



# Photography

## GCSE

The GCSE course is intended for those learners who are interested in creative photography. The learners will be introduced to a variety of experiences; exploring a range of photographic techniques and processes, including both traditional and contemporary methods. Students are expected to complete a photography portfolio that displays technical aptitude and idea development - this involves experimenting with manual and digital manipulation programmes as students work towards a final outcome. Each project is themed, and each student is encouraged to develop an idea independently and take responsibility for their own learning.

The course is 60% controlled assessment - this is made up of work from throughout the first part of the course and the mock examination.

The examination (Externally Set Assignment) is worth 40% of the final GCSE grade. Students will display their work in an exhibition, in the final term, in preparation for final assessment and moderation.

## Key Stage 5

Students enter our Edexcel A-Level Photography (Lens-based media) at an advantage if they have previously studied Art and Design or Photography at GCSE level.

## Component 1:

- Contrasts and Art as Photography
- Component 1 (personal portfolio) consists of two projects which explore the basics of photography, lens-based media and image manipulation. Students are encouraged to have their own digital SLR (single-lens reflex) camera in order to work independently.
- Personal Investigation/Portfolio including a written assignment
- Students will be encouraged to research the work of other photographers which relates to their personally selected theme. Students will shoot on location and in the studio in order to create exciting outcomes. This part of the course requires a 'Personal Study' which is a 1,000 + word essay.
- Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (including 15 hours timed examination)
- The externally set assignment is based on a theme set by the exam board. Photography students will be encouraged to take photographs and design photoshoots in response to the theme. Students will have a 15-hour examination period in order to produce a sophisticated outcome.