

Photography



at RHB Sixth Form

A Level Photography is an *immersive* and *engaging* course that fosters and develops *artistic* flair and *technical* skills in the field. Walter Benjamin said “*The illiterate of the future will not be the person that cannot read the alphabet but the one who cannot take a photograph*”. Understanding how to think visually and realise this vision will open doors throughout the creative sector. In taking Photography A-Level you will be taking steps to becoming a person that asks *deeper questions*, communicates more succinctly and opens up *richer connections* for everyone.

“Photography A-Level has been an incredibly enriching course. It has encouraged me to be intentional in all my artistic work with techniques like compositional framing. It has allowed me to take creative risks and experiment, and aside from the artistic value, it has shown me the beauty in my everyday environment. From the wonderful facilities such as the dark room, to the more holistic freedom of self-expression, I would strongly recommend photography at Royal High to anyone looking to take a subject that will develop their artistic side, while also improving their organisational and time-management skills.”

BRIEF OVERVIEW

A Level Photography will provide an opportunity to experiment with a range of techniques, including pinhole photography, photographs, film photography and digital photography, learning how to use the darkroom and work with programs like Photoshop and Lightroom as you go.

This course consists of a Coursework element and an Externally set task each equating to 60% and 40% of the final grade respectively. For this qualification we follow the OCR syllabus. This course will require you to develop your critical thinking and research skills, you will be measured against 4 Assessment Objectives: how you Develop, Explore, Record and Present your work.

Throughout Year 12 you will be introduced to different techniques and processes: pinhole photography, photograms, film photography, digital photography

Midway through Year 12, you will start to develop a Personal Investigation driven by your own interests and decisions. Alongside this you will be asked to write a short 1000 word essay about a photographer, artist or movement that relates to your chosen area of study.

In February of Year 13 you will start the externally set task. You will receive a paper with a range of different starting points on it and be asked to develop one of these into a project and final outcome, which will be resolved in a 15-hour controlled assessment. There is no final written exam.

IS THIS THE RIGHT COURSE FOR ME?

This subject will appeal to visual thinkers, people who enjoy communication, creative individuals who want to experiment with new (and old!) techniques and students who want to develop their understanding of industry standard programs like Photoshop and Lightroom. You don't have to have any experience of darkroom photography, film cameras or the workings of a digital camera, you will learn how to use all of the technology you work with. People studying Photography A-Level will be expected to be brave, thoughtful, creative and self-motivated, to enable them to capture the best images they can.

WHERE COULD THIS COURSE TAKE ME?

Students who have studied photography with us have gone on to study Photography at University, others have studied on Foundation Art & Design courses, broadening and developing their skills there, before going on to study at University. Photography A-Level can lead onto a diverse range of university courses from Filmmaking and Media production to Game Design and Visual Communications.

CAREERS

Photography could be the starting point for working in film and television in a variety of roles from operating a camera to editing, from direction to locations scout. It could lead to work with magazine and news publications, in a journalistic way or in a creative role. It will open up possibilities for working in the fashion world, or with interiors, with graphic design and marketing.

HEAD OF SUBJECT

Christian Duckworth

EXAM BOARD

OCR



**ROYAL HIGH
BATH**

GDST
GIRLS' DAY SCHOOL TRUST

For Girls. For Life.

