



Rednock School A Level Photography



Transition Pack

Course Guide and Summer Work

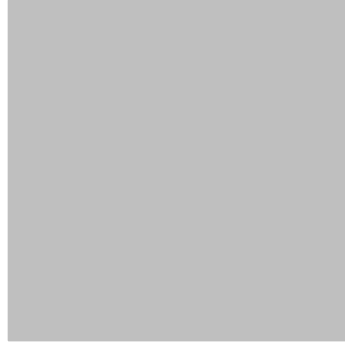
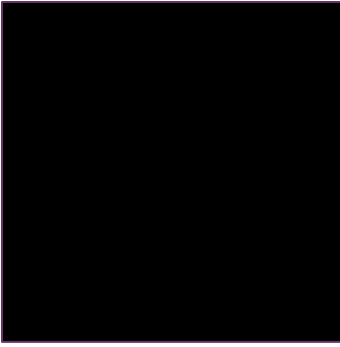
Exam Board: AQA

Course Title: Photography

Course Code: 7206 www.aqa.org.uk

Where tasks ask you take and select photos, please do this on a PowerPoint or Google Slide. Please make sure that you can share them with your subject teacher's in September.

At any point you can email me for support: andy.wallis@rednockschool.org.uk



+ Introduction

Skills you will need to develop

A Level Components

Component 1: 60%

Personal Investigation

Component 2: 40%

Exam Set Assignment

A - Level Photography provides students with opportunities to develop personal responses to ideas, observations, experiences, environments and cultures through practical, critical and contextual forms within Photography. Students will be introduced to a variety of experiences that explore a range of photographic media, techniques and processes. They will be made aware of both traditional and new technologies. Students will explore relevant images, artifacts and resources relating to a range of art, craft and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. This will be integral to the investigating and creative processes. Students' responses to

these examples must be shown through practical and critical activities that demonstrate their understanding of different styles, genres and traditions. Students should use sketchbooks – workbooks - journals to underpin their work where appropriate. They may wish to develop their drawing skills in order to produce storyboards, thumbnail sketches and/or diagrams, where appropriate. Students may use traditional methods and/or digital techniques to produce images. Students should be aware of the four assessment objectives to be demonstrated in the context of the content and skills presented and of the importance of process as well as product.



Recommended reading, research and preparation

As part of your summer work it is advisable to undertake a range of research. First hand study and experience is essential. We recommend a range of gallery visits so that you can see the work of professionals.

Suggested Galleries:

National Portrait Gallery

Photographers Gallery

Atlas Gallery

Beetles and Huxley

Foto8 Galley

V&A Photographic Collection

Also keep a look out for local exhibition in Bristol, Cheltenham, Bath and Gloucester.

Secondary Research

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

www:art2day.co.uk

Also look at online collections. Try to research a range of photographic styles including:

- Portraiture
- Landscape
- Still Life
- Macro
- Wildlife
- Architecture
- Film
- Digital Manipulation

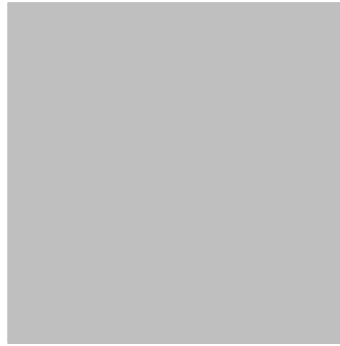
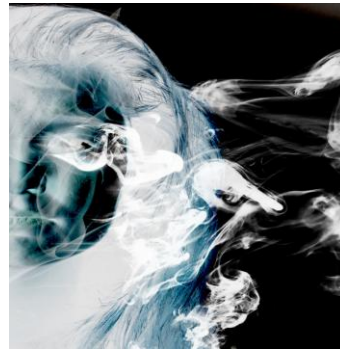
Tutorials and Online Workshops

To develop your skills there are also wealth of tutorials on how to improve your photography online, including:

www.youtube.com

www.cooph.com

or perhaps you have access to the Sky Arts channel where you can view the 'Master Photographer' current and previous seasons.



Week 1

Task 1: Understanding your camera

we would like you to undertake 3 tasks to prepare you for your new course. This is important and will be assessed at the beginning of September to decide on your suitability for the course.

TASK 1

Whether you have a DSLR, compact digital camera or phone camera, to take great photos you need to know how it works. Many people don't progress beyond 'point and click'.

Your first job is to read through the instruction manual for your camera if you have one. Find out how all of the functions work.

