KS5 Curriculum Map for Photography:

In a world where the visual imagery is an increasingly important tool for communication, the ability to create and understand photographs is becoming ever more relevant. In short, visual literacy is a life-skill.
Photography is not only about learning the obvious technical skills to produce an image but it also fosters a curious and enquiring mind, encouraging students to be self-motivated and to think creatively about the solutions to particular tasks and projects. The topics that they choose themselves in KS5 will encourage students to learn to trust their own judgement and decision making. They learn not only to confidently create technically proficient and arresting images but to understand that there is no one right answer, but their answer.
At the start of the course students will have completed holiday project work (teacher chosen topic) received on induction day in July. Some students will be new to photography (although many will have done an art based GCSE) so early in the autumn term they work through a series of tasks that enable them to develop understanding of a variety of techniques and processes, whilst understanding how they can learn from the work of others. They are introduced to various photographers whose work is accepted to be the best exemplars across all the genres of photography at the start of each lesson. Eventually students will deliver their own presentations on chosen photographers, improving knowledge, context and their own presentation skills.
From late September they will do their first (teacher chosen) topic which will finish at half term (late Oct). This topic is to reinforce independent learning skills, understand the assessment objectives. They will also shoot a roll of black and white film and make a print to experience and understand the analogue process at first hand.
Students will embark on Component 1 in early November. This is the Personal Investigation and will not finish until the on January in Year 13.
Lesson work is supported by work during non-contact time (5 hours a week), which presents opportunities to extend learning beyond the classroom with self-directed and in-depth explorations of their chose topic title.
Students have five photography lessons a week. We aim to give every student the widest possible experience of the medium, including analogue work (black and white film), long exposure, conceptual photography, digital post-production (Photoshop), image transfer and time-lapse.
A whole day gallery trip to London in November / December gives students an opportunity to see bodies of work in galleries: photography, painting, drawing and sculpture.
Building on the students' experience of assessment at KS4 covering 4 AOs: Developing ideas, refining ideas, recording ideas and presenting ideas. Exemplar work can also be seen on display.
Year 12 students exhibit their own work in an exhibition held nearby in the community. The students gain experience in curating and publicising skills.
Throughout both Years 12 and 13 the ethos of independent learning and the 'personal journey' is nurtured

Year 12

Autumn Term:

Sept :
Foundation Skills : Tasks to familiarise students with technical basics, shutter-speed, aperture, ISO and basic camera handling. Early tasks encourage students to see visual potential in the world around them (alphabet task). Basic introduction to core Photoshop skills. Sketchbook layout and development. Students develop research skills learnt in KS4
Oct – Nov
Foundation topic – teacher chosen – to encourage independent thinking and decision making, practical photography, post-production skills and deadline keeping
Analogue film topic – students shoot one roll of black and white film and make a print from best image to gain skills and insight of analogue process.

Component One - Personal Investigation – 60%

Students research photographers / artists relevant to self-set topic
Building on skills learnt in first half of students select their preferred/ most successful idea or media and techniques in which to produce their outcomes.
skills (Nov/Dec)
Homework / non-contact time 5 hours per week – research / photography / post-production/self-directed gallery visits
Context: Cross-curricular Art and social / environmental issues (sp,m,c,s,bv,ch,ed,CIEAG)
Gallery visit to London to develop research / analysing
Skills: camera handling, digital post-production, written analytical skills
Assessment: Verbal feedback, peer/self-assessment in lessons. Mid-point and summative, covering 4 assessment objectives, student photography handbooks.

Spring term:

Topic 2 : continuing on from autumn term
Students' own exhibition in local art space.

Summer term:

Continuing on from spring term – ongoing development of skills to achieve personal outcomes. Students will be supported to develop the most appropriate and relevant skill form their particular personal needs.

Year 13

Autumn Term

Continuation of Personal investigation.

Gallery visit to London to develop research / analysing skills (Nov/Dec)

Skills : Students develop own skills as required by interpretation of topic
Context: Cross-curricular Art and social / environmental issues
Artist research: as above, include technical work as required.
Assessment: Verbal feedback, peer/self-assessment in lessons. Summative, covering 4 assessment objectives, student photography handbooks.

Spring / Summer Term (until 3rd Friday in May)
Component 2 – 40% - from Feb 1st

8 topics supplied by exam board – students choose one topic
Preparatory period (10/12 weeks) :
Emphasis on students' independent learning skills
Skills : Students develop own skills as required by interpretation of topic. Students will now have full understanding of Assessment objectives.
Context: Cross-curricular Art and social / environmental issues, (sp,m,c,s,bv,ch,ed,CIEAG)

Artist research: as above, include technical work as required.
Assessment: Verbal feedback, peer/self-assessment in lessons. Summative, covering 4 assessment objectives, student photography handbooks.

15 hours supervised 'exam' session (divided in 3 or 4 sessions) – very early in summer term

	Expectation for work to be done is summer holidays – normally originating own students' own photographs.	