

Photograph Competition

<p>We are going to use the skills we have learnt across the last couple of weeks to take photographs and enter them into the DigiKnow Photo Competition. In this handout we will cover some of the steps needed to enter the competition and look at the categories we are looking at.</p>	
<p>1</p>	<p>You can use either your own digital camera, one provided in the session or a touchscreen device such as a smart phone or a tablet computer to take your photos.</p> <p>Although there are differences between most digital photography devices, they share similarities in the process of taking photos.</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>Most digital cameras have 2 large sized buttons. One of these is the power button for the device and one is the shutter button to take a photo. On the image on the right they are both labelled.</p> <p>To take photos, simply point your camera at what you wish to take a photo of and press the shutter button.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Once you've taken a photo it's stored on the camera's memory card. These cards come in many different sizes in terms of the number of photos they can store. Most cards used are measured in Gigabytes (GB) and the larger the number the more photos they can store e.g. 8GB is twice the size of 4GB.</p> <p>Eventually the memory card can become full. We can transfer the images from the card to the computer, freeing up space on the card. There are 2 ways to do this: using the memory card itself or a cable - which often comes with the camera.</p>



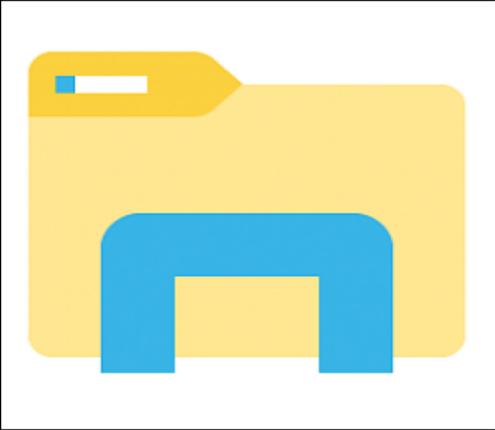
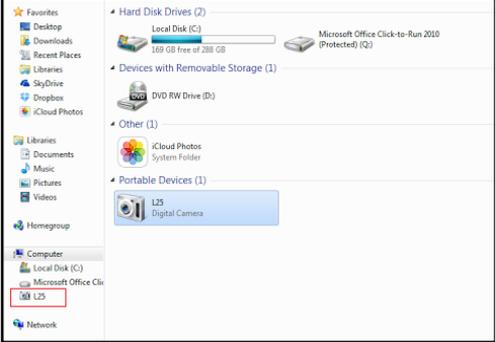
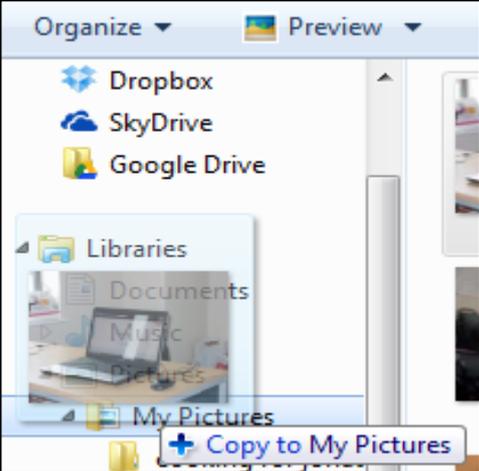
Power Shutter



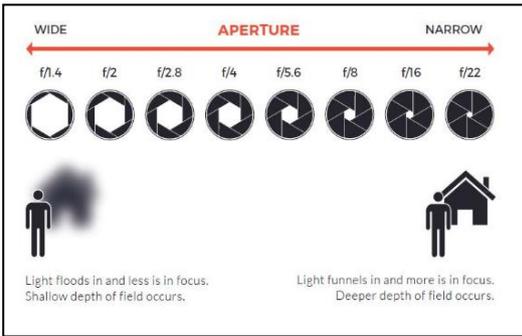
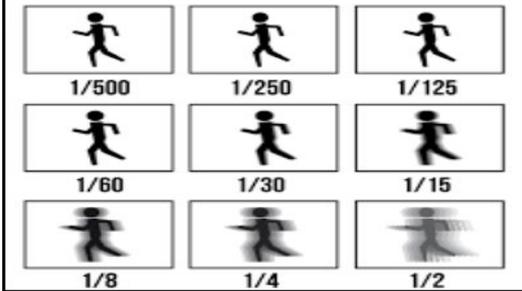
When using the lead, the standard USB fitting goes into the computer and the other end plugs into the respective fitting on the camera.

