

Roundwood Park School



A Level Art and Design: Photography AQA

Photography is the aesthetic, visual communication of ideas, observations and feelings through a range of photographic media.

Photography Students should produce a personal body of work that covers both practical and critical/contextual work in one or more areas of study, for example, portraiture, landscape photography, still life photography, documentary photography, photojournalism, fashion photography, experimental imagery, multimedia, photographic installation and moving image (video, film, animation).

Students will learn:

- How to gather sources and how these inspire the development of ideas
- The ways in which ideas and intentions can be communicated through photography, using the formal elements
- The characteristics and effects of different photographic processes and techniques
- The ways different media, techniques and materials can be used to develop personal, creative intentions/outcomes.

These will be demonstrated through the practical application of skills and the realisation of intentions.

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 progresses

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

Year / Term	Unit of Work	Assessment
Yr12 Autumn 1	An introduction to the course: a focus on the basics of photographic techniques Key elements are: Composition: rule of thirds leading lines, golden ratio; Lighting: natural light, reflectors, on camera flash, second curtain flash, strobe, studio flash; Exposure: triangle exposure, ISO, shutter speed, aperture, camera basics; Formal Elements: colour, tone, form, shape, line. Editing using light room and photo shop; Critical references and analysis.	Students work in a small sketchbook which is submitted for feedback and advice, focusing on assessment objectives A01 A02 A03
Super Curricular	Use the school library as a source of reference and research on photography and photographers Follow the courses for art and design, photography on the Oak National Academy https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/photography-aee1	
Literacy	Students develop their understanding and use of art vocabulary. Through their written analysis of artists' and photographers' work, they develop their literacy skills and descriptive language. Students are expected to read articles and information about photography and photographers.	

Year / Term	Unit of Work	Assessment
Yr12 Autumn 2 to Spring 1	Mini project 2 -Introduction to the process of completing a project based on a theme and covering all the assessment objectives. Theme: Decay Critical reference: Students are given a number of relevant artists/photographers to research and respond to. Students take their own photos in response to both the artists/photographers and the theme of decay. Students show evidence of developing their work through editing. They learn to edit their images using Light Room and Photoshop. Students continue to review, reshoot, edit and refine their own work. Present a final outcome responding to the theme DECAY	Students present their planning and progress as a digital sketchbook of images and text. They select their best outcome and submit this as a final image in response to this theme. Feedback is given on all this work which covers 4 assessment objectives.
Super Curricular	Visit the Photographers Gallery in London. Make notes about the work you see and discuss this with other students and teachers	

Year / Term	Unit of Work	Assessment
Yr12 Spring 2	<p>Introduction to a past paper which gives a selection of starting points</p> <p>Students select a theme from a past exam paper. They follow a process of planning, research and development, showing evidence of all these elements of a project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustained investigation • Research on critical references • Recording ideas through photography • Experimenting and editing • Reviewing, refining, evaluating <p>Students are expected to work more independently on their ideas, research and experimentation, showing decision-making and personal choice.</p>	<p>Feedback is given throughout the process of this project.</p> <p>At the end of the project, in May, the research, preparation and final piece/s for this project are presented for assessment. It is assessed using all 4 assessment objectives and feedback is given.</p>
Super Curricular	Use studio time to develop work further or explore more techniques using the photographic lighting and the lightbox	

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Yr12 Summer 1	<p>Students produce a final piece or series of pieces as a final outcome for their chosen starting point from the past paper.</p> <p>Depending on the timing of mock exams, the exam days might be used for editing and completing the final outcome for this project, otherwise it is carried out in lessons and HL.</p>	
Super Curricular	Research photography from other cultures and times. Develop your understanding of photography history by researching and creating a timeline of the history of photography and photographers.	

