

Curriculum information for Photography Year 11

Which exam board and course are used?	AQA GCSE Photography
What curriculum topics are being covered this year?	September Year 10 to December Year 10. Students will have several skills workshops centred about a theme to teach them skills in various areas of photography such as lighting techniques, camera settings and photoshop. This will introduce the students to new techniques and methods of constructing a GCSE project. January Year 10 to January Year 11. Students will be given number of starting points/theme ideas and choose a theme to produce their coursework project which follows on from previous learning as they apply skills they have learnt in the workshops. Within each project students must demonstrate the ability to: • develop their ideas through investigations informed by selecting and critically analysing sources • apply an understanding of relevant practices in the creative and cultural industries to their work • refine their ideas as work progresses through experimenting with media, materials, techniques, and processes • record their ideas, observations, insights, and independent judgements, visually and through written annotation, using appropriate specialist vocabulary, as work progresses • use visual language critically as appropriate to their own creative intentions and chosen area(s) of study • realise personal intentions through sustained application of the creative process. coursework portfolio represents 60% of the total GCSE mark
How many exams have students got and what is covered in each one?	In January of Year 11, students will receive the exam paper from the exam board. They will develop a project/theme of work which will culminate in them making a final piece of work in the 10-hour exam. This will take place the week after/before the Easter holidays. This represents 40% of the total mark.
What should students be focusing on?	Your child should be focusing on ensuring that all deadlines are met and that the work is as high a quality as they can possibly make it. Photography will include written annotation and they should be working on this at home as it will be accessible to them on One Drive. They will also need to remember to bring in items to support them when taking Photographs – such as food/ flowers/ props/ clothing for photoshoots.
What is the best way for parents to	Promote a sense of resilience within your child to continually improve their work. Too often students see projects that are just a series of tasks. To

support students in this subject?	achieve top quality marks, top quality work that has been continually improved is essential.
What websites and resources would be helpful? What wider reading would be helpful? Where can I get resources?	https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects/z6hs34j https://www.adobe.com/learn/photoshop https://photographylife.com/photography-tips-for-beginners https://www.studentartguide.com/
Have previous students got any tips or advice for this subject?	'Don't just rely on working in the classroom, you need to work at home as well!' 'Make sure you are choosing a theme you are interested in, that you are able to take photos of outside of school/ bring thing's in for!'