

Key Skills

- customer service skills
- excellent verbal communication skills
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- the ability to work well with others
- patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- the ability to work well with your hands
- to be able to use a computer and the main software packages confidently
- knowledge of the fine arts
- to be flexible and open to change

Salary

£17,250- £45,000

Working hours

39 - 41

evenings / weekends / bank
holidays
as customers demand

Photographer

Apprenticeship

You could apply to do an apprenticeship to get into this role, for example:

- Photographic Assistant Level 3 Advanced Apprenticeship
- Photographer Level 4 Higher Apprenticeship

These apprenticeships take around 1 year and 6 months to complete, and are a mix of learning in the workplace and off-the-job study.

Entry requirements

You'll usually need 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 or equivalent, including English and Maths, for an advanced apprenticeship or 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 and A levels, or equivalent, for a higher or degree apprenticeship

Top Tips

You'll need a portfolio of your work to show your skills, interests and experience in photography. It'll also help you to get noticed if you post examples of your work online.

University

You could do a foundation degree, higher national diploma or degree in:

- photography
- visual arts
- commercial photography
- art and design

Entry requirements

You'll usually need 1 or 2 A levels, or equivalent, for a foundation degree or higher national diploma. Or 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree

College

You could take a college course such as:

- Level 2 Certificate in Photography
- A Level Photography
- Level 3 Diploma in Photography

These may help you to find a job as a photographer's assistant in a studio.

Entry requirements

You'll usually need 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3, or equivalent, for a level 2 course or

4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4, or equivalent, including English, Maths and a creative subject

Career path and progression

Many photographers are freelance and you could do a mix of contract work and following your own interests.

You could extend your range into other areas of photography like product, property, aerial or corporate work.

Day to Day tasks:

- compose and take photos
- promote and run your business
- check accurate colour match and image quality
- discuss a project with the client and agree the 'brief'
- find and prepare the location for the photo session
- choose the right equipment and set up lighting
- use industry software to edit and process images
- choose the best images for the client to use online or in print

Working conditions

You could work in a creative studio.

Your working environment may be physically demanding and outdoors in all weathers.



Labour Market Information

In the Careers section of the school website you can find the useful comparison tool the 'Labour Market Information widget'.
Use the widget to compare different job roles in any employment sector or relating specifically to the 'Job of the Week'.

Photographers, audio-visual and broadcasting equipment operators

Weekly Pay £600	Annual Pay £31,200
Hours/Week 36h	Hourly Pay £17

Workforce Change (projected)

Growth 0.7%	Replacement 57.8%
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The workforce is projected to grow by 0.7% over the period to 2027, creating 800 jobs. In the same period, 57.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 59,800 job openings.

You might find this job in
Employment activities
Film & music
Other professional
Arts & entertainment
Publishing activities

[More info](#) [Clear card](#)

Arts officers, producers and directors

Weekly Pay £970	Annual Pay £50,440
Hours/Week 38h	Hourly Pay £26

Workforce Change (projected)

Growth 0.7%	Replacement 57.8%
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The workforce is projected to grow by 0.7% over the period to 2027, creating 700 jobs. In the same period, 57.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 53,900 job openings.

You might find this job in
Film & music
Libraries, etc
Broadcasting
Arts & entertainment
Head offices, etc

[More info](#) [Clear card](#)

Actors, entertainers and presenters

Weekly Pay £1,120	Annual Pay £58,240
Hours/Week 43h	Hourly Pay £26

Workforce Change (projected)

Growth 0.7%	Replacement 57.8%
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The workforce is projected to grow by 0.7% over the period to 2027, creating 400 jobs. In the same period, 57.8% of the workforce is projected to retire, creating 32,400 job openings.

You might find this job in
Other personal service
Sport & recreation
Arts & entertainment
Membership organisations
Libraries, etc

[More info](#) [Clear card](#)

Labour Market Information

Photographers, audio-visual and broadcasting equipment operators

Workers in this unit group operate and assist with still, cine and television cameras and operate other equipment to record, manipulate and project sound and vision for entertainment, cultural, commercial and industrial purposes.

Common tasks in this job:

- selects subject and conceives composition of picture or discusses composition with colleagues;
- arranges subject, lighting, camera equipment and any microphones;
- inserts lenses and adjusts aperture and speed settings as necessary;
- operates scanning equipment to transfer image to computer and manipulates image to achieve the desired effect;

Back

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Actors, entertainers and presenters

Actors, entertainers and presenters sing, portray roles in dramatic productions, perform comedy routines, gymnastic feats and tricks of illusion, train animals to perform and perform with them, and introduce and present radio and television programmes.

Common tasks in this job:

- studies script, play or book and prepares and rehearses interpretation;
- assumes character created by a playwright or author and communicates this to an audience;
- performs singing, comedy, acrobatic, illusion and conjuring routines;
- trains animals to perform entertaining routines and may perform with them;

Back

Clear card

Arts officers, producers and directors

Arts officers, producers and directors assume creative, financial and organisational responsibilities in the production and direction of television and radio programmes, films, stage presentations, content for other media, and the promotion and exhibition of other creative activities.

Common tasks in this job:

- chooses writers, scripts, technical staff and performers, and assumes overall responsibility for completion of project on time and within budget;
- directs actors, designers, camera team, sound crew and other production and technical staff to achieve desired effects;
- breaks script into scenes and formulates a shooting schedule that will be most economical in terms of time, location and sets;
- prepares rehearsal and production schedule for main events, design of sets and costumes, technical rehearsals and dress rehearsals;

Back

Clear card



Keep looking...

Use these links to learn more about our Job of The Week, consider the various pathways leading to the career, what you can be doing now to help yourself and other roles in the industry...

Take a look at these short videos for inspiration...

Leeds Arts University

RAF Photographer Apprentice



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N46HcZghkiU&pp=ygUScGhvdG9ncmFwaHkgYXQgdW5p>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d85mj8BCQMA&pp=ygUacGhvdG9ncmFwaHkgW4gdGhllGFybXkgdW5s%3D>

Why study BA (Hons) Fashion Photography

Day in the Life: Team photographer



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m4u7Xnsi7Dk&pp=ygUnV2h5IHNo0dWR5EJBIChb25zKSBGYXNoaW9uIFBob3RvZ3JhcGh5>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ph3e1xswAV4&p p=ygUuYSBkYXkgaW4gdGhllGxpZmUgb2YgYSBmb290YmFsbCBwaG90b2dyYXBoeSB1aw%3D%3D>

Useful Websites

[Photographer | Explore careers | National Careers Service](#)

[RAF Recruitment | Photographer | Royal Air Force \(mod.uk\)](#)

[UCAS | At the heart of connecting people to higher education](#)

[AOP how to join \(the-aop.org\)](#)

[Become a member | The BIPP](#)

[Photography National Extended Diploma Level 3 - Boston College](#)