

# ART & DESIGN: PHOTOGRAPHY

A LEVEL (AQA)



A-Level Photography will be exciting, creative, inspiring, demanding and fun! Creativity and the ability to take risks and use your imagination is the next big thing. Every business, no matter what type, realises that creativity and good design are vital for generating new business. Your creativity is not just a way to satisfy your artistic soul, it can open up the door to exciting career opportunities as well.

## What will you learn?

You will experiment with and investigate a whole range of media, techniques and processes from compact film cameras to digital SLR cameras, from dark room work to Photoshop manipulation of images, to mixed media. The emphasis will be learning by doing and you will be expected to create imaginative, personal work. You will be given the opportunity to develop your own personal responses to ideas, objects, experiences, environments and cultures in practical, critical and contextual forms. You will gain experience of evaluating and responding to other photographers' work whilst using your own creativity and independent thought to express yourself visually. You will be encouraged to take risks, experiment and reflect on your own work and processes.

## How will you learn?

There are two set components to the A Level. After an initial period learning key skills and concepts you will start the first Personal Investigation Component in Year 12. This will run into and complete in the Autumn term of Year 13. Component 2, the externally set exam, will start in the Spring term of Year 13 and complete in the Summer term:

- Component 1 – Personal Investigation. You will complete a portfolio of work based on a topic that interests you. This is worth 60% of your A-Level grade.
- Component 2 - Completion of an externally set assignment worth 40% of your A-Level grade.

## Where will it take you?

Students go on to higher education in Art & Design, through Foundation Courses at Arts Universities that lead on to full three year degree courses. You may then decide to join the world of advertising as illustrators, designers, typographers, or become painters, sculptors, textile designers, fashion designers, and photographers amongst many other career paths.

Many students go on to take higher education in photography, such as a photography degree. You may then decide to join the world of photography by becoming a fashion photographer; food and home photographer; natural environment photographer; advertising photographer; social documentary photographer; a photojournalist for newspapers or a war photographer and travel around the world - the list is endless. You can also use your photography experience to enter a wealth of careers in the creative industry – one of the fastest growing industries in the world!

## Who should you talk to?

Please speak to Mr MacAulay or email: [david.macaulay@thebourneacademy.com](mailto:david.macaulay@thebourneacademy.com)

Or speak with Miss Rockett or email: [emma.rockett@thebourneacademy.com](mailto:emma.rockett@thebourneacademy.com)

## What will you need to study this course?

Five or more 9-4 grades at GCSE including English and Maths. A grade 5 or higher in GCSE Art or Photography. You will also need a genuine interest and passion for the subject, and a willingness to commit significant independent time and effort in to producing your portfolio of work.