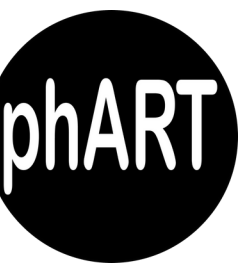




GCSE Photography



March 2025

PIC•COLLAGE

Welcome notes from the department

phART



Mrs K Spinola

Head of Department

You will be taught
by specialist
teachers who are
dedicated to your
development as a
photographer.



Mr S George

You will have access to
dedicated Art rooms and
computer suite where
you will explore, research
and gain an
understanding in a range
of media.



Miss C Whitmore

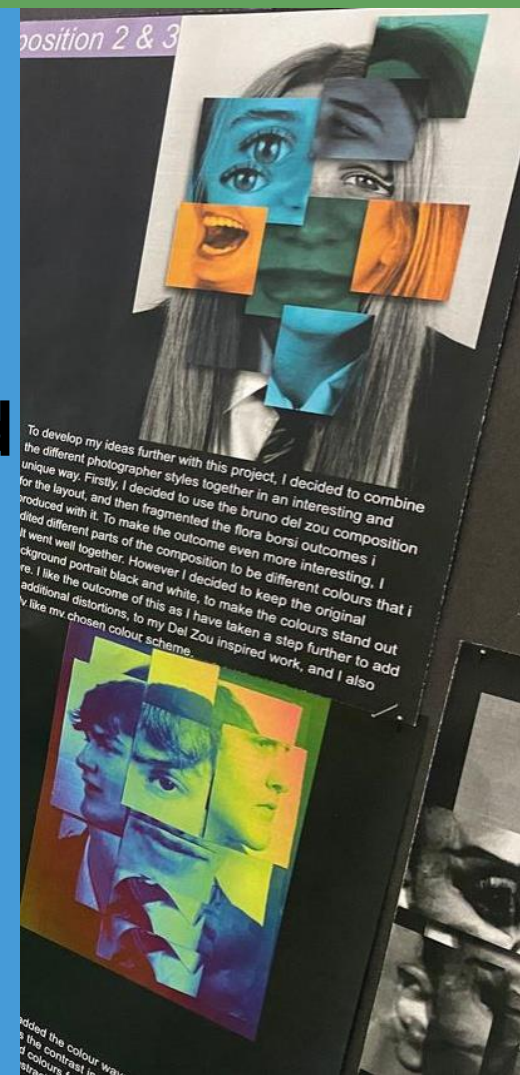
The course offers you
the opportunity to use
DSLR cameras,
professional lighting
equipment and studio
space.



Why should I study Photography?

No written exam!
You will instead be given an externally set assignment
i.e. to produce a small body of work in January (year 11), with the deadline in May

Discover techniques you are good at that you might not have tried before.



No essays to do, all work at GCSE is practical



Highly varied lessons that range from exploring the school grounds with your DSLR camera, working in our studio space, editing shots in the computer suite and even constructing creative 3D photo structures

Work independently on your own projects in a calm and inspiring environment



What you will study

The aim of this course is to **develop personal creativity and practical skills** in using lens based and light-based media, as well as to increase appreciation and understanding of the visual arts.

You will have the opportunity to learn:


- How to take photographs successfully using the school's DSLR cameras and lighting equipment.
- A range of photographic techniques and processes, for example lighting patterns, viewpoint, aperture, depth of field, shutter speed, the formal elements and compositional rules.
- How to refine your photographs using Photoshop and other software.
- How to work collaboratively to plan photoshoots and create contact sheets to help you to develop your ideas.
- How sources relate to historical, contemporary, social, cultural and issues-based contexts and external considerations such as those associated with the cultural industries and client-oriented requirements.
- How ideas, themes, subjects and feelings can inspire creative responses informed by different styles, genres and aesthetic considerations and/or an individual's distinctive view of the world.

What to expect

You will complete 3-4 coursework projects during Year 10 and 11. You will produce both physical and online portfolios. Distorted Portraits and Street Photography are some examples of the themes which are studied. In the second term of Year 11, you will complete an additional project set by AQA, which is called the Externally Set Task. All of the portfolio work that you produce will contribute towards your final GCSE grade. Home learning tasks will require you to undertake some independent research and present work smartly in your portfolio. The department provides lunchtime and after school clubs for students to work in the studios.


My Photos

-Nicholas Kennedy-



This is my first edit. Its simple and similar to the artists in how it's a building.

This is the same photo from 'my journey'; I used it because I liked the viewpoint and leading lines up the building, which, because it emphasises the buildings height and largeness, I thought would work well with the 'twisty' effect influenced by Kennedy and I am pleased that it has worked.



Editing Process

First of all I used the 'elliptical marquee tool' to draw a circle. The measurements were;

W : 30.000 in
H : 30.000 in

I created this circle as a layer and repeated the circle process, making it 2in less

W : 28.000 in
H : 28.000 in

I repeated this until I got 13 layers of smaller circles


Viewing only the background layer and the first layer, I began to rotate them

I did this by going to transform then rotate and selected -5 degrees


I repeated this making the rotations on

Brno Del Zou: 3D Outcomes Process


Using a scalpel and ruler cut out the different pictures of the models face. The ruler ensures the sides are even and straight.




After all shots have been backed onto the foam I assembled the shots together to create a distortion like Brno Del Zou' work.



