



AQA GCE Photography

Specification Code: 7246

Specification Link:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/as-and-a-level/art-and-design/subject-content/photography>

Good Websites

Pinterest – Great for image ideas and ‘how to’ tips

YouTube – Very useful for learning any tutorials on techniques you want to learn or improve on

Thisiscolossal.com – Artist inspirations

Mymodernmet.com – Artist inspirations

Itsnicethat.com – Artist inspirations

Expertphotography.com – expert help, tips and advice

Books to read

- Ways of Seeing by John Berger
- Lighting by David Praker
- Image Makers Image Takers by Anne Celine Jaeger
- The Genius of Photography – Gerry Badger
- On Photography – Susan Sontag

Galleries, exhibition spaces, permanent exhibitions, larger galleries and museum spaces, all with permanent exhibitions:

- The Tate Modern- Modern and Contemporary art including photography
- The Tate Britain- British Art
- The Victoria and Albert Museum – now includes a historical photography section
- The National Gallery- paintings – useful for studying composition and lighting
- The National Portrait Gallery- devoted to the art of the portrait, hosts of Taylor Wessing Photography prize and BP portrait awards
- The Royal Academy
- The Hayward Gallery
- The Wallace collection
- The Barbican Contemporary Art Galleries with changing exhibitions:
- The White Cube
- The Saatchi Gallery
- The Whitechapel Art Gallery
- The ICA (Institute of Contemporary Arts)
- Camden Arts Centre
- Serpentine Gallery
- The Photographers' Gallery – also hosts to annual Deutsche Borse photography prize
- The Wellcome Institute- changing exhibitions containing arts that have a link to Science

Bridging Work (to be submitted in your first lesson in September)

Thank you for choosing A level Photography. We hope that you continue to be aware of your surroundings and really look at the detail in everything around you. Continue to practice using your camera over the holiday and take the time to really learn how to do things that you did not have the time to learn during GCSE. Collect images of things, people and places that are of interest to you and make the most of any photographic opportunity that might come around that could be used later on in your studies.

We have set you some tasks below for you to do before you start the course. Please bring these in on your first day to discuss with your class.

Start thinking about your strengths and what you are interested in. We look forward to working hard together in the Sixth form.

Activity 1 : RESEARCH

Find out more about artists and what or why they work in the way they do. It is really good to see photography exhibited in the real world – not just on the internet! This way you can get a sense of scale and materials used. It is important to do wider reading to understand how and why artists work the way they do.

- Visit a gallery – choose from the list above
- Photograph the gallery space and write a review of your visit (including images) discussing what you experienced and how it influenced you – Use powerpoint for your review.
- Choose ONE artist from the gallery, find out about their work and why or what the artist was trying to communicate. Read articles, use the internet or books and do some in depth research to get deeper meaning.
- Write about the artist and fully analyse two of their images

Activity 2 : IMAGE MAKING

In Photography there is a variety of skills needed and it is important that your work is inspired by other artists.

Produce a series of work that relates to the artist that you have seen in the gallery.

Based on your gallery research produce a minimum of three pieces of work, presented as a cohesive series, inspired by your visit and your chosen artist. The images could be edited or un-edited, colour or black and white, digital or film, but they should show a clear link to your artist. Present in your powerpoint after the review/analysis and document your process using contact sheets, show your selection and editing processes.

Activity 3 : THEME

In Photography A-level you choose your own 'Theme' for the duration of your coursework. Think about the type of photography you enjoy and come up with three possible titles to discuss in class that you may wish to pursue.

Past titles include:

Freedom, Pressure, Scale, Void and Occupied, Seasons, Nature vs Urban, Environment, Beginning and End, The Power of Nature, Relationships, Mental Health, Personal Identity, Journeys, Light and Shade, Impact, Culture, The figure, Repetition, Multiplicity, Expression, Transformation, Issues.....to name just a few

But feel free to come up with your own!

Activity 4 : WORKSHOPS

Produce ONE image for each of the following techniques

Aim to be as creative as possible in your image production – you will be representing these to the class when we return and you should display 4 per page (labelled) in your powerpoint. If possible try and link these to the theme you are thinking of doing in task 3 and don't use images from GCSE!

- Slow shutter speed
- Very shallow depth of field
- Bokeh
- Low Key lighting
- Symmetry
- Rule of Thirds
- Complimentary colour
- Freeze frame using flash
- Slow speed with flash
- Drawing with light
- Leading lines
- Patterned light
- Directional lighting
- Framing
- Reflection
- Coloured lighting
- Macro
- Dominant Colour
- Black and white
- Silhouette