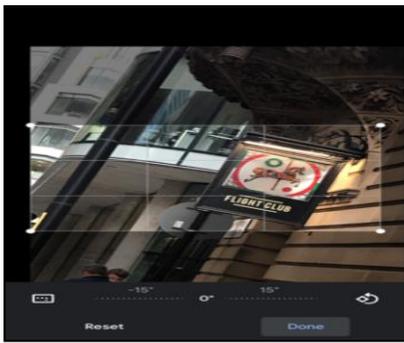
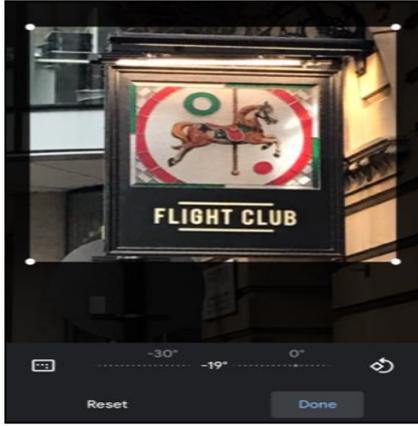


When using the memory card, the card needs to be ejected from the computer and plugged into the relevant slot.

<p>4</p> <p>Once you've plugged the lead into the relevant slot, we are going to use a programme called File Explorer.</p> <p>Those using a touchscreen device can go to their gallery and view their photos there.</p> <p>File Explorer can be found on the taskbar at the bottom of the screen in the shape of a yellow folder or within the start menu under 'Computer'.</p>	
<p>5</p> <p>Down the left-hand side of the page are the various folders within the computer's memory. The camera will be listed under a device with removable storage and the name will be the brand of the camera and its type number e.g. Nikon L25. Find the camera file name and double left-click it to further open the file.</p> <p>Once you've opened the camera, you'll be greeted with a page of folders. One of these folders will be called 'DCIM', double-click on the folder. If you are greeted with more folders, double-click on the folder containing the name of the camera you are using e.g. Fuji_100. You should now be looking at the photos you took.</p> <p>To drag and drop, you must first left click the picture you wish to transfer. It will then be highlighted in blue. Hold down the left-click and move the cursor towards the folder 'Pictures'. As you move towards the folder, a ghost image will appear. Keep moving the image towards the folder and when you hover over it, a message will appear saying 'Copy to My Pictures'. Once this message appears, let go of the mouse and the image will be copied into the 'Pictures' folder.</p>	 <p>Dragging and dropping is a technique used to move documents, pictures, and videos from folder to folder.</p>  <p>To check it has worked, double-click on the 'Pictures' folder and look for the photos you have copied.</p>

<p>6</p>	<p>Launch the Camera app from your iPad Home screen.</p> <p>Move your iPhone or iPad around until what you see on the screen matches the image you want to capture.</p> <p>Rotate your iPad from portrait to landscape or vice versa to change the orientation. (You'll the see the icons change as confirmation.)</p> <p>Tap the Shutter button to take your picture.</p>	 <p>The image shows the Camera app icon on a dark blue background with the word 'Camera' below it. Below that is a white circular shutter button on a black background.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Often when taking photos, you don't get the perfect image. This leads to people wanting to edit their photos to make sure they get the best out of the photo they have taken. Before we look at how to edit photos, we are going to look at some of the best tips to taking photos.</p>	 <p>A person's hands are shown holding a smartphone horizontally, capturing a sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm orange and yellow glow.</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Keep your horizons level</p> <p>When taking photos, it is important to keep your horizons level. As human beings, we find straight lines in images more pleasing to the eye. Try to ensure that straight lines in images run parallel where they can. Taking images where there is an intentional tilt can change an image but be wary not to overdo it.</p>	 <p>A wide-angle shot of a bright blue ocean under a clear blue sky with a few white clouds. The horizon line is perfectly straight and level across the entire width of the image.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Remove distractions and keep it simple</p> <p>Although you might want to get as much as possible into a photo, often the best images are the simplest.</p>	 <p>A close-up, low-angle shot of a person's feet wearing colorful sneakers, standing on a dirt path. The background is softly blurred, showing green foliage and a warm, golden light, emphasizing the simplicity of the subject.</p>