You will find that even the most basic camera has a host of features that you didn't even know were there, such as Manual focus, multi-shot and macro mode. Many cameras even allow you to experiment with Shutter Speed, ISO and Aperture settings. You will need to use all of these on this course.

Lost manuals don't count as an excuse. Almost all electronic manufactures such as Sony, Nikon and Canon make their camera manuals available online. Just type the model number of your camera followed by the word 'manual' into Google and you should find it.



+ Week 1&2

Task 2 & 3: Build a personal photographic portfolio

Next we want you to take a broad range of photos under the 4 following themes:

- Macro
- Portrait
- Nature
- Manmade

There isn't a limit to the number of photos you take. If you are serious about this subject you should always have a camera with you so we would expect to take lots. **Remember that you must observe social distancing and lockdown rules.**

Once you have taken these photos you should select 30 photos (15 in colour and 15 in black and white).

During the process of selecting your 50, image manipulation should be undertaken on at least half

of these. Try to explore a range of Apps and websites to see what they have to offer.

APPs: Instagram, Photoshop, Photopea, Snapseed. Websites: Piccassa, Photoshop Elements, iPiccy

Add your photos to a PowerPoint or Google Slide. Add comments about why you feel these photos work well. You will need to show these to your teacher when you start the course in September.

Task 3: Critical Review & Exhibition

Researching the work of other Photographers will be essential to your development. Go to Pinterest.com and create a new account that you will only use for this course. Find 10 photographers whose work inspires you. Save these and be prepared to discuss why you think they are inspirational.

Required Knowledge and skills

Have taken GCSE Art or Media or been interviewed with a portfolio

A good level of ICT competence.

This course suites strong, self-motivated, independent students.

Access to your own equipment is highly preferential.

Assessment

During your first 2 weeks in the 6th Form we will review the work you have undertaken over the holidays.

The review will comprise of:

- a review of summer work
- assesment of the preliminary practical tasks that you will produce in the first 2 weeks.





A LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY



Glossary of Terms

Angle of View. The scene as viewed through the camera lens.

Aperture. The opening in a lens that controls the amount of light that passes into a camera. The size of the lens opening is referred to as the f-number or f-stop. Adjustable lenses use a diaphragm that allows the user to change the aperture openings through a range of incremental sizes known as f-stops. Examples: f/2, f/4, f/5.6, f/8, f/16. Each f-stop opening either doubles, or cuts in half, a specific amount of light that enters the camera striking the film or digital sensor.

Aperture Priority. A camera feature that lets the user select a desired aperture size while the camera automatically sets the shutter speed for proper exposure. When the aperture is changed, or the light level changes, the shutter speed automatically adjusts accordingly.

Autofocus. A lens feature that automatically focuses on

Background. The part of a scene that appears behind the main subject of the photograph and farthest away from the camera or viewer.

Black and White. A photograph or image made up of black, white and gray tones.

Bounce Lighting. Flash or other light bounced off of a wall, ceiling, or reflector to effectively enlarge the source and provide a softer and more natural effect.

Camera Angle. Various positions of camera placement relative to the subject's position. i.e. high, low, left, right, eye level, waist level, ground level, etc.

Candid Photographs. Un-posed photographs of subjects during activity, most frequently taken without the subject's knowledge.

Close-up. A photograph taken with a camera held close to the subject.

Color Temperature. The measure of color quality of a source of light, expressed in degrees Kelvin.

- **Warm** colors - yellows, oranges, reds and other earthy colors
- **Cool** colors - In contrast to warm earthy colors, the cool colors include shades of blue, silver, gray, purple and others.

Composition. The photographer's visual arrangement of the subject and surrounding elements in a photograph as seen through the viewfinder.

Contrast. The brightness range of the subject or the scene lighting.

- **High** contrast scene - has a narrow range of brightness
- **Low** contrast scene - has a wide range of brightness

Crop. To use only a part of a photographic image by cutting out the portion not wanted.

Daylight. Sunlight that is either direct, as on a clear day, or diffused through clouds on an overcast day.

Definition. The clarity of detail and edge sharpness in a photograph.

Depth of Field. The range of acceptably sharp focus between the nearest and the farthest objects in a photograph. Depth of field is controlled by the aperture f-stop selection, and influenced by a particular lens focal length.

Electronic Flash. A compact, portable light source, providing light equivalent to the color temperature of daylight.

Exposure. The total amount of light allowed through a lens and onto a camera's sensor. The aperture controls a specific amount of light, and the shutter controls the amount of time that the light is allowed to pass through. The aperture and shutter working together controls exposure.

