Photography

Subject Lead: Miss A Penton
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Key topics covered

Students will be introduced to numerous new techniques including; photograms, studio-lighting (strobes and flash guns), the use of various light modifiers, coloured gels, long and short exposure, multiple exposure, small depth of field, macro photography and photographing on location.

Students will also be taught how to use editing software (Adobe Photoshop) to further refine and enhance their imagery.

Students will be given the opportunity to develop their own ideas through in-depth projects based on their own particular areas of interest e.g. fashion photography, portraiture, landscape photography.

As well as producing their own work, students will also write a 'Personal Study'. This is a 3,000-word essay in which they will analyse the visual qualities and concepts behind the work of other artists/photographers as well as making links to the student's own practical work.

Resources

The school has a very limited number of DSLR cameras that can be borrowed, however, it is highly recommended that students have their own.

A wide variety of Nikon-fit lenses as well as lighting equipment (for use with any brand of camera) is available for students to borrow.

Adobe Photoshop is available on all school computers. It is not required at home, although some students do choose to subscribe to the monthly service.

All work will be completed in a digital workbook (Google Slides), therefore no word-processing software nor printing of work is required.

Why study the subject/what students like about it

We live in an age in which we are bombarded by imagery on a daily basis. With more than 4 billion photographs taken each year, it is estimated that we now produce more images every two minutes than were taken in the entire 19th century. Whether through advertising, journalism or social media, these images are created to impact upon the way we think and act. This course allows students to better understand how such images are made, as well as the ideas and motivations behind them.

"I started the course having never used a proper camera before. Over the past two years I have produced work that I never thought possible and I'm really proud of what I have achieved" - Former Year 13 Student

Opportunities outside the classroom

Gallery visits

Photographing on location

Guest speakers

Future progression/career routes

Studying A Level Photography could lead to a career in filmmaking, television production, cinematography, product photography, portrait photography, photojournalism, architectural photography, illustration, advertising, graphic design, publishing, fashion, teaching, museum and gallery work…

