



PHOTOGRAPHY

Exam Details

Students are currently preparing for their final GCSE Photography exam having received the paper in the first week of January. The exam will involve the completion of (a) final piece(s) under exam conditions. It is comprised of **2 x 5-hour exam sessions***, a total of **10 hours**, during the week commencing **23rd March 2026**.

The preparatory studies, plus the work produced in the 10 hours of exam time, constitute **Component 2** which is worth **40% of the final GCSE grade**. This will be assessed across 4 equally weighted assessment objectives.

*Students will remain in the Photography room for the whole day completing 5 hours of exam time plus their normal break and lunch time.

Revision at Home

Students should be working consistently and intensely on their preparatory studies for the exam as this must be handed in at the start of their first exam session during w/c **Monday 27th April 2026**. This includes taking photos, editing, working in sketchbooks etc. in response to their chosen exam question.

Component 1 (coursework) consists of work produced for projects set by the class teacher since the beginning of Y10. This is still ongoing with a final deadline of **Monday 27th April 2026** and is worth **60% of the final GCSE grade**. This also consists of taking photos, editing, sketchbook work and a series of other outcomes such as photographic prints produced in lessons.

GCSE Support sessions take place on **Mondays after school 3:00 – 4:00pm**. All welcome.

Key Information

Exam Board: AQA

Components 1 and 2 are both assessed across 4 equally weighted assessment objectives:

AO1: Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources **(24 marks)**

AO2: Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes **(24 marks)**

AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses **(24 marks)**

AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates an understanding of visual language **(24 marks)**