



 @callywithphoto

A-LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY

## Why study A-Level photography?

Photography is an art of observation, it has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them. Studying photography allows us to tell our story and vision through the lens. This course provides opportunities to engage in a broad range of projects to complement and support your other A-level subjects. We aim to nurture, inspire and encourage creativity, observation, investigation, analysis and experimentation as a means of developing technical and critical skills.



Student sketchbook work

## What skills will I learn?

The A-level course encourages a firm understanding of the broad visual and theoretical contexts in which contemporary photographers operate. Learners will begin the course by questioning how photography functions both culturally and socially, along with how it will contribute to their future progression. Practical tasks incorporate a broad range of technical skills including digital and post-processing, utilising Adobe Camera Raw, Bridge, Photoshop and Indesign. Analogue skills include shooting, processing and scanning film, darkroom printing and alternative photography techniques.

## A-Level Photography course structure:

Students complete a diverse range of projects working in the studio, the darkroom and on location. Exploring a range of contemporary and historical contexts, learners cover key photographic genres including landscape, portraiture, personal space, mixed media and street photography.



Student work

Each project is designed to develop the skills required for students to undertake their own self-directed project during the second part of the course. At the end of the course students will have developed a portfolio of work that demonstrates their personal style and showcases their interests through a range of appropriate outcomes including zines, books, prints and online platforms. The photography department is treated as a professional, creative, working studio, with all the necessary resources required for students to acquire the information, knowledge and inspiration required to create images competently and professionally.

## Trips, visits, speakers and opportunities:

The A-level course includes a range of trips to introduce students to a wider range of contexts and progression opportunities. Our trips have included visits to Paris Photo Fair, London Photo Fair, The Tate Modern, The Photographer's Gallery, Berlin, London, Paris and a range of local galleries including the Levinsky Gallery and Tate, St. Ives.

Throughout the year we have a range of visiting speakers from the photographic industry - our most recent being award winning photographer Robert Darch. All A-level students complete a work experience placement during 'your future week' and we support students who want to pursue a lens-based creative placement, relevant to their career progression.



Student work

## Progression opportunities:

The A-level photography course is designed to enrich and empower learners with a number of technical, visual and analytical skills that are transferable to a range of employment opportunities. Due to the accessibility and broad reach photography has, many job roles in a range of sectors, now specifically request 'photographic skills'. The creative industry is currently one of the largest employment sectors. Successful completion of the course can lead to further study or employment in all areas of lens-based media and the visual arts including: art foundation or BA honours in media, film, multi-media, graphic design, journalism, advertising, illustration and PR. More specific photographic roles include: commercial, forensic, police, armed forces, product, fashion, architectural, wedding, travel, wildlife, sports, editorial, journalist and medical photographer, stylist, re-toucher, picture editor, writer and curator.