Once all the shots have been cut out I glued them onto black foam to create the layered look that Brno Del Zou achieves with his distortions. It also makes them more sturdy



Once the distortion is assembled i painted a black wooden board to stick it on to contrast the black background to the black and white distortion



If you are considering taking Photography as one of your options, you may wish to join our Year 9 Photography club which is on after school every Wednesday in Room 62/80 (led by Mr George)

Our Exam Results 2025

phART



GCSE Photography

Grade 7+ 32%

Grade 4+ 95%

Assessment

Examination Board:

AQA

Assessment:

1. Coursework Portfolio:

60% of total mark

2. Externally Set Task:

40% of total mark

Student must complete **both** components.

Component 1: Portfolio

What's assessed

A portfolio that in total shows explicit coverage of the four assessment objectives. It must include a sustained project evidencing the journey from initial engagement to the realisation of intentions and a selection of further work undertaken during the student's course of study.

How it's assessed

- No time limit
- 96 marks
- 60% of GCSE

Non-exam assessment (NEA) set and marked by the school/college and moderated by AQA during a visit. Moderation will normally take place in June.

+

Component 2: Externally set assignment

What's assessed

Students respond to their chosen starting point from an externally set assignment paper relating to their subject title, evidencing coverage of all four assessment objectives.

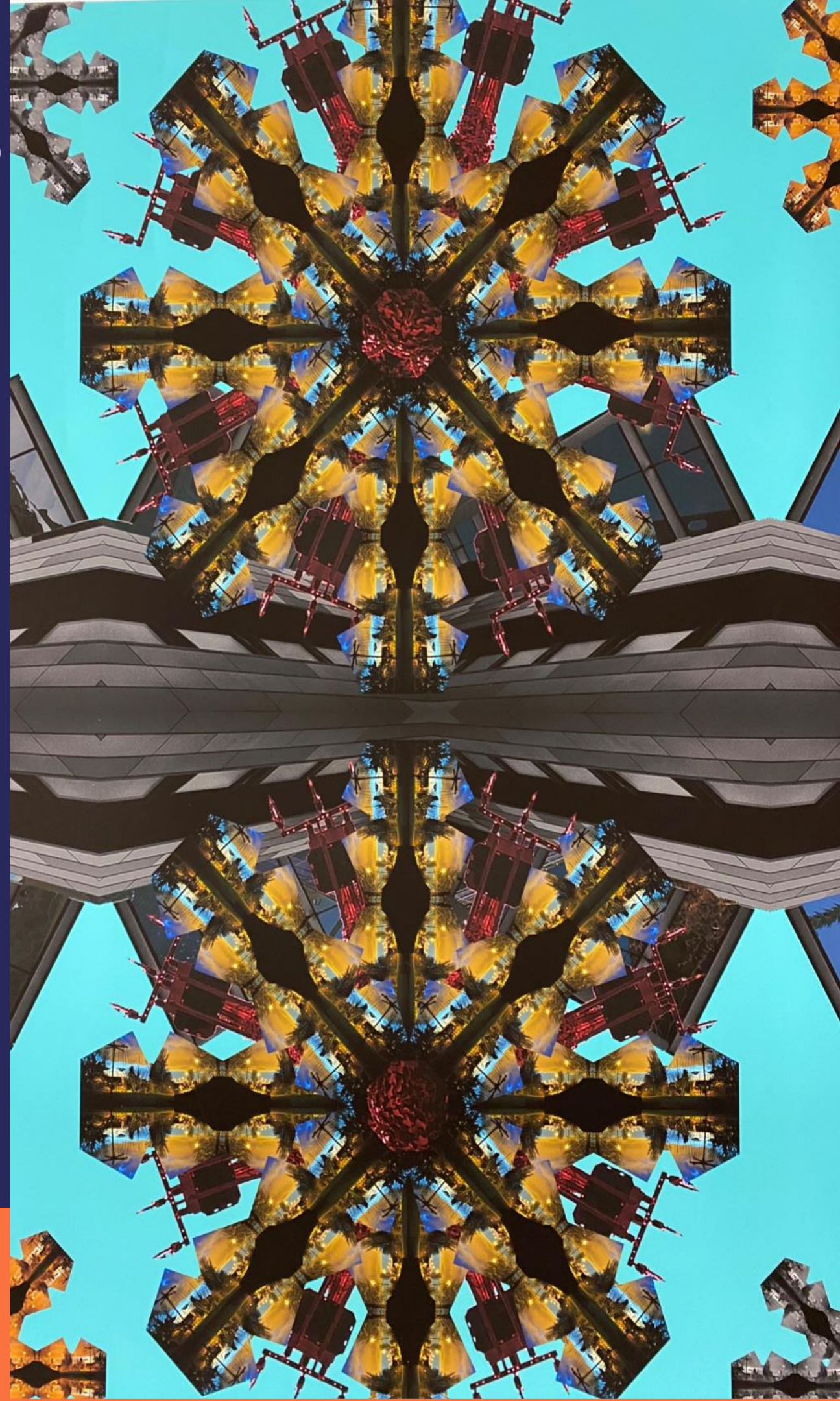
How it's assessed

- Preparatory period followed by 10 hours of supervised time
- 96 marks
- 40% of GCSE

Non-exam assessment (NEA) set by AQA; marked by the school/college and moderated by AQA during a visit. Moderation will normally take place in June.

Career Paths

By studying GCSE Photography, you will develop your creative thinking, teamwork and problem-solving skills – all skills that are prized by employers and which young people need. It can lead to A level Photography or Fine Art at school and there are many specialist photography courses available at colleges locally and nationally.



Photojournalism
Forensic photography
Wildlife photography
Portrait photography
Wedding photography
Fine Art
Architectural
Photo researcher
Curator
Sports Filmmaking
Animation
Special effects
Teacher
Editorial photographer
Digital artist
Media
Cinematographer
Film editor
Video editor
Photographer
Macro photography
Underwater photographer
Advertising photography