Year / Term	Unit of Work	Assessment
Yr12 Summer 2	<p>Component 1. Personal Investigation</p> <p>Students discuss and plan ideas for their Personal Investigation. This is a practical project of their own choosing which is supported by a 3000-word essay.</p> <p>Tasks this term:</p> <p>Plan/agree the theme</p> <p>Mind-map/mood-board</p> <p>Write out a draft proposal</p> <p>Select 3 artists/photographers to investigate in relation to the theme.</p> <p>Carry out research and analysis of these artists'/photographers' work.</p> <p>Summer holiday work:</p> <p>Continue research on relevant photographers.</p> <p>Write up information, description and analysis of artists/photographers' work.</p> <p>Visit relevant exhibitions which support the theme.</p> <p>Take photos in relation to chosen theme.</p> <p>Research information in relation to the theme.</p>	<p>Feedback is given throughout the personal investigation, with assessment and guidance linked to the 4 assessment objectives.</p> <p>Work submitted for assessment must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the sketchbook of preparation, • the final outcomes, printed large on photopaper, • 3000-word essay. <p>The deadline is end of January.</p> <p>Assessment covers all 4 assessment objectives</p> <p>This component will make up 60% of the final mark.</p>
Super Curricular	<p>Visit a photography exhibition or relevant art exhibition.</p> <p>Find and take part in a photography course either on-line or face to face. This might be organized by one of the main art galleries, the Photographer's gallery, Whipsnade Zoo or other provider.</p>	

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Yr13 Autumn 1	Component 1. Personal Investigation continued Review summer work, clarify theme and edit the proposal Individual tasks and deadlines are set to progress this project. A minimum of 1 photo shoot needs to be carried out per week. 500-word proposal and introduction are written in preparation for the essay Experimenting and developing of ideas is evident. Create photographic responses to the chosen artists/photographers. By end of half term 1000 words of essay is written in draft.	This project is submitted as a whole component of work at the end of January for a full assessment.
Autumn 2	Greater focus on the development and experimentation. On-going links are made to reference material, artists/photographers. 2000 words of draft essay completed by end of term.	
Spring term up to end of January deadline	Final editing of photographs. Prepare all planning, research, preparation for final assessment. Print out final selected images professionally on large scale Present essay as an illustrated document with references and bibliography.	
Super Curricular	Visit galleries, museums, venues, to support research. Spend extra time in the art studios experimenting, taking risks and developing work and ideas to a higher level of skill and enquiry.	
Literacy	Throughout the coursework, students develop their understanding of art specific vocabulary. They use this knowledge and descriptive language in the analysis of artists work. Students develop their literacy and metacognition skills in the review and evaluation of their own work and progress. Students research the work of artists and are encouraged to read books and articles and texts on art and artists to support their knowledge and understanding. The 3000-word essay for this unit of work requires students to develop and show their skills in literacy. They must submit a full bibliography of sources used.	

Year / Term	Unit of Work	Assessment
Yr13 Spring 2 February 1 st - May	<p>Component 2 Externally set assignment (ESA)</p> <p>Student select a starting point from one of the 5 titles on the exam paper.</p> <p>Students have approximately 8 weeks to produce a body of work responding to and interpreting their chosen title in a personal way. They must show a sustained study:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing ideas through research and informed investigation into photographers and artists. • showing analytical and critical understanding. • exploring photographic materials and techniques, reviewing and refining of ideas as they progress. • written annotation focused on reflecting and reviewing work. <p>All work leads to a final response that realises intentions, making connections to the work of the artists/photographers studied.</p>	<p>The ESA (component 2) is assessed using all 4 assessment objectives. This comprises 40% of your final mark.</p> <p>Component 1, the personal investigation, (sketchbooks, experiments, essay and final outcomes) is re-assessed using the 4 assessment objectives and standardisation takes place within the department. This comprises 60% of the final mark.</p> <p>The 2 components of work are presented as an exhibition for both the final internal assessment and the moderation by an AQA external moderator.</p>
Super Curricular	<p>Throughout the course and in particular for the ESA, students are expected to visit exhibitions and galleries in support of their work. They are expected to use their initiative in gathering source material, with the aim of carrying out first-hand research of images/objects/photographs rather than relying on second-hand source material from internet searches.</p>	