



## Media Studies FAQs

### What does the GCSE Non Exam Assessment involve?

The students will produce a two minute extract from a new TV programme. For summer 2021 the brief was to make an extract from a TV Comedy show. In 2020 the genre was a new TV documentary and in 2019 the genre was a new TV soap opera. In each case the target audience for the show is stated and it has always been a youth audience. For example for the TV documentary for the Summer of 2020

### When are the briefs for the Non Exam Assessment published?

The brief is published in Year 10 during March and the completed work is submitted in early May in year 11.

### What equipment is used for the practical work ?

The Media studies department is well equipped with macs for editing purposes.

We also have camcorders, tripods, sets of lights and colour filters for filming and dollies for tracking shots, all of which the students can book out for filming

### Is it necessary to do GCSE Media Studies if you want to do A level Media Studies and what subjects relate to other subjects?

A strong and critical interest in the media is essential for doing well in A level Media Studies but it is not necessary to have studied Media at GCSE. It is an essay-based subject and suits students who have flourished in subjects like English Literature or History. Because the content of A level Media Studies is firmly embedded within cultural, socio-political and economic life, it sits well alongside and supports work in subjects like English literature, History, Sociology, Film Studies and Politics.

### What topics will be covered in the course?

We study a variety of Media texts including TV shows (the set texts to the moment include an episode of the 2017 BBC police drama *Cuffs* and an 1965 episode of the ITV show *The Avengers*),

Music texts include analysing music videos and music radio with a set text being *The Radio 1 Live lounge*

We also study music magazines including front covers, in which the students consider typography, layout, use of colour and images, and the way they reflect genre forms and conventions and the target audience

We also study the promotion and advertising of movies, including analysing film posters, trailers and video games tie ins. The set text has been the promotional campaign for Lego the Movie

The final type of media texts we study involves the News, including both Online and Print Newspapers. Set texts include print and online extracts from the Guardian and Observer.

For all Media texts, we also study the industry that produces the text and the ways target audiences are addressed, Representation is also studied and censorship.