

Curriculum

At KS4, pupils have the chance to study GCSE Photography. Our exam board is Eduqas and, although a separate subject and course code, Photography is an endorsement of the Art and Design Specification. We choose to work with this course specification as it values creative making and encourages pupils to explore ideas, self-direct within themes and personalise their learning journey.

A link to course area of Eduqas website is below:

https://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/art-and-design-gcse/#tab_keydocuments

	What pupils will learn	How it builds on learning
Year 10	<p>September</p> <p>The first term of Year 10 is spent gaining skills within three of the course Assessment Objectives. Each is worth 25% of final mark:</p> <p>AO1 Critical understanding: develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.</p> <p>AO2 Creative making: refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.</p> <p>AO3 Reflective recording: record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.</p> <p>Pupils will explore and develop ideas through skills in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Composition • Aperture and Shutter Speed Priority • Studio lighting • Photoshop editing • Manual editing / collage • App editing 	<p>Pupils will have some knowledge of composition and basic edits using Snapseed app from KS3. We will build on this from September to February of Year 10, learning to shoot and edit using both smartphone/iPad and manual DSLR cameras.</p> <p>Learning in regard to use of DSLR camera is likely to be from scratch as pupils seldom have prior knowledge. However, skills picked up in app editing are quickly translated to both Procreate and Photoshop, both of which we move on to use in Year 10.</p>
	<p>February:</p> <p>From February, pupils start to compile and make plans for the Unit 1 Portfolio. In this they will reflect on the first term, build on ideas and select their coursework themes.</p>	<p>Pupils will increasingly ‘self-direct’ and need to show independence in their ability to progress while showing evidence of work that can be rewarded against the three assessment objectives introduced in term 1.</p>
	<p>July</p> <p>Up until the summer, they will explore ideas relating to their themes, working to provide evidence of all three assessment objectives already mentioned above.</p>	

	What pupils will learn	How it builds on learning
Year 11	September:	In completing their final outcome, pupils will learn and demonstrate skills in planning, time management and the sustained focus and resilience needed to realise an exciting series of photographs and edits.
	Pupils will learn how to ‘refine’ an idea toward a final outcome. We will look at the final assessment objective, worth 25% of final mark:	
	December:	
	AO4 Personal Presentation Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.	
	January:	In completing their Externally Set Assignment Unit, pupils will need to apply their knowledge and skills in all assessment areas but in a more decisive. They will use their experiences from Unit 1 to identify a direction and creative response, explore it and refine it efficiently and with purpose toward their final outcome.
	At the start of January pupils will receive and Exam Booklet and commence work on their Externally Set Assignment Unit.	
April:		
This unit will culminate in a 10-hour exam spread across two school days.		

Assessment

Teacher assessment and feedback will be ongoing and detailed. As pupils move through the Units, they will have increasingly personalised feedback and targets to act on. These will inform regular review of progress against teacher targets and predicted grades.

Supporting your child

What you can do at home:

Try to take your child to see some Photography / Art. We will have a noticeboard up in department and also send information on the parent bulletin about local and national exhibitions and events.

Equipment:

Pupils will have Snapseed and Procreate apps on their iPads. If they want to work in a physical sketchbook, they will have one provided.

You will need to provide your child with an SD card and USB card reader. 32GB is plenty big enough in terms of storage on the SD card. Your child will also need white gel pens if they choose to present work in a physical sketchbook.

If you can afford it, we advise buying your child a second-hand DSLR camera. The model we go for is a Canon 450d with 18mm – 55mm lens. This will cost around £100 - £150.

Extended learning

Homework policy:

GCSE pupils are required to complete 60 minutes of homework/independent study per week.

Clubs/ Enrichment opportunities:

Photography – Key Stage 4

Catch up sessions for GCSE Photography will run as and when needed. There will be an open door for these sessions but, if they are falling behind or need extra support, your child might be 'invited' to these catch-up sessions!

Extended study suggestions and reading lists:

We will endeavour to highlight local opportunities for workshops and events through the parent bulletin.

On the Photography subject area of the CATalogue is a list of useful tutorials your child might want to investigate in order to push and develop their skills further.

Possible trips and visits:

Cambridge drawing trips

London galleries trip

4-day trip to Berlin