

Parent Guidance on how to support your child with their Photography Exam



How is the GCSE in photography assessed?

The GCSE in Photography is made up of 2 units:

Coursework = 60% of Final Grade

Practical Exam = 40% of Final Grade

Each unit is assessed within four assessment objectives

A01 – Developing ideas, taking images, looking at the work of photographers and Artists

A02 – Experimenting with ideas when taking images. Exploring ideas in Photoshop or a similar software programme

A03 – Recording ideas for a final idea

A04 – Creating a final presentation of work.

At Redruth School we run the GCSE course in Photography offered by the AQA Exam Board

www.AQA.org.uk

When is the Exam?

The Exam unit starts in January of year 11 and is completed with a 10 hour practical exam in April (normally spread over two days), during which time students complete a final presentation of their work and if they wish a creative outcome in medium of their choice.

In January Students will receive an exam paper that contains 7 possible starting points for their exam unit.

Extra support sessions

Students are invited to attend the KS4 photography after school club on Monday & Tuesday 3-5 in room 108. Students can also work in the Art rooms and ICT suite at Lunchtimes and most evenings after school until 4pm.

Photography Staff

Mrs T Mackellar – Head of Visual Arts

tmackellar@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk

Miss K Banks

kbanks@redruth.cornwall.sch.uk

The Photography teachers can be contacted via their school E mail address and via the school phone number.

Useful Websites

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/gcse/art

www.lightboxresource.co.uk

www.gcsephotography.co.uk

www.studentartguide.com

www.googleartproject.com

www.lensculture.com

Top Tips for a successful exam unit

- Students will be set regular homework, please encourage your child to complete this work by the set deadline. The homework is often research work in preparation for the next practical session in the classroom or will be an extension of work completed at school.
- Encourage your child to look at a wide variety of Photographers, Artists, and Designers to inspire their work.
- Visits to local galleries such as the Tate St Ives, the Exchange and Newlyn Galleries in Penzance, The Falmouth Art Gallery and the Royal Cornwall Museum in Truro
- Encourage them to carry their Camera/ phone at all times.
- Ask them to create a diary/checklist of all the tasks that need to be completed and when.
- Encourage them to communicate with their teachers about their ideas and any concerns they have.
- The school will supply most of the materials and resources, but your child may want to use other materials. The Best places to purchase these are Jims Cash and Carry (Redruth) The Range (Truro) and Trago Mills (Falmouth / Liskeard)

