

Photography



Subject Leader	Mrs E R Underhill
Subject Teacher(s)	Mrs E R Underhill, Mrs R L Hooper, Miss C Renn
Course Title	GCSE Art & Design (Photography) grades 9-1
Website	https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/gcse/art-and-design-8201-8206/specification-at-a-glance

Course Overview

Students will:

- Learn how to use a digital SLR camera; be able to experiment with different photographic techniques with increasing confidence.
- Learn how to use manual editing techniques and Adobe Photoshop to edit their photographs; be able to build up understanding of how to use a wide range of tools within the software.
- Look in more depth at topic themes and artists' work and learn how to develop their own ideas in response to these. The course is practically based, but much of the planning and evidencing of ideas is done through written work.
- Work with increasing confidence to apply the skills and ideas taught in a series of projects which encourage independent decision making and direction of study.
- Learn how to use all the ideas and work produced to create project outcomes which reflect the learning which has taken place.

Assessment

Component One ('Portfolio', 60% of the final grade):

Pupils must submit a range of work which includes one 'sustained' project, which covers all the assessment objectives, and any other work as appropriate.

Throughout the course there are regular assessment points and opportunities to improve work, as all work completed can count towards the final GCSE grade.

Component Two ('Externally Set Assignment', 40% of the final grade):

Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper relating to their subject title, evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives.

This takes the form of a project of choice which pupils produce with the support of subject teachers. At the end of the 'preparatory period' (usually about six weeks) pupils have ten hours of 'supervised time' during which they must work unaided to complete project outcomes, showing the result of all the skills and ideas developed during the preparatory period.

Additional Information

- Photography homework usually takes the form of an hour each week spent in the art department to independently finish tasks and develop work, as well as allowing full access to cameras, equipment and computers.
- Pupils are not expected to have any of their own equipment at home, but a USB pen drive and things like a glue stick and black pen are useful.
- We have a history of strong results at GCSE and pupils go on to A-Level and other art & photography-based course and degrees.
- There are a huge range of transferrable skills in learning photography and being able to solve problems, research and generate ideas, work independently and have a visual approach are prized assets within fields of design, publishing, media, marketing, teaching and many more.