Evaluation – Hannah Cuthell

This section of work I feel has made me progress in not only my photography skills but also in my ways of thinking about photography and the subjects I chose to look at. I found the poetic image at the beginning of the course the most challenging as we had just started the course and I had to learn to interpret materials in a different way. I believe that my original idea had a lot of value, and I was confident it fitted the brief however after receiving feedback from my lecturer, I had realized that I had taken the idea of poetic image too literally. This then challenged me to think more outside of the box for my future projects. If I was to attempt to revisit the idea of poetic image, I would look at the poems and materials given to me and build off the whole poem. I would not just take a section too literally and rather than capturing the poems direct meaning, I would've liked to delve deeper into the poems emotion and take a range of images based off that. We then moved onto the narrative image, I enjoyed this section of work as I had some ideas which involved the style of photography I like, for example street photography and portraiture. I decided to start this off by doing some street photography and although this was a good starting point, I wanted to do something that had more of a narrative and told a better story. So, I decided to look at drug use and the fact its prevalent among teens and young adults. I felt that this topic needed to be brought to light through narration as it's a sensitive topic that can hold a lot of emotion. Sometimes raising awareness through photography is more impactful and I felt like I conveyed this well. To present these photo I used a triptych as I thought it added to the narrative.

I then decided to do one more shoot for this section and made the decision to go back to street photography and photograph the area I grew up in as this was very personal to me, and I felt it was a fitting ending to the narrative section of work. Upon reflection, I am pleased with how my work has developed and felt that I wouldn't change how I interrupted this section of work. This gave me a lot of confidence for my work going forward.The last section of work was the mischievous image. I was unsure about how to approach this topic and so I decided to brainstorm my ideas around what mischievous means to me. In my previous section, I realized that I have been closed off to all other possibilities through fear of getting it wrong, so by brainstorming I allowed myself to analyze all my options. This meant that I didn't shut off any other creative avenues. Eventually I came up with the idea of documenting the aftermath of a party as this behavior to me was mischievous and was a fitting representation of the topic. Next time I would use editing software, for example photoshop, to further improve my images. I would do this through filters and effects because by blurring certain parts of the image, we can depict the mischievous nature of a party scene better. Blurring can also highlight drunken mishaps as alcohol has this effect. Through out my work I have used artists as inspiration for my own ideas and work. This originally did not find particularly easy to begin with as I wanted to have originality within my work. I felt by using other artists that it would be seen as replicating someone else's work. However, with time I have built confidence in my research over the first term and feel now that by using other artists work as inspiration, my work is benefitted. I now enjoy researching and building on my own work through the help of others. I have realised it's a critical skill to have to improve my own work. Overall, I am pleased with my progression and feel like this has built my confidence as a photographer. Even though, not all the sections have been easy or even my particular style of photography, these challenges have only

helped me excel. I look forward to future projects as I now have the skills I need to move forward.