

Our Photography curriculum aims to engage, inspire, and challenge pupils, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to create their own photographic works. A key focus is learning to evaluate and analyse photographs using precise language, understanding elements like line, shape, form, texture, tone, colour, and composition. We encourage students to use critical and analytical skills to develop a deeper understanding of photography's role in history and culture. Students will produce creative photographic work, exploring their ideas and experiences. They'll become skilful with various cameras and techniques, including composition, lighting, and exposure.

"Find your focus, capture your passion."

KS4

Year 9

Students develop core photography skills through projects exploring formal elements, Surrealism, and digital editing. They learn camera handling, Photoshop basics, portfolio presentation, and critical analysis of artists work. By the end of Year 9, they begin NEA preparation through experimental digital composition and scanography.

Year 10

Students will develop their presentation skills by working on their NEA by experimenting and exploring Gelli print transfers. They will then begin their extended project based on the theme Extended Portrait. They will explore the work of other artists, building on their critical analysis skills and create their own responses by exploring a variety of media and techniques.

Year 11

Students will continue to develop their NEA by experimenting and refining their own ideas and presenting their observations, including in-depth evaluation of their own work. They will then complete their final outcome for their extended project. External Set Task: Moodboard, critical research, responses and gathering and recording observations. They will also develop their work by experimenting with media and refining their ideas in order to create a final outcome in the 10 hour exam

KS5

Year 12

Year 12 students build creative, technical, and critical skills through photography workshops re-exploring the formal elements and a project on 'Objects'. They develop independence in refining and presenting personal ideas, while gaining insight into real-world contexts and creative industries. Students then begin their Personal Investigation, exploring and responding to their own chosen themes.

Year 13

Year 13 students complete their Personal Investigation through independent in depth study and photoshoot development, combining practical work with a 1,000-3,000 word written study linked to artists, designers, or photographers. They also respond to an externally set AQA stimulus for Component 2, producing independent, meaningful outcomes that meet all assessment objectives within the 15 hour exam conditions.

External Set Task - moodboard, critical research & responses, gathering & recording observations, experimenting with media & refining ideas

A-Level Exams

YEAR 13

Personal Investigation - final outcomes, essay conclusion

Personal Investigation - experimenting with combined responses & final outcome, main body of essay

Personal Investigation - essay introduction & plan, experimenting with combined responses



Personal Investigation - moodboard, critical research, experimental responses

Personal Investigation - experimenting with ideas, recording observations

YEAR 12

Personal Investigation, creating a bibliography

Mini Project - Objects



Foundation & Core elements revised, darkroom workshop, developing outcomes

Externally Set Task - developing work to support their chosen starting point

GCSE Exams

YEAR 11

NEA - Developing experimental independent manipulations to produce a final outcome



NEA - Double page of experimentation, double page of composition, evolution piece

NEA - Creative Portrait

Recap and revision

Mock Exams

NEA preparation

YEAR 10

NEA - Weaving Tyler Spangler workshop



NEA - Creative Portrait Billy Kidd ISO workshop David Sterne weaving



NEA - Gelli Printing workshops Extended Project - Creative Portrait Steve McCurry study

Surrealism - the exposure triangle, light paintings, shutter speeds, false perspective, aperture

NEA - Digital Composition

NEA - Scanography

YEAR 9

Surrealism - critical studies of surrealist photography, creating responses

Formal Elements Project - composition, leading lines, framing views



Formal Elements Project - digital portfolios, digital workspaces & formal elements



Record



Analyse



Experiment and Refine



Create Outcomes



Topics with the WR logo are directly linked to the Hoe Valley School Work Ready Agenda.