

Photography



A level (AQA)

A Level Photography is an exciting, creative, inspiring, demanding and fun! It is a practical hands on course, providing opportunities to take risks, experiment and explore different photographic media. Your creativity can open the door to many exciting career opportunities.

Entry Requirements

- **Minimum Standard:** Five or more grades at 4+ in GCSE or equivalent, including English and Maths.
- **Additional Criteria:** Minimum standard with a 5+ in Art or Photography or a portfolio of work that evidences the standard requirement.

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?

You will learn through a mix of practical camera work, artist research, and critical analysis, moving from guided lessons to independent projects.

- **Practical Experimentation:** Master digital cameras, studio lighting, darkroom printing, and editing software like Adobe Photoshop.
- **Contextual Research:** Study historical and contemporary photographers, art movements, and cultural contexts to inspire your own ideas.
- **Sketchbooks and Journals:** Document your creative journey, planning, contact sheets, and annotations in physical or digital workbooks.
- **Drawing and Planning:** Produce thumbnail sketches, storyboards, and diagrams to map out your photo shoots and visual concepts

How will you be assessed?

60%

Component 1 - Personal Investigation. You will complete a portfolio of work based on a topic of your choice. This is worth 60% of your A-Level grade.

40%

Component 2 - Completion of an externally set assignment worth 40% of your A-Level grade.

Where will it take you?

Students can progress to higher education in Art & Design through Foundation Courses and three-year degree courses. Career paths include advertising, illustration, design, typography, painting, sculpture, textiles, fashion and photography. Photography can lead to careers in fashion, food and home, advertising, natural environments, photojournalism and social documentary, as well as a wide range of careers in the creative industries.

Who should you talk to?

Please speak to Mr McCarron or email:
conor.mccarron@thebourneacademy.com