<p>10</p>	<p>Aperture</p> <p>Aperture is a lens within a lens and works like the human eye, changing depending on the amount of light in an image. Too much light and you overexpose an image, not enough and you can't make out the image.</p>	 <p>The diagram illustrates the relationship between aperture size and depth of field. A scale at the top ranges from 'WIDE' (f/1.4) to 'NARROW' (f/22). Below the scale are icons of lens apertures. On the left, a wide aperture (f/1.4) is shown with a blurred background of a person, labeled 'Light floods in and less is in focus. Shallow depth of field occurs.' On the right, a narrow aperture (f/22) is shown with a sharp background of a person and a house, labeled 'Light funnels in and more is in focus. Deeper depth of field occurs.'</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Shutter speed</p> <p>Shutter speed is the speed at which the camera shutter is open for when capturing an image. The faster the shutter speed the more accurate the photo is. Slower shutter speeds lead to blurry images.</p>	 <p>A 3x3 grid of images showing a person walking. The top row shows sharp images at shutter speeds of 1/500, 1/250, and 1/125. The middle row shows increasing motion blur at 1/60, 1/30, and 1/15. The bottom row shows significant motion blur at 1/8, 1/4, and 1/2.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>ISO</p> <p>ISO works alongside shutter speed and aperture to create a triangle determining the exposure of an image. Having a higher ISO level allows your camera to amplify the amount of light photons being received in the image and enhance the image.</p>	 <p>Five panels showing a sunset scene over water. From left to right, the ISO levels are 100, 200, 400, 800, and 1600. As the ISO level increases, the image becomes progressively brighter and more detailed, showing more of the sky and the horizon.</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>Cropping</p> <p>You want whatever is in your image to be the main focus. You can do this by making sure that there is little to no empty space and centring whatever you are taking a photo of by cropping round the image and removing empty space.</p>	 <p>A photograph of a building facade with a 'FLIGHT CLUB' sign. The image is cropped to focus on the sign and the building's architectural details, removing the surrounding empty space.</p>

<p>When you are cropping there is often an option to use pre-set ratios. You can custom set your crop or use one of these. Options will include an automatic feature as well as a square option and then ratios such as 2:3, 3:5 etc.</p>  <p>Don't forget you can always revert back to the original image, providing you press 'Reset'.</p> <p>This cropping was done using Google Photos.</p>	<p>You can see that the sign in the image has a lot of 'noise' around it.</p>  <p>Here you can see the crop square. This can be dragged from the outskirts of the image inwards to crop out everything that you don't want to have in the image.</p>
<p>14 Rotate/Straighten</p> <p>Once you have cropped an image, you may need to rotate or straighten the image.</p> <p>Rotate is the ability to turn an image a certain number of degrees. These are often pre-set (90°, 180° or 270°). To rotate the image more or less than any of those specific numbers, you can straighten the image This presents you with a slide bar, that you can alter to straighten the photo as much as you'd like.</p> <p>Don't forget you can always revert back to the original image, providing you press 'Reset'.</p> <p>The rotation/straightening was done with Google Photos.</p>	 <p>If we used a pre-set rotation this image would rotate too far, so we are going to straighten it instead.</p>  <p>You can see in the image above that we had rotated the image 19° and have straightened the image. Once you are happy with it, you can press 'Done'.</p>

15 Filters

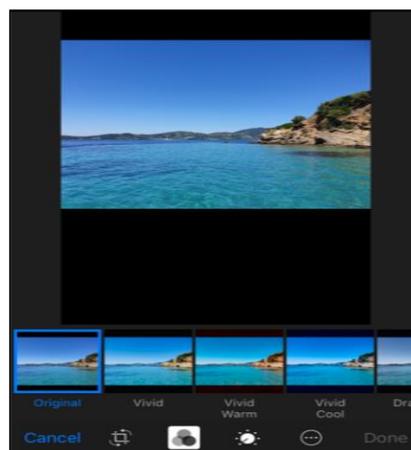
Filters allow you to apply a pre-set overlay to your image. Often given specific names such as Malibu or Nevada, these filters are toggled on/off and apply all their pre-set settings to the image. Filters change the warmth/coolness of the background in your image, the vividness of colours in your photo.