- **Overexposure** - A condition in which too much light reaches the digital camera sensor, creating a photograph that appears too light and washed out
- **Underexposure** - A condition in which too little light reaches the digital camera sensor producing a dark and muddy-looking print.
- **Normal or Correct** - The straight aperture and shutter speed exposure combination based on a simple light measurement by the camera's light meter. This may be just a starting point, however, depending on the scene's lighting, and the photographer's creative vision.

Exposure Meter. A device that measures light for the purpose of exposure.

Exposure Setting. The aperture and shutter speed combination settings for a specific scene.

F/stop / F-number. The ratio between the diameter of the aperture opening and the focal length of the lens. See Aperture.

Field of View. The photographer's eyesight view of a scene.

Filter. A optical accessory used to remove or transmit light characteristics; cover and protect the front elements of a lens; and in photo-software applications, dramatically modify the appearance of a photograph.

Focal Length. The distance from the optical center of a lens to the sharp image behind the lens that is formed on the sensor (measured in millimeters) when the lens is focused on infinity. The focal length of a lens determines the subject image size that the lens forms on the sensor and the field of view.

Focus. A lens function that brings a scene or image into sharpness through the movement of optical lens elements inside the barrel of a lens.

- **Manual** focus - The photographer must manually turn a focusing ring, usually located around the end of the lens barrel.
- **Fixed** focus - The focus is permanently set by the manufacturer and no focus adjustments are available to the photographer.
- **Auto** focus - Focusing is achieved through one of several types of autofocus arrangements. Typically, autofocus is established after the photographer lightly depresses the shutter button prior to taking the picture.

Foreground. The part of the scene or space in a photograph that appears closest to the camera or nearest the viewer.

Highlights. The lightest areas of an image.

Image. A photograph. Also, a physical likeness or representation.

ISO. A measurement of sensitivity to light. (ie. ISO 100, 200, 400 800, 1600, etc). The lower the ISO number, the more light is needed to produce the normal photograph.

Lens. The part of a camera, either built-in or added interchangeably, that gathers light rays from a scene and focuses the image sharply onto a camera's film or digital sensor.

- **Fast** lens - one with a large maximum aperture. Example: f/1.8 or f/2.0
- **Slow** lens - one with a small maximum aperture. Example: f/4 or f/5.6
- **Wide-angle** lens - one with a field of view wider than
- **Telephoto** lens - one
- **Zoom** lens - See Zoom Lens
- **Fisheye** lens - an extreme wide-angle lens with an angle of view of about 180 degrees. Fisheye lenses produce round images.

Lens speed. Refers to the widest aperture opening on a lens, which is an indicator of how effective the lens will perform under low lighting levels.

Light. The energy that makes photography possible. Light rays travel in straight lines.

Perspective. The spatial relationships and relative sizes of objects in a photograph. Perspective changes only when camera position changes

Photograph. A record of a physical scene, event, person or object that is created with a camera.

Pixel. A picture element. The smallest unit of a digital image, which are normally invisible to the naked eye..

Pixelated. A condition in a digital photograph where individual pixels become clearly discernible.

Primary Colors. Red, blue and green.

Print. A hard copy of a photograph.

Program Exposure. See Exposure.

Refraction. The bending of light rays by the glass elements inside a lens so that they converge and focus on a single plane inside the camera's film or digital sensor.

Resolution. The number of pixels in an image, expressed as ____ x ____ (ie. 1200 x 1870). The higher the resolution, the greater the amount of detail and quality in a photograph.

Scene. The place or environment viewed from camera position.

Shadows. The dark areas of an image.

Shutter. The movable curtain, plate or other cover that opens and closes in order to control the amount of time that light enters the camera and strikes a digital sensor or film.

Shutter Button: A pushbutton, usually located on the top side of a camera that triggers the shutter to open.

Shutter Priority. A camera feature that lets the user select a desired shutter speed while the camera automatically sets the aperture for proper exposure. When the shutter is changed, or the light level changes, the shutter speed automatically adjusts accordingly.

Shutter Speed. The variable speed at which the shutter opens and closes each time the shutter button is depressed.

Side Lighting. See Lighting.

Stop. An alternate name for f-stop.

Still life. A photographic composition of inanimate objects composed of subject matter and supporting elements that reflect a certain unifying idea or theme.

Sunlight. See Daylight.

Telephoto Lens. See Lens

Tripod. A three-legged supporting stand used to hold a camera steady.

Tunsten Light. See Lighting

Underexposure. See Exposure.

Viewfinder. A window, built-in to a camera, that allows a photographer to frame and focus an image scene before taking the photograph. See Camera.





A Level Photography

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