



Art and Design – Photography



What our students say:

“Photography enables you to capture not only a moment but also an emotion. I have found the course eye opening and challenging, but overall enjoyable.”

Entry Requirements:

5 GCSEs graded 9 – 4, including English and Mathematics and Art at grade 4+.

Students need to enjoy art, and should be looking forward to investing their own time in practising and developing their skills, responding to the advice that they are given and striving to become artists in their own right. Enthusiasm, passion and intellect are the basic requirements for all sixth form artists; creativity and talent are advantageous but can be developed over time.

Exam Board and Specification Link:

Edexcel A Level Art and Design, 8PY01, 9PY01: [Edexcel Art and Design specification](#)

What skills will you develop?

Students will develop creative skills by producing a body of work that is personal, refined and experimental. Other skills that students will develop include analytical, conceptual and project management skills.

What will you study?

Students will gain technical knowledge of how to use film SLR and DSLR cameras. They will learn how to use traditional dark-room processes to develop black and white photographic prints, along with how to use computer programs to create modern digital edits. Students will develop creative ideas focussing on composition, experimentation and narrative. Along with creativity, students will also develop their analytical skills by researching the work of artists and photographers. The course starts in year 12 by learning all the necessary skills and as the course progresses students are given greater independence. In year 13, students select their own coursework brief to reflect their own interests as artists.

Why study this subject?

A-Level Photography students will have the opportunity to explore a wide range of ideas and develop skills in studio portrait, documentary, landscape and architecture photography. Photography is a popular subject within the art department at Chenderit which hosts a well-equipped darkroom for traditional practices along with an Apple computing suite for modern photo editing in the latest Photoshop software. Students will be challenged to take photographs like artists instead of tourists, undertaking independent project and exploring various concepts.



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How will you be assessed?

60% is coursework involving an illustrated essay combined with practical assignments and 40% is a set question with six weeks preparation time and a 12 hour timed test.

Where can the subject lead?

Careers in photography can include freelance practice, photojournalism, curating, education, publishing, graphics and picture editing. The A level Photography course provides students with life skills and creative approaches which are much valued by employers in many fields. Many of our students go on to continue their journey by studying an art foundation course or at degree level. A photography student will gain many positive attributes that are attractive to employers, including strong practical skills, creative ideas and will have good aesthetic judgement. They will be able to problem solve and rise to challenges while working to deadlines and responding to specific feedback.

Contact Information

For further information about this course, contact Tom Christy, Head of Art, at: tchristy@chenderit.net