**VOCABULARY IN PHOTOGRAPHY**

**GENERAL**

**Abstract:** an image that emphasizes formal elements (line, shape, etc.) rather than specific, recognisable objects.

**Content:** the subject, topic or information captured in a photograph.

**Direct approach:** In a straight-forward manner, without using unusual angles or distortion.

**Documentary photography:** photographs to record a place, person(s) or event.

**Expressive:** concerned with communicating emotion.

**Geometric shape:** simple rectilinear or curvilinear shapes. Circles, squares, triangles etc.

**Landscape:** an environment/space.

**Intention:** reason(s) why the artist made a work of art.

**VISUAL ELEMENTS**

**Focus:** what areas appear clearest or sharpest in the photograph?

**Depth of Field:** the distance between the nearest and the furthest objects giving a focused image.

**Light:** Highlights or shadows. Representing the time of day, natural or artificial, harsh or soft, reflected or direct.

**Line:** Straight, curvy, thin or thick, directional lines, outlines, movement or energy lines.

**Repetition:** Repeated imagery. Repeat patterns.

**Shape:** Geometric or organic shapes, irregular or distorted.

**Space:** Depth or shallowness, negative or positive spaces, spatial illusions.

**Texture:** A sensory perception, the feel, appearance, or consistency of a surface or a substance.

**Tone:** Dark to light, harmonize with.

**COMPOSITION**

**Angle:** the vantage point from which the photograph was taken; unusual or exaggerated vantage point.

**Background:** toward the back.

**Balance:** the distribution of visual elements in a photograph.

**Symmetrical balance** distributes visual elements evenly in an image.

**Asymmetrical balance** is found when visual elements are not evenly distributed.

**Point/s of Interest:** the subject most prominently and/or most clearly focused in a photograph.

**Composition:** the arrangement or structure of the formal elements to make up an image.

**Contour:** the outline of an object or shape.

**Contrast:** strong visual differences, light and dark, varying textures, sizes, etc.

**Framing:** within the boundaries of the photograph.

**Setting:** the physical surroundings or scenery whether real or artificial.

**Vantage point:** from where a photograph is taken.