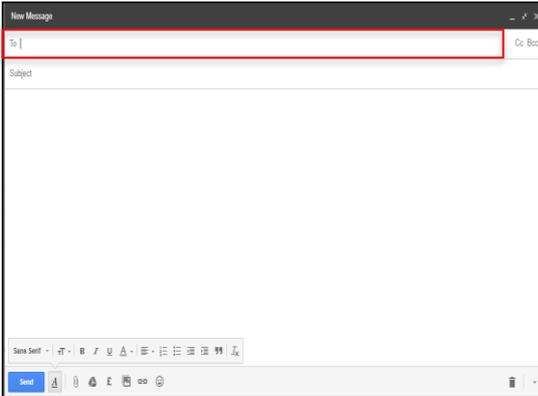
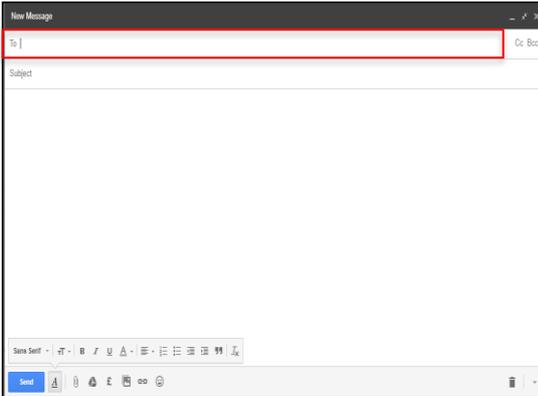
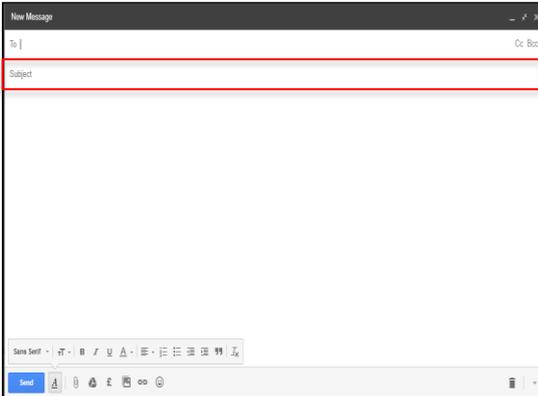
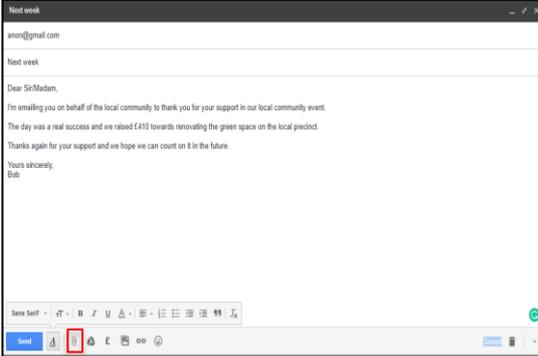
As these filters are on/off, you could use some of the light options we are looking at later to custom your image rather than apply the entirety of a filter.

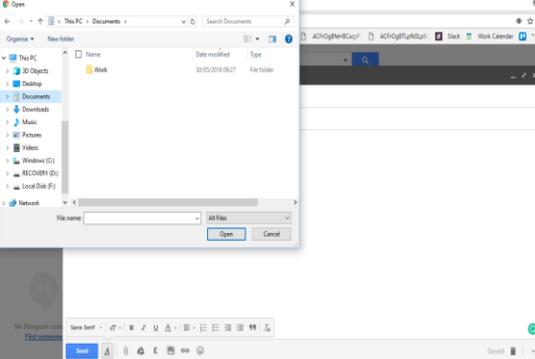
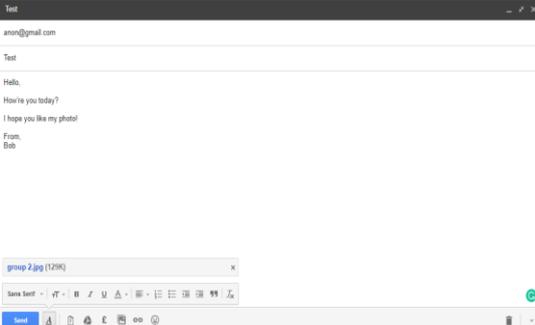
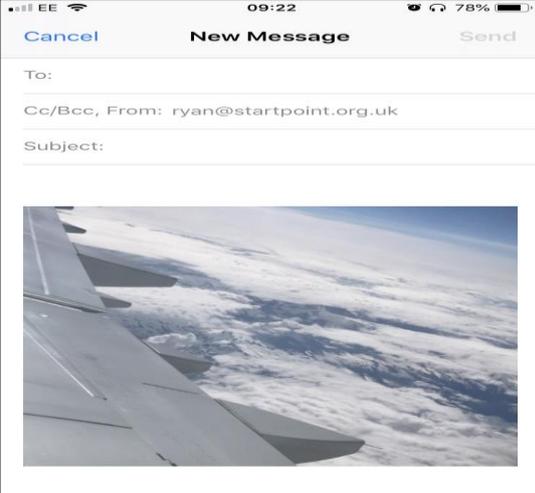
The image on the right has had the filter Vivid Warm applied to it. You can see the original image and the various filter options in the second image. Vivid Warm intensifies the colours in the image and applies a warm light to the overall photo, giving it a much brighter and colourful appearance.

