



The Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form
A Level course 2017-19

Photography

“A photograph is usually looked at – seldom looked into.” Ansel Adams.

Entry Requirements

4 A*–C GCSE passes including a grade 4 in English Language.

Careers

This forms a starting point for students wishing to move into the art, design and all industries associated with this sector. Photography A Level enables progression towards foundation and degrees in: photography, graphics, 3D design, product design, fine art, animation, teaching and many others.

Photography is an inescapable medium, affecting everyone through film, television and the hundreds of photographs seen daily in newspapers and magazines. The course is a combination of practical and academic work. The practical work enables students to take their own photographs and develop and process all of their own negatives and final prints in a conventional darkroom. Students will also use digital cameras and computers, reflecting the increasing importance of digital imaging in photography. The written component of the course includes research work on artists, critical analysis of images and the documentation of the students’ own photographic projects as well as a separate essay based on their personal study.

Course Structure

Photography is a linear 2 year course with an externally set examination at the end of year 13.

Coursework 6PY01 – 60% of the total qualification

Internally set, assessed by the teacher and externally moderated.

- First assessment: 2017

In year 12 you will be required to produce 1 unit of coursework consisting of 2 sections: 1. Human Presence. 2. Portraiture.

Both of these sections will explore the work of many photographers and you will make your own responses. These 2 sections will teach you both darkroom and digital photography skills.

This section will be completed by February/March.

You will then begin your Personal Investigation; choosing a topic/genre of your choice (guided by the teacher). This component allows students opportunities to generate and develop ideas, research primary and contextual sources, record practical and written observations, experiment with media and processes, and refine ideas towards producing personal resolved outcome(s).

Essay (year 13)

The personal study will be evidenced through critical written communication showing contextual research and understanding in a minimum 1000 words of continuous prose, which may contain integrated images. The personal study comprises **12% of the total qualification (included in the 60% from the coursework component)**.

Examination: 6PY02 - 40% of the total qualification .Your practical examination will last 15 hours!.

Externally set, assessed by the teacher and externally moderated. You will begin preparation for this in February of year 13.

- First assessment: 2017

Externally set theme and exam: A theme is set by the exam board and you will have an extended preparation period to respond to the exam topic and produce a sketchbook documenting your process and 1 large scale final outcome.