



Key Stage 4 Curriculum Booklet

**ABBNEYFIELD
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RFn//AMy

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to Abbeyfield School's Options Booklet which outlines all the courses available to students in next year's Year 10. I hope you will find it interesting and informative.

The purpose of the booklet is to:

- inform parents and Year 9 students of the courses that are available to them from September 2017.
- explain the course content and structure and how each course will be assessed
- help in decision-making for the next stage of school life and beyond

It is our aim at Abbeyfield School to provide all students with a curriculum which is tailored to the needs of the individual student and which leads to a range of possibilities post 16. Some subjects will continue to be compulsory (core) as identified by the Government in the National Curriculum. The Curriculum guides most students to follow the English Baccalaureate, for some students this may not be suitable, students will be advised as to which pathway is most suitable for them.

Making the right choice of subjects within the pathway is vital, and I would encourage you to take time to ask questions and ensure you have all the help and guidance you require. The key people to talk to are the subject leaders and teachers, however additional support and guidance can be sought from mentors, tutors and senior staff.

Within the booklet you will find the option choices form which must be filled in and returned to Student Services by Friday 10 February 2017. Please note that we do ask you to fill in a second choice as well as the preferred option. The majority of our students receive their first choices; however, it is probable that some courses will be oversubscribed or undersubscribed and therefore we cannot guarantee that this will be the case. It is important that students meet the deadline of Friday 10 February 2017, in order to ensure they have the best possible chance of getting their first choices. Your son or daughter will be informed of their final choices during the summer term.

I would like to wish your son or daughter every success as they embark on this new and exciting phase in their education.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Franklin'.

R Franklin
Assistant Principal Curriculum

Explanation of Examinations

General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE)

The examination will assess not only memory and orderly presentation of facts, but also understanding, practical and other skills and the ability to apply knowledge. For example it tests how well candidates can conduct experiments in Science, tests students' practical skills in Art and Design and their oral skills in Modern Languages.

Major reforms began in September 2015. As a result from September 2017 all GCSEs will be assessed on the new 1 – 9 grading system.

BTEC

BTECs are work related qualifications which fully engage students. They provide a more practical, real-world approach to learning and skills development. BTECs will be changing from 2016 and all BTECs will now have an exam element. They continue to be developed and updated with and for industry and in response to the needs of students. This ensures that students gain maximum benefit from their work whilst qualifying. This could be in readiness for the workplace or continued study at the next level whether in an academic environment or a more specialist vocational area.

BTEC qualifications offer natural progression along a vocational path, potentially to academic qualifications and university. Taking a BTEC does not prevent students from taking AS and A2 courses post 16.

IMPORTANT – At the moment the continuation of level 1 / 2 BTEC qualifications is uncertain. We will keep you advised if any changes to our current curriculum offer are required.

On the following pages you will find descriptions of the courses available to you.

It is not possible to fully describe a course in a few words so talk to your teachers about what is involved.

**The curriculum is taught in a two week block of 1 hour lessons
In years 10 and 11 the curriculum is made up of two parts:-**

- a) the Core - subjects which you have to study**
- b) the Options - where you choose one subject from each of the four option columns.**

It includes the opportunity to achieve the English Baccalaureate.

Core Curriculum

The Year 10 and 11 Core curriculum is set out in the diagram below:

English	Mathematics	Science
Physical Education		Key Life Skills (including Ethics)

English



English Language - AQA
English Literature – AQA

What will I be studying?

- You will read a variety of short stories, novels, plays and poems.
- You will need to read texts carefully and be able to read for meaning.
- You will be involved in speaking and listening activities; including debates, role-play, drama focused activities and responding to ideas and information.

How will I be assessed?

- For English Language there are two exams at the end of year 11. Each exam is worth 50% of the overall course.
- For English Literature there are two exams at the end of year 10. Each exam is worth 50% of the overall course
- The whole course is assessed through examinations at the end of both years 10 and 11

How will I be taught?

You will be taught in a variety of different ways; drama activities, whole class discussion, presentations, using media equipment and ICT.

What will I need to do?

- be willing to try your best
- be able to voice your opinions and take part in debates
- be able to work outside of class on your coursework
- be well motivated!
- be creative
- be able to stick to deadlines!

How will this subject help me?

English is at the core of everything that you do. It helps you to communicate with other people and express your ideas and feelings. By looking closely at the way we use the English language you will develop your own communication skills in a variety of ways; writing to inform, explain and describe, as well as to argue, persuade and advise. You will also have practise in different formats; letter writing, reports, newspaper articles, instruction manuals and leaflets, to name just a few!

Looking at Other Cultures texts will help you to learn about other environments and cultures whilst also expanding your knowledge of other countries. You will be able to find out a little about the history of other countries and this should help you to understand and be more tolerant of other cultures.

We hope that you really enjoy the course and learn something about other people's ideas opinions and viewpoints!

Head of Subject: Mr D Hunt

Key Life Skills



No examination

What will I be studying?

In Key Stage 4 Students will study a variety of topics. Topics included are: citizenship, personal safety, emotional well-being, drugs education, diversity, sex and relationships, healthy lifestyles, personal finance and careers.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through subject focused tasks which are judged against specific criteria. There is no examination in this subject.

How will I be taught?

You will learn through completing theory and discursive tasks requiring teamwork and co-operation.

What will I need to do?

You will be expected to:

- bring correct equipment
- contribute to group discussions

Why should I do this subject?

