

# Purpose statement

**NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Photography  
QN: 601/3391/0**

**Qualification overview**

This QCF qualification is aimed at individuals wishing to develop an understanding of photographic processes and the photo imaging industry. The qualification allows learners to understand and develop skills enabling them to take and manipulate images using a range of equipment, techniques and image processing software.

Learners will learn the basics of safe working practices and have the opportunity to explore in detail the following areas of photography: dark room, studio, location, commercial, documentary and experimental and alternative processes.

Learners will also gain knowledge and understanding of the different roles and employment opportunities available within the photo imaging industry. They'll gain a basic understanding of the legislation relevant to photographic practice, including copyright, intellectual property and photographers rights. This will help prepare learners for progression into employment or further learning.

The objective of this qualification is to support learners to progress into employment or self-employment within the industry, or onto further qualifications at Level 3 in creative subjects such as photography, art and design, craft, animation and moving image production.

This qualification consists of 3 core units, of which the learner will complete 2.

- Explore photographic equipment, techniques, materials and resources (F/506/0069)
- Develop and adapt photographic ideas (T/506/0070)
- Introduction to the photo imaging industry (A/506/0071)

Learners must also choose at least one unit from the following optional units:

- Darkroom processing and printing
- Studio photography
- Location photography
- Commercial photography
- Documentary photography
- Experimental and alternative process photography
- Presenting a portfolio of photographic images

**Who is this qualification designed for?**

This qualification is suitable for learners aged pre-16 and above. This qualification is designed for a wide range of learners who wish to gain an understanding of photographic techniques and the photo imaging sector. These may be learners who wish to access this qualification with a view to progressing onto further qualifications, employment or self-employment, or to complement other qualifications within apprenticeship frameworks in the creative sector.

There are no specific entry requirements for this qualification; however learners may find it helpful if they've already achieved a Level 1 qualification in a similar or related area.

### **What could this qualification lead to?**

The qualification supports progression into employment or self-employment, or progression within employment for the following job roles and workers:

- photo journalism
- marketing
- wedding photography
- interactive media design
- photographer
- studio photographer
- location photographer
- documentary photography.

### **Progression opportunities**

The qualification can also support progression to further learning in the following areas:

- NCFE Level 3 Certificate in Photography
- NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Photography
- NCFE Level 3 Certificate in Art and Design
- NCFE Level 3 Certificate in Creative Craft
- NCFE Level 3 Diploma in Creative Media
- City and Guilds Level 3 Diploma in Photography
- Pearson BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Photography

### **Are there any larger or smaller versions of this qualification at the same Level, why should a learner take this one?**

This qualification will replace the NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Photography (500/8045/3) which is being withdrawn on 31 January 2015.

This is the only qualification of its size that supports progression into further learning, or entry into employment. This qualification offers a more comprehensive approach to the topic – allowing a greater understanding, to support progression onto/within employment and further learning in this area. Learners will have the time to explore photographic equipment, techniques, materials and resources, and be able to develop and adapt photographic ideas.

Learners with an interest in progressing into the industry can complete the unit 'Introduction to the photo imaging industry'. They'll then be able to take these skills and apply them in a context that reflects their needs and interests.

### **Who supports the qualification?**

The qualification is supported by providers listed on the Register of Training Organisations and who have current contracts for delivery of provision in Photography and the Creative Arts. For further information please contact NCFE on 0191 239 8000.