

Purpose statement

NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Photography (601/0377/2)

Who is this qualification for?

The NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Photography meets the definition of a technical qualification as it provides the knowledge, understanding and skills in photography to progress to higher education or employment.

This qualification has been designed to encourage learners aged 16+ to develop their skills in:

- using camera techniques
- producing a portfolio of photographs
- completing a photographic project
- working safely
- employability in the creative media sector.

The responses the learner makes to each unit will develop their communication, innovation and critical evaluation skills.

What does this qualification cover?

The purpose of the qualification is described by its aims and objectives which are provided in the qualification specification.

The qualification aims to:

- develop learners' photography skills and use of techniques to an advanced level. This will be done through detailed research and investigation of a range of ideas, exploration and use of techniques to develop a visual portfolio
- stretch the learners creative and intellectual abilities, eg communication, innovation and critical evaluation
- provide the learner with the opportunity for personal development through response to design briefs, critical awareness of self and the ability to be reflective
- provide the learner with a basis for progression onto further study.

The objectives of the qualification are to enable the learner to:

- use tools and equipment competently and safely
- develop advanced photography knowledge and skills
- specialise in the areas of photography that interest learners most
- research options for employment in the industry.

What could this qualification lead to?

Learners who achieve these qualifications could progress to:

- foundation degree programmes
- degree programmes
- employment/self-employment in the sector.

The NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Photography could allow progression into a range of careers including:

- photographer
- advertising and editorial photographer
- press photographer or photojournalist
- fashion photographer
- scientific photographer
- corporate photographer
- forensic photographer
- medical photographer
- assistant photographer
- staff photographer

It could also allow progression for further study in higher education or creative apprenticeship eg Photo Imaging Apprenticeship.

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) have supported this qualification as it provides the advanced knowledge and understanding, with skill development, that meet entry requirements to a range of higher education courses, eg foundation degree, degree. These degrees will allow learners to specialise and extend their abilities toward more specific career opportunities. Most professional photographers take a college or university course to develop their technical skills.

Who supports this qualification?

The Royal Photographic Society (RPS) has endorsed this qualification; the NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Photography is a recognised exemption for the Licentiate of the Royal Photographic Society (LRPS). The RPS Distinctions are recognised as the most prestigious in the photographic world.

The Royal Photographic Society is an educational charity promoting both the art and science of photography, please see the RPS website: www.rps.org.

The NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Photography is recognised by a number of HEIs as fulfilling their entry requirements, either in their own right or being accepted alongside other qualifications at the same level (see website for letters of support).

HEIs that support this qualification include:

- Welford Media
- Rotherham College of Arts and Technology
- Revolution Viewing
- Petroc
- Leicester College
- Craven College
- Barnfield College

Further Information

For more information about NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Photography please see:

[Qualification specification](#)

www.ccskills.org.uk/creative-apprenticeships

www.creative-choices.co.uk

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/>
