



THE GCSE COURSE AT TALLIS

Learning to see, think and communicate in new ways...

Introduction

We have been teaching photography at A level for several years and we are very proud of the excellent results achieved by our students. Photography is one of the best performing A levels at Thomas Tallis School and, last year, our first cohort of GCSE students achieved a magnificent 100% A*-C grades. We are very excited to be offering this course at KS4 since it provides students with a better route into studying photography at A level. We also hope that it will inspire a younger generation of students to make photography a life-long passion.

Photography: lens-based and light-based media

Although we are calling the course 'Photography' it is really the study of a wide range of light and lens-based media. We will be exploring camera-less

photographs (photograms/Rayographs and cyanotypes), making our own pin-hole cameras from household containers, learning the rudiments of developing and printing in the darkroom as well as the use of industry standard image manipulation software like Photoshop. We are also fortunate in having access to a range of handheld devices so that we can explore the relatively new genres of iPod and iPadography!

Our Approach

Our approach to photography is creative. You will learn several processes and techniques but the main aim of the course is to help you look harder and better at the world around you (and inside you) so that you can create images that reveal those worlds in new ways. Photography has a wonderful ability to surprise, delight and challenge the viewer. The camera sees things that our eyes cannot see.



The ability to handle materials, techniques and processes effectively and safely underpins all the Assessment Objectives. It is important in enabling candidates to develop a personal language, to express ideas and link their intentions to outcomes in a confident and assured manner.

GCSE Photography

Unit 1: Portfolio of Work

60% (80 marks)

Candidate portfolio selected from work undertaken during the course of study and must include **more** than one project.

Unit 2: Externally Set Task

40% (80 marks)

Unlimited preparation time.

10 hours of sustained focused study. Candidates respond to their chosen starting point.

Introduction

You will be introduced to a variety of experiences exploring a range of photographic media, techniques and processes. You will be made aware of both traditional and new technologies and you will explore relevant images, artefacts and resources relating to photography and a wider range of art and design, from the past and from recent times, including European and non-European examples. This will be integral to the investigating and making process. Your responses to these examples must be shown through practical and critical activities which demonstrate the your understanding of different styles, genres and traditions. You will be aware of the four assessment objectives to be demonstrated in the context of the content and skills presented and of the importance of process as well as product. You will use a visual diary and photoblog to underpin your work. You will use a combination of traditional methods and digital techniques to produce images.

Areas of Study

You will work in **several** area(s) of light and lens based media, including:

- Portraiture
- Landscape photography (working from the built or natural environment).
- Still Life photography, (working from natural or manufactured objects).
- Documentary photography, photo journalism, narrative photography, reportage
- Fine Art photography, photographic installation
- Photography involving a moving image, (television, film and animation).
- New media practice such as computer manipulated photography and photographic projections



Skills and Techniques

You will be expected to demonstrate:

- the ability to explore formal elements of visual language; line, form, colour, tone, pattern, texture
- different ways of working
- the ability to respond to an issue, theme, concept or idea, or working to a design brief showing in their work the use of viewpoint, composition, focus control, depth of field, movement and narrative
- using appropriate techniques, technologies and equipment
- showing an understanding of the developing, printing, manipulation and production qualities of still and moving images

Course blogs:

tallisphoto.tumblr.com

mrnphotoblog.tumblr.com

Course websites:

tallisphotography.weebly.com

mrngcsephotography.weebly.com

Knowledge & Understanding

You must show knowledge and understanding of:

- * how ideas, feelings and meanings can be conveyed and interpreted in images and artefacts created in the chosen area(s) of photography
- * historical and contemporary developments and different styles and genres
- * how images and artefacts relate to social, environmental, cultural and/or ethical contexts, and to the time and place in which they were created
- * continuity and change in different styles, genres and traditions relevant to photography
- * the working vocabulary and specialist terminology which is relevant to their chosen area(s) of photography.

Assessment Objectives



A01 Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.

A02 Refine ideas through experimenting and selecting appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes.

A03 Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to their intentions, in visual and/or other forms

A04 Present a personal, informed and meaningful response demonstrating analytical and critical understanding, realising intentions and, where appropriate, making connections between visual, written, oral or other elements.