

THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' GALLERY

Group Workshop FAQs



What workshops are available for groups at The Photographers' Gallery?

We offer two types of 90-minute Group Workshops to get students looking, thinking talking and making. Upon booking a workshop, you will be offered a choice of either a Visual Literacy or *camera obscura* workshop.

What happens in a Visual Literacy Workshop?

Visual Literacy workshops are led by a photographer-educator, and centre around an exhibition currently on show at the gallery.

Students take part in group discussion, image analysis and practical assignments responding to themes in the exhibition, all aimed at improving visual literacy. In the workshop, students will:

- Consider the formal elements and vocabulary used to describe photographs
- Explore how ideas, feelings and meanings are conveyed and interpreted through images
- Reflect on how the context of an image shapes how we read it
- Develop an understanding of the term visual literacy

Visual Literacy workshops take place in our Eranda Studio and Galleries, and include a visit to an exhibition.

What happens in a *camera obscura* workshop?

In our *camera obscura* workshops, students will explore the history and science of photography using The Photographers' Gallery's own *camera obscura*.

KS2/KS3

After experimenting with the *camera obscura* room, students will take part in a practical activity, working in pairs create their own hand-held pinhole *camera obscuras*.

In the workshop, participants will:

- Develop an understanding of the science behind how a *camera obscura* works, and its applications throughout history
- Work collaboratively to make functioning hand-held *camera obscuras*
- Explore different ways of capturing images using the *camera obscura*

KS4/KS5/FE

After exploring the gallery's permanent *camera obscura*, located in a curtained room in the studio space, participants will build their own portable *camera obscura* that can also be attached to their phone camera. They will explore capturing images using both studio lighting and daylight. Each participant will print out their favourite *camera obscura* photograph using The Polaroid Lab printers.

In the workshop, participants will:

- Develop an understanding of the science behind how a *camera obscura* works
- Be introduced to the applications of *camera obscura* throughout history
- Work collaboratively to make functioning portable *camera obscura*
- Capture and print photographs using their *camera obscura*
- Be introduced to a variety of artists who have used *camera obscura* in their practice

The *camera obscura* workshop takes place in our Eranda Studio space, and we do not visit the exhibitions as part of the session. A self-led visit of the exhibitions before or after your workshop can be arranged on request.

How do I book a Group Workshop?

To book a Group Workshop, please fill in the [Group Workshop Booking Form](#) on our website.

How much does a Group Workshop cost, and how can I pay?

Workshops cost £160 for a group of up to 33 pupils. Schools with 40% or more pupils eligible for Pupil Premium can book up to two FREE workshops.

How long are Group Workshops?

Both Visual Literacy and *camera obscura* workshops run for 90 minutes.

What ages are Group Workshops suitable for?

Both Visual Literacy and *camera obscura* workshops are suitable for KS2 upwards. Workshops can also be adapted for adult groups.

Can you run a Group Workshop at my school/centre?

Unfortunately, we are not currently able to run workshops offsite.

What will pupils need to bring?

For both Visual Literacy and *camera obscura* workshops, it is useful for pupils to bring cameras (iPads, phones, compact cameras, DSLRs) for the practical assignments. Pupils can share cameras in pairs or small groups.

If you anticipate that this will not be possible for your group, please let us know by emailing projects@tpg.org.uk before booking.

Do you offer workshops for SEN groups, or groups of adults with access needs?

Yes, our workshops can be adapted for SEN groups, or for groups of adults with access needs. Please email projects@tpg.org.uk before booking to discuss any specific access requirements your group may have.

What is your cancellations policy for Group Workshops?

We require at least 14 days notice if you wish to cancel or amend your booking. Any cancellations or amendments made after this time will be charged at the full rate.

If your question is not answered here, please get in touch with us at projects@tpg.org.uk