Don't forget you can always revert back to the original image, providing you press 'Cancel'.

The filters applied to this image were done so using the Edit tool in Photos on an iPhone. You may not be able to see the effects of some of the edits in the handout, but they are more obvious on actual devices/when using the software.



<p>16</p>	<p>Firstly, we are going to look at sharing photos as e-mail attachments.</p> <p>For those using laptops, you'll have to log in to your e-mail account first.</p> <p>For those using a tablet device or smartphone, you'll need to open your e-mail app or your photo gallery.</p>	
<p>17</p>	<p><u>Laptop Users</u></p> <p>The first field we are going to fill in is the To field. The To field is the envelope of an email. Here you put the email address of the intended recipient. When sending an email is important to make sure you type in the email address precisely.</p> <p>Somebody working at a post office might spot a mistake on an envelope and make sure it reaches its intended destination. A computer will send an email to the email address you type in.</p>	 <p>For the photo competition, we are asking for you to send your e-mails, with photos attached, to info@startpoint.org.uk.</p>
<p>18</p>	<p>Now we are going to give our email a subject. The subject field is a chance to give the recipient of the email a clue as to the contents of the email, kind of like a blurb on the back of a book.</p> <p>The subject field is for the recipient, so you would use capital letters and spaces where required.</p> <p>Type Photos as your subject.</p>	
<p>19</p>	<p>We now need to attach our photo. To do this, we need to find the attach icon that our email service provider uses. Gmail use a paperclip symbol and it can be located at the bottom of the email we are currently composing. Other email service providers may use different images or even the word attach.</p>	

<p>20</p>	<p>Once you click on the attach symbol, you'll open up the memory of your computer. Here you will see a list of places you can store information on your devices such as documents, videos, music. We need to open the folder called 'Photos' and find one of the photos we took in the 'Using a digital camera' session.</p> <p>Double click on the folder, 'Photos', and when it opens, select one of the photos and then click 'Open'. The photo will now attach itself to the email. You should be able to see it within the email you are sending.</p>	 
<p>21</p>	<p><u>Tablet users</u></p> <p>Select the image first and then find your devices share symbol. These symbols differ depending on which device you use.</p> <p>Once you've found your devices share symbol, it will offer you various platforms that you can share this image on. You need to tap the mail symbol and the image will then be attached to a blank email in your mail app.</p> <p>You then need to fill in the e-mail as you would normally before sending it.</p>	 

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Categories

For our photo competition, we are looking for photos that fall into 6 categories – Family Life, Lasting Memory, Back to Nature, Modern Stockport, On the Go and Learning.

- Family Life – Whatever your family looks like, we want to see photos of it. Be it hustling and bustling or small and close – send us your family photos.
- Lasting Memory – What when you look at it, reminds you of your childhood? Is there a fun and interesting story about why it sticks out to you? Let us know and send in your photo!
- Back to Nature – Stockport has loads of beautiful green spaces from Reddish Vale and Werneth Low to our own back gardens. Send us in your natural snaps.
- Modern Stockport – Stockport has a wonderful history and an exciting future. When you think of 'Modern Stockport', what do you think of?
- On the Go – Travelling around Stockport by foot, car, train, bike or even canal boat allows you to see some of the hidden gems in the borough. Next time you are 'On the Go', take a photo and send it in.
- Learning – DigiKnow is about people learning digital skills and being able to tackle the digital world. We want to see your photos of learning – and they don't have to be learning computer skills! It could be a foreign language or how to bake bread – send them in!

