



THE ARTS SOCIETY OF MONMOUTHSHIRE

Inter-Schools Photographic Competition Information Sheet

What is the objective of Environmental Photography?

One of the most common reasons for pursuing Environmental Photography is the simple desire to **capture and display the natural world** - whether landscapes, plant life, animals, or even people and their interactions within their environment. This then overlaps with portrait, landscape and wildlife photography. What sets a good environmental photograph apart from others is how compelling the story behind the shot is, connecting an image with the natural world. As the world focuses on environmental concerns, this style of photography conveys a strong message.

We are therefore delighted to invite all primary schools from across Monmouthshire, including special schools and specialist teaching facilities, to be a part of this, our latest creative learning offer. We will connect schools with an inspirational, creative, professional photographer through the use of an instructive 15 minute MP4 video, to be sent to all schools registering their interest in taking part.

We have sponsored the creation of this professional video as an informative, self-explanatory, well-taught lesson tool working with professional photographer Gareth Poulton, Director of Stables Photography based in Abergavenny. The video will introduce all aspects of the 'environmental' project, accompanied by full instructions to equip the pupils with ways of 'seeing' and also on how to take the best photographs of their chosen 'local' environment. We are pleased to promote these important artistic life skills.

The video will be accompanied by full instructions for the school on how to enter their pupils' JPEGs via 'WeTransfer' or e-mail. This prestigious competition not only promotes the pupils' work but also the participating school itself through publicity and exhibitions.

The entries will need to be submitted in an electronic format. These will then be placed into three prize categories and will be judged by a panel including Gareth Poulton. This will be followed by the presentation of awards and certificates. We will also provide, 'highly commended' certificates. The winners in each category will have their images printed, mounted and presented for exhibition, sponsored by ourselves, both online and with exhibitions in libraries throughout Monmouthshire. The winners will retain their image copyright and their photographs will be returned to the schools following the exhibitions. There will also be publicity to promote the pupils' work, the schools' profile, as well as the Arts Society Monmouthshire.