



South Dartmoor Community College

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Empowering everyone to be the best they can be.



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Dear Parent/Carer

As part of the AQA A Level Media Studies course, students have now begun work on their Non-Exam Assessment (NEA). They have selected their brief, planned their niche magazine concept, researched their target audience and produced a draft Statement of Intent outlining their creative aims and approaches.

The next crucial stage of the project is gathering the photographic material needed for production. Over the summer holidays, students must complete **all photography required for every component of their NEA**.

Students are producing a niche magazine package consisting of:

- A front cover
- A contents page
- A double-page spread
- Three print advertisements linked to the magazine brand

To avoid delays when we return in September, students should have all images completed and ready to use at the start of term. This includes photographs for the magazine pages, advertisements and any alternative shots they may wish to use during the design process.

Although students will receive lesson time for guidance, feedback and monitoring, the NEA is largely an independent project and much of the completion work will take place as home learning. Progress throughout Year 13 will be closely monitored through a series of regular deadlines and checkpoints. It is therefore essential that students begin the academic year with a complete bank of images so that production can continue immediately. We cannot allow a lack of photography to hold up the design and construction of coursework products.

Please note that **AI-generated images are not permitted** within the AQA NEA. All photographs must be original and created by the student. Students should therefore use the summer break to organise and complete any photoshoots, ensuring they have sufficient high-quality images for all elements of their magazine brand.

We strongly encourage students to:

- Take significantly more photographs than they think they will need.
- Experiment with different locations, costumes, props and compositions.
- Keep their files organised and backed up securely.
- Ensure any individuals featured in photographs have given permission to be photographed.

Your support in helping students plan and complete their photography over the summer is greatly appreciated. Having all images ready for September will place them in the strongest possible position to meet the demands of this substantial coursework project and the deadlines that follow.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Kate Chambers
Deputy Head of English Department

