and staff will consider each applicant at interview. However, A-level photography is not an easy option and you should be prepared to work hard at developing your abilities.

A-level Course Summary:

Unit 1: Personal Investigation

60% of A-level Portfolio of skills.

Foundation style course in a variety of disciplines. You are required to submit written work in support of your practical project of approximately 1,000 – 3,000 words.

The quality of written communication will be assessed in this unit.

Unit 2: Externally Set Assignment

40% of A-level: Preparatory Period (from 1 February) + 15 hours supervised time. Set by AQA.

Other Course Information:

- The purchase of photographic materials of approximately £30 per term – students can buy subsidised materials and sketchbooks from school.

The skills you will develop will be varied. Among them, you will develop a working knowledge of materials, practices and technology within Photography. You will develop the skills to interpret and convey your ideas and feelings using photography and design. You will develop your imaginative and creative powers and your experimental, analytical and documenting skills.

You will also develop a specialist vocabulary and the knowledge and understanding of the place of Photography and design in History and in contemporary society.

There are many careers in Photography, Art, Craft and Design. Most of these require further study at an art school, further education college or university. If you are unsure about whether to make a career of the subject, the best thing to do is to speak to your teacher who will know more about the courses on offer.

Who is the course for?

- Students who wish to undertake further studies in Art, Craft and Design, usually at art college or further education college.
- Students who are looking to take up careers for which an Art background is relevant; advertising, publishing, architecture, museums, theatres, galleries, journalism etc.
- Individuals who have an interest in and aptitude for the subject, but who do not intend to take the subject beyond A-level and will use UCAS entry points for other courses.