

Photography: Art and Design

Exam board: Edexcel



Students who study Photography at Chauncy often achieve excellent results. Photography has recently expanded into a new computer suite to accommodate the interest as the subject grows. The school has recently acquired 50 new bridge cameras for the students to use and created 2 lighting studio's within classrooms to enable best practise.

Students will predominately follow a digital path within the course, mirroring current practice. The syllabus offers students the opportunity to study all aspects of photography from aperture and shutter speeds through to manipulation and printing. Students will also have the opportunity to work

with traditional black and white photography in our dark room.

Photography is a versatile discipline that involves the manipulation and application of a range of materials and processes in order to produce outcomes. Students throughout the course will work within a range of different areas in lens and light based media and we support students in digital, traditional and also moving/film based work. As the interest in film and moving images grows we are expanding our knowledge and facilities and students have the opportunity to use the media suite if their work develops in this direction.

Students should incorporate contextual investigation as inspirational starting points for their photography development work. Their studies will be supported by contextual visits to London Galleries. Students will develop their work within all themes of photography from landscape, portraiture and still life and then specialise in their particular area of interest.

The course concludes with an exhibition of their final outcomes in The Gallery at Chauncy, during the summer term where students get to come together and celebrate their achievements with family and friends.

Summary of assessment

	Components	Portfolio	Weighting	Method of assessment
AS	Component 1 Coursework	Personal Investigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support studies – Sketchbook/presentation boards. • Practical – Experiments/ Final outcome 	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internally set • Internally marked • Externally moderated
	Component 2 Exam	Externally set assignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparatory studies – Sketchbook/ Presentation boards. • 10 hour period of sustained focus – Final outcome. 	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Externally set • Internally marked • Externally moderated
A2	Component 1	Personal investigation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting studies – Sketchbook/Presentation boards. • Practical – Experiments/ final outcome. • Personal study - 1000 word essay. 	60%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internally set • Internally marked • Externally moderated
	Component 2	Externally set assignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparatory studies – Sketchbook/ Presentation boards. • 15 hour period of sustained focus – Final outcome. 	40%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Externally set • Internally marked • Externally moderated

Frequently asked questions

Do I have to have studied Photography at GCSE?

To be considered for a place on the course you should obtain a C grade or above at GCSE. Those students that would like to study AS/A level Photography, but have not obtained a GCSE C grade, will still be considered and interviewed, students will be then expected to attend an 'Access to A level' course to build and develop essential skills.

How much written work is involved?

The course does involve some written work in the form of sketchbook annotations. The full A level course also has a personal study essay of 1000 words (min).

Do I need to buy a camera or art materials?

You will not need to supply your own camera as the department can supply you with one in lesson as well as to borrow for the weekend. The photography and art department are well equipped with materials that are available to students. However, if specialist materials are required then students may have to source them independently.

Will this course help me to get a place at college or university?

These courses will give you the opportunity to build an experimental portfolio to show case student skills and creative abilities. Work created by the students is then used during the interview process in order to gain a place on degree courses or other higher education qualifications.

Will I get a good grade?

The photography department is highly supportive of all students, we have high expectations and students work well to achieve their desired result. Students are encouraged to direct their own choice of study in photography, alongside the syllabus requirements and because of this results are original and exciting.

L Garratt, Head of Photography.

