

September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are delighted that your son/daughter has opted to take GCSE Photography.

To be successful in this course we hope that everyone has their own camera and SD card. In preparation for this course can you please ensure that your child has access to a camera. If you are considering buying a camera, or if you want to check that your existing camera is suitable please read the following advice.

There are several options available;

1. A digital compact camera; this will cover basic needs and enable some control on settings but will be limited. (In some cases, an iPhone is probably more versatile!)
2. A digital Bridge camera - this is a step up from the compact and will offer more control of settings, such as aperture priority and shutter speed. The key thing with a bridge camera is that you do not have the ability to change lenses. It is not a problem as we do not require the changing of lenses however some individuals may wish to continue with photography at college/university and therefore thinking ahead a couple of years you may want to go for option 3.
3. DSLR (Digital single lens reflex) These are the cameras that we have in school. They offer complete control over the settings and you have the option of interchangeable lenses.

Budget is always a key factor with something like this so it is what best suits your pocket. If you do opt to go for a DSLR camera then the make we have in school is **Canon EOS1300**. When purchasing a camera of this expense you will also want to factor in the cost of a camera case to keep it safe, as well as the SD card. In some instances, you can get good deals on a complete package which will come with an additional lens, camera bag etc..

Another optional piece of equipment that you may wish to consider is a tripod, however, this is not compulsory and may be something that your child may request as the course progresses depending on their interest in the subject.

If you are looking at second hand cameras then check to make sure it comes with an instruction manual or failing that one you can download from the internet.

If you have any queries regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs R Vine  
Head of Art & Photography