

Key Stage 4 Photography

Intent	Implementation	Impact
Our GCSE Photography curriculum develops students' creative confidence, technical skills, and visual storytelling. Through structured and open-ended projects, students explore the formal elements and learn to express ideas, emotions, and narratives. The course encourages experimentation, personal style, and critical thinking, preparing students for further study and creative careers.	Students build core and advanced skills across two years through: • Technical instruction in camera settings, lighting, and editing • Creative challenges exploring composition and formal elements • Artist/photographer studies to inspire personal responses • Mixed media and digital manipulation • Thematic projects responding to people, places, and stories Sketchbooks, contact sheets, and digital portfolios support idea development. WAGOLL examples, peer critique, and retrieval practice reinforce progress.	By Year 11, students confidently use photography to communicate meaning and mood. They produce a personal, high-quality portfolio and are well-prepared for the externally set assignment. The course builds creative resilience, digital fluency, and transferable skills for further education and employment.

Assessment

Assessment follows the four GCSE objectives:

AO1: Contextual research

AO2: Experimentation and refinement

AO3: Recording ideas and observations

AO4: Final personal response

Students receive regular feedback, with live progress tracking and targeted support. Each unit includes portfolio work, key assessed tasks, and final outcomes aligned to exam board standards.