**AS/A Level Photography**

**Overview**

We are all taking more and more photos all the time whether that’s on a phone or a camera and then uploading to these images to a shared platform, which is fine, but photography can lead to so much more than this. At its most basic this course will enhance your pictures no end but there are many practical applications for photography, from taking pictures at weddings to shooting for the cover of Vogue and everything in between. The subject can be studied further at University and in turn lead on to a successful and exciting career in the creative industry.

Photography is a subject that can be taken over one year at AS or over two years to acquire the full A-Level. During YR.12 student’s taking AS photography will start by undertaking mini-projects which target various aspects of the visual world, including the Formal Elements and Composition but also editing software and the use of specialist equipment and studio studio lighting which will equip you with the necessary skills you will need to successfully complete the course. The AS course is graded 100% on the Exam they sit, students begin preparatory work on this starting in January.
Students wishing to continue their studies at A-Level will build on what they learnt at AS and use all skills that developed at AS and apply them to their one main coursework project, which is their ‘Personal Investigation’. This is a self-directed area of study where students can explore an aspect of photography that truly interests them, both visually and with research necessary to complete a written component. Following completion of their coursework students then embark on preparatory work starting in February for an exam they will sit. The A-Level course is graded 60% on their coursework and 40% on their Exam work.

**Whilst there will be some specific ‘bridging work’ set on the school website before the end of term, developing an understanding of the following prior to this would be useful:**

An understanding of the Formal Elements and Composition.

Knowledge of a few good well known photographers working now.

Some well-known Photographers through history.

A basic understanding of using lighting.

An understanding of the different genres of photography

Contemporary magazines that use fashion photography

What career paths are open to professional photographers?

Some basic knowledge of Photoshop

**Save your work in a portfolio that can be incorporated into your subject folder if/once you decide to commence this course.**