



St Mary Redcliffe  
and Temple School

# Photography



# Photography

Exam board: AQA

Specification no.: 7206 (A level)

**This is a two year linear A level course**

An AS Level can be taken but due to the significant practical component of the assessment this can only be done if spread across two years.

## A level

Module	Code	Date	Assessment	%
Component 1	7206/C	Jan	Personal Study 1000-3000 words	60%
Component 2	7206/X	Jun	Externally Set Assignment	40%



## Course Delivery:

Are you creative and imaginative? Do you enjoy exploring ideas and looking at things in different ways? If so, you should consider a course in photography with AQA. You will enjoy developing your understanding of the visual world, learning practical skills and responding to ideas and issues in ways that are personal to you.

Photography is about looking, learning, thinking and communicating ideas. It inspires creative thinkers. Photography means 'drawing with light' and that is what photographers do when they take a picture. Many photographers have explored various techniques to create images that make a personal statement about things that have interested or concerned them. The most exciting aspect of photography is that you are capturing the world as you see it.

The A level course is delivered to challenge both your creative and technical abilities. The course combines practical creation of your own images with critical studies of the work done by photographers throughout the last century. There will be gallery visits, practical field trips and visits by practicing photographers.

Lessons will include theory seminars and practical workshops. The course includes digital imaging as well as conventional photography. Group discussions and individual tutorials will take place throughout the course.



## Course Content:

At A-level for component 1 you will develop work for a personal investigation into an idea, issue, concept or theme supported by written material. This will count for 60% of your total A-level marks. In component 2 you will produce personal work in response to one of eight exciting starting points which will count for 40% of your total A-level marks.

The A level course covers basic camera operation, processing black and white film and paper, digital imaging and practical studio photography as well as image interpretation and contextual study.

You will research a thematic component of work by collecting visual and written material. While collecting information you will take photographs influenced by your investigations. Your aim will be to demonstrate a progressive development of your work. You will place your work and that of others in context and produce a final outcome of quality images.

The A level course will also focus on developing a personal study based on a set theme. You will develop your ideas through research and by building on your knowledge of techniques: processing black and white film and paper, experimental darkroom work, practical studio photography and digital imaging / manipulation and the use of combined images.



Work for Component 1 will involve collecting visual and written material. While collecting information you will take photographs influenced by your investigations. The personal study comprises of a 1000-3000 word document, exploring in depth your chosen subject and photographs to support this. Visits to National exhibitions will be a requirement. Finally, you will undertake a controlled assessment over 15 hours during which you will produce your final pieces.

**Entry requirements:**

There is no requirement to have studied Art at GCSE, but a creative and technical interest is essential.

**Skills & personal qualities required / developed by course:**

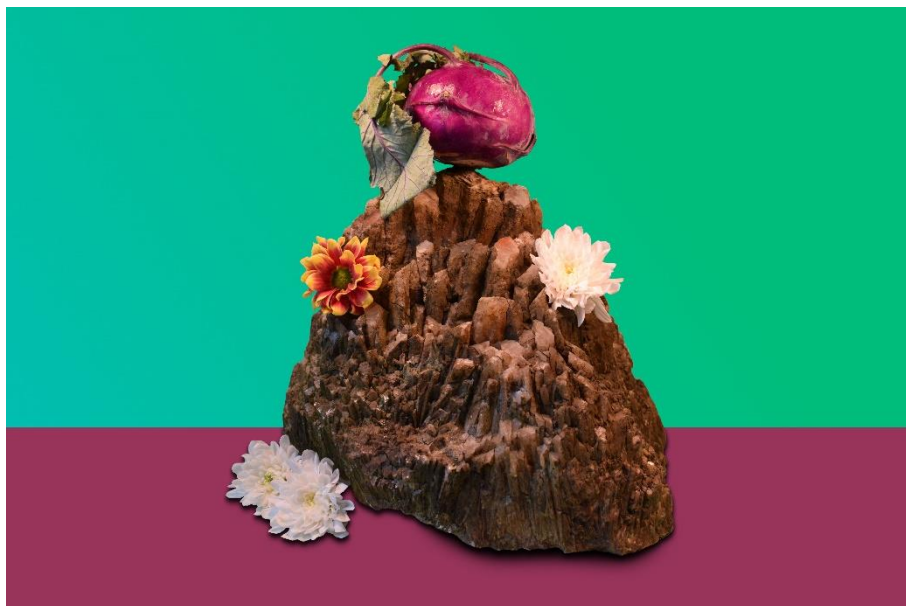
The course is offered to students with an Art background or to those who have demonstrated a genuine interest in practical photography. Commitment and enthusiasm are essential as Photography is a time-consuming activity. Practical skills in digital and conventional photography will be developed alongside group-work and independent study.

**Visits / resources:**

There are 2 compulsory 4 day residential trips over the duration of the course. The first is to St. Ives Cornwall in Y12, where you will visit the Eden Project, Newlyn Art Gallery, The Exchange, Tremenhoe Sculpture Gardens, St. Ives, The Tate Gallery, Barbara Hepworth Gallery, and create additional work with Artists Led Workshops. The second trip is a 4 days residential trip in Y13 to London. The purpose of this trip is to kickstart your Externally set assignment allowing you to collect and respond to relevant artists and exhibitions directly relevant to your theme. The visit is tailor made to the exam topics. The last trip consisted of visits to: the Tate Britain, Tate modern, V&A museum,

Science Museum, Natural History Museum, Photographers Gallery, Serpentine Gallery, British Museum, Barbican, Brick Lane, Olympic Park, and Whitechapel Gallery.

The department is equipped with manual and digital cameras, a small darkroom and a mac suite, photo exposure unit for screen printing and a selection of lights.



Recommended reading / websites:

20<sup>th</sup> century photography (Carlton)

The Photo Book (Phaidon)

The Invention of Photography

(Thames and Hudson)

Read this if you want to take great photos – Henry Carroll

[www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com) - digital gallery

[www.hultongetty.com](http://www.hultongetty.com)

For further information:

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