



WHAT WE AIM TO ACHIEVE

Photography offers new and exciting opportunities for creative students to develop new artistic and practical skills, using digital cameras and computer software to create imagery.

COURSE OUTLINE

All projects cover a range of photography genres, as well as provide opportunities to develop many valuable Adobe Photoshop editing skills. Students also develop a strong vocabulary of photographic and visual terms to help them write clearly about what they see and create.

HOW WILL I BE ASSESSED?

Unit 1 - Personal Portfolio (60%)

- Project 1 – Weird and Wonderful: Learning about the formal elements of art and photography. Looking at surreal and abstract aspects of photography – weird and wonderful objects, surfaces and textures. Creating food landscapes, taking an up close look at miniature figures and toys and looking at the world from unusual perspectives. This project will usually include a field trip to the Ipswich Waterfront to take photographs.
- Project 2 – Identity: Developing ideas by looking at personal belongings and our environments as well as portraiture of family and friends. In this project we become quite experimental, looking at opportunities to paint into photographs or weave them together or even tear up and staple them together! We also include elements of textile art by sewing into our images and printing on different surfaces.

Unit 2 - Externally Set Assignment (Exam) (40%)

- Final Project – (the theme is set by the exam board – Edexcel): Students will develop ideas, researching photographers' work that relates to their own thoughts about the project. Students then need to take photos for their ideas which they can edit and experiment with in their folder work. From these ideas and experiments, students will have a 10 hour exam in which to produce one or a number of final pieces to display the best work from their folder.

WHAT SKILLS DO I NEED?

An interest in photography is essential, combined with a passion to be creative and experimental. Photography GCSE is a demanding and exciting course and should be chosen by students who have a willingness to examine and write about images that inspire their own work, together with the imagination to create original images.

During the course students will be able to use our basic digital compact cameras, scanners and Adobe Photoshop all of which are available in school. Although it is not compulsory that students have these at home, it is worth noting that students who do have access to a digital SLR or a bridge camera (with manual functions) will be able to create more skilful and personal images for their GCSE. There will be an expectation that students purchase folders and presentation boards in which to display their work for both components.