

## Photography A Level

### Preparation work: Pre-course Reading, Research and Tasks

New practical work, reading and research will help you to become more familiar with how and what you are going to study on your A Level Photography course.

If you complete these tasks, it will also help you to become more confident when you start your course. Remember it is also a good idea to consider how your GCSE knowledge is the basis for your new Photography course; Photography, Art, Graphics, Media or Film Studies GCSE work is all very relevant.

### Specification :

These are links to the Art and Design AQA exam board information and the section specific to Photography.

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/as-and-a-level/art-and-design/introduction>

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/as-and-a-level/art-and-design/subject>  
<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/art-and-design/as-and-a-level/art-and-design/subject-content/photography>

### The Tasks:

These tasks will help you develop the creative, research and practical skills required for A Level work, in addition to being an outlet for you to express yourselves.

**Task 1:** Select one of the artists below to respond to:



Lucien Herve



Elina Brotherus



Sian Bonnell

### Task 2:

Make at least **10 photographs in response** to your chosen artist – you may want to google them to develop a wider understanding of their work

### Task 3:

Select your strongest image – feel free to **edit** and **manipulate** the image as much as you want

### Task 4:

Write a **200 word paragraph** analysing your photo. Use the following questions to help you:

- What influence have you taken from the artist you chose? (Framing, composition, subject matter, colour, technical, mood)
- What have you done differently to your chosen artist?
- Why is this your strongest image?
- How could you improve the photograph you made?

**Please complete these tasks on DIGTALLY on a WORD DOCUMENT** – you will need to hand this in via Teams when you start College in September

### Things to get you inspired:



There are many ways for you to engage with Photography, one that you are already probably using is Instagram, so why not check out some of these:

magnumphotos

magnumfoundation

lensculture

BJP1854 (British Journal of Photography)

Martinparrfdn

Hoxtonminipress

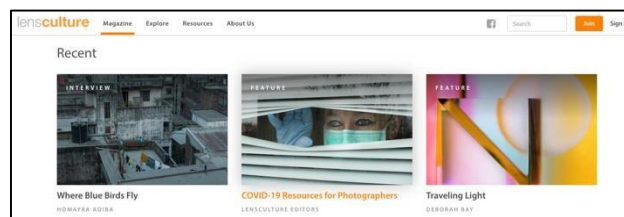
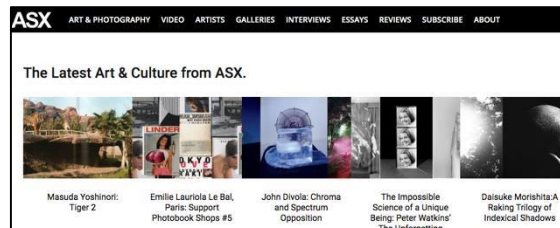
Royalphotographicsociety

Americansuburbx

Nowness



## Websites to visit:



- [nowness.com](http://nowness.com)
- [asx.com](http://asx.com)
- [bjp-online.com](http://bjp-online.com)
- [lensculture.com](http://lensculture.com)

## Books to Read:

(You will find that we have a large provision of photography books of many types in the Godalming College library, check out other libraries?)

- **Photography The Key Concepts** by David Bate
- **Read This If You Want to Take Great Photographs** by Henry Carroll (a series of similar titles available from this author)
- **The Photograph: A Visual and Cultural History** by Graham Clarke
- **The Photograph as Contemporary Art** by Charlotte Cotton

## Progression Opportunities

### Why choose Photography A Level:

A Level Photography can, of course, lead to photography higher education courses that are practical and/or theoretical. It can lead to employment in a range of photographic activity:

Advertising and Editorial Photographer, Social Photographer (high street or online), Press Photographer or Photojournalist, Fashion Photographer, Product Photographer, Food Photographer, Corporate or Industrial Photographer... and so on.

But it is applicable to any kind of career situation where images, their design, creation or distribution or the analysis of any of these aspects is significant.

## Note: Getting Equipment

When you start the course you will need a DSLR camera or equivalent. You need to be able to set the shutter speed and aperture manually, being able to change lenses is also highly recommended. The camera doesn't need to be prohibitively expensive, entry level models are fine. If sourcing a camera is an issue there are a number of cameras and lenses in the department available to borrow. An SD card and SD card reader is also needed.



Good places to look for affordable cameras second hand are:

- London Camera Exchange (excellent knowledge and warranty)
- MPB.com (reliable online source with good prices and accurate reliable descriptions)
- CEX (be aware that they are not camera specialists)

*We hope you enjoy completing these tasks and look forward to you joining the course.*

