



Course Start

Course Start is **independent learning** you need to complete as a fundamental part of your introduction to the course. It should take you approximately **5 hours** to complete.

Course Name	Photography A Level
How this Course Start fits into the first term of the course	The theme of the first project in the A Level is ' Structure '-the photographs you create & research will make up the first piece of darkroom work that goes in your logbook.
How will my Course Start learning be used in lessons?	You will be using the photographs that you have taken to inspire new work in class and experimentation in the darkroom. The work you bring in will inform the direction of your first A3 Logbook .
Course Start learning objectives	• Learn new ways of creating imagery • Develop an understanding of composition by studying the work different photographers • Build the skills required to create an exemplary logbook • Learn how to use a Digital SLR camera • Produce traditional darkroom imagery
Study Skills	• Research skills -following the guidelines on the brief exploring relevant photographers and techniques • Visual skills - Understanding the key aspects of a good photograph • Lighting & Composition - Use of light & shadow, angles and perspective. • Technical skills - building up the knowledge of using a Digital SLR successfully • Practical skills - learning how to work in the darkroom

Expectations for: Photography A Level

Our specification is: [AQA A LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY 7206](#)

What this course involves:
Completing Planned Study (independent learning) of 5 hours per week.
The 2 year course is 60% Coursework & 40% Exam
Learning how to effectively use a 35mm Film Camera & a Digital SLR Camera
Following briefs set - this includes researching, planning and taking photography shoots, experimenting, and creating a set of final images
Learning the technical and creative aspects of photography
Planning for Photoshoots on varying locations
Participating in planned trips to shooting locations
Visits to Photographic & Art Exhibitions
Learning to use 'Available Light' when shooting
Using new techniques; Traditional Darkroom, Studio, Digital Darkroom (Adobe Photoshop) Wet Processing & Printing, Digital Inkjet Printing.
Evaluating and reflecting upon own progress
Developing independent learning skills (e.g. time management, preparing for each week's lessons, completing learning tasks outside lessons)
Using & developing your selection process to produce coherent 'exhibition standard' final imagery.

COURSE START WORK 2026: A Level Photography

To start your course in September, it is **essential** that you **own** a working *Digital SLR Camera*



and **preferable** if you have **access** to a *35mm SLR Film Camera*. However, we will aim to provide you with a Film Camera to carry out your Black & White film shoots.



Part A

You must take **40 colour digital images**, outside in good natural light conditions using the best available camera. Experiment with unusual angles, shapes, form, light, composition, shadow, line and perspective basing your choice of subject matter around the theme of:

‘STRUCTURE’

For example: **Buildings- old and new, parts of buildings, scaffolding, towers, pylons, staircases, bridges, road systems, trees, organic structures, cliffs, mountains/hills, urban structures/streets, graveyards, cranes, boats, seedheads, flowers, fences, castles, historical monuments, create your own structures, baskets, vessels, statues/sculptures, street furniture, playgrounds, huts, zoos, farms, barns, tractors, windmills, churches, greenhouses etc ...**

Part B

You should get your best **20** digital images printed at **6x4 standard size** and ready to bring with you in September. You can get them printed online at Snapfish/Photobox or Boots on Western Road.

Part C

Write notes about your images, looking at the light, composition, angle of view,

subject matter, shadows, reflections, location, time of day and exposure

Part D

Collect 12 images, each by a different photographer relating to the theme of 'STRUCTURE'- link them to your own Summer images. Note the name of the Photographer, date and title of the image and add a sentence explaining why the image links to your work.

Bring your work with you in September- we look forward to seeing you then - The Photography team

Recommended digital cameras:

At College we use Canon Cameras - there are a great number of models to choose from for example;

- Canon 1000D
- Canon 400D
- Canon 450D
- Canon 750D

Always ask for a guarantee!

Possible places to buy cameras are:

- **Park Cameras**, Park Cameras, York Road, Victoria Business Park, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 9TT
- **Centre Point**, Shop 1, Planet House, 1 The Drive, Church Road, Hove, BN3 3JE
- **Clock Tower Cameras**, 32 Church Street Brighton, East Sussex BN1 1RL
- **Camera Jungle**, <https://www.camerajungle.co.uk/>
- [MPB](#)
- **Picture This Film Lab**, 67 Trafalgar Street, Brighton BN1 4EB