Key Life Skills aim is to give students life skills, knowledge and understanding and help them progress into the world of work. Students are required to develop employability skills and a sound understanding of the numerous pathways that are available to them to sustain a successful future and career and have an understanding of personal and social issues.

Mathematics



Examining Board – To be confirmed

What will I be studying?

All students follow the new GCSE specification. There are two tiers of entry for KS4 Mathematics. Students are entered for Foundation Tier or Higher Tier depending on their ability.

How will I be assessed?

Following new recommendations from the government students will be assessed through formal examinations at the end of the course. This will mean that students will sit three papers at the end of Year 11.

- **Coursework** - There is no coursework

How will I be taught?

Students are placed in sets according to their ability. All teaching takes place in Maths designated classrooms. Students in higher sets will follow the Higher Mathematics scheme of work while students in the lower groups will be following the Foundation scheme of work. Teaching will involve regular use of the Interactive White Board. All students require a scientific calculator. Students will notice that there is a much greater emphasis on independent learning at GCSE.

What will I need to do?

- be prepared for every lesson
- bring your equipment including a calculator
- work hard and ask for help
- attend revision sessions
- complete written and online homework tasks

How will this subject help me?

A good mathematics GCSE is a requirement for many A level courses. Mathematics skills and qualifications are often crucial in gaining places on apprenticeships, at College and in the Sixth Form. Numeracy skills also play a vital role in everyday life, particularly as you become an adult in charge of your own finances.

Heads of Subject: Miss K Lukaszewska &
Mrs J Bullough

Physical Education



No examination

What will I be studying?

In Key Stage 4 students have two lessons of core PE a fortnight. The students will be taught in single sex or mixed groups as activities are option based. Students will be asked to select an activity to take part in and they must stick to their choice. Options could include Football, Badminton, the Fitness room, Table Tennis, Trampolining, Dodgeball, Benchball, Rounders, Athletics, Street Hockey, Rugby and Softball.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through your performance in lessons. There is no examination.

How will I be taught?

You will learn through completing practical tasks, including playing, coaching and officiating

What will I need to do?

You will be expected to:

- bring full PE kit for all practical lessons, even if you are not taking part practically in the lesson
- complete as many lessons as possible or be excused with written permission. If you are excused you will be expected to complete another role, such as officiating or coaching.

Why should I do this subject?

PE is a compulsory subject but you do have the chance to choose your own activities to ensure motivation is high. It can also be fun to exercise with your friends. There are many health and social benefits to exercise.

Science

Examining Board – OCR Combined science A
(Gateway Science) J250



What will I be studying?

The course is broken down into 18 topics. There are six each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There are six exams at the end of the course; each worth 16.7% of your total grade.

In **Biology** you will study six units:

B1 Cell Systems B2 Scaling up B3 Organism level systems,
B4 Community level systems B5 Interaction between systems B6 Global Challenges

In **Chemistry** you will study six units:

C1 Particles C2 Elements, compounds and mixtures C3 Chemical reactions
C4 Predicting and identifying reactions and products C5 Monitoring and controlling
chemical reactions C6 Global challenges

In **Physics** you will study six units:

P1 Matter P2 Forces P3 Electric and magnetism
P4 Waves and Radioactivity P5 Energy P6 Global challenges

How will I be assessed?

The 18 units are assessed by 6 written papers. Each paper will last 1 hour and 10 minutes and be worth 60 marks.

How will I be taught?

Students will generally be taught by a specialist science teacher, to cover the three subjects. The exact distribution of the lessons between the three subjects may change throughout the course to ensure equal coverage.

What will I need to do?

You will be expected to:

- listen carefully to instructions in order to carry out practical activities safely.
- demonstrate and develop your understanding by completing a variety of tasks.
- work well in a group.
- develop your knowledge of new areas of Science by researching around and beyond the subject.
- apply mathematical techniques to Science problems in order to achieve the highest grades.

Why should I do this subject?

Science provides opportunities for accessing most academic courses after 16. Obtaining these will also gain access to most Science courses at Level 3, usually AS & A 'level, but also including BTEC qualifications. (This assumes you have the correct grade at the end of the course.)

Heads of Subject: Mrs A Hartny-Mills/

Option Choices

EBacc Cohort should choose a Language and a Humanities subject

Main cohort must choose one from each option block

A	B	C	D
Geography	Geography	Second Humanities Subject	Business
History	History	Media	Media
Computing **	French	Health & Social Care BTEC *	Health & Social Care BTEC *
Spanish	Business BTEC *	Art	Art
French	Construction *	Sociology	Sociology
		Drama	Drama
		Design and Technology *	Design and Technology *
		PE GCSE	Statistics **
		Computing **	Music
		Dance	Asdan/Prince's Trust ***
		Food & Nutrition	

* The future of these qualifications is yet to be confirmed however we hope to be able to offer a comparable qualification.

** Students will need to be capable of Maths to follow these options. As a guide students should have achieved a 4A in their KS2 SATs.

*** It may be that your child would benefit from not taking all four traditional options. The Asdan and Prince's Trust group may be a more appropriate choice.

OPTIONS



The following pages contain brief descriptions of the optional subjects on offer.

You should read through these pages carefully and refer to the Option Choices page of the booklet so that you can begin to get an idea about the combination of subjects available.

Art

Examining Board – Pearson – Syllabus 1FA0

What will I be studying?

During Year 10 the course will include projects and themes to develop knowledge and understanding of the formal elements of Fine Art, these being LINE, TONE, TEXTURE and FORM. Starting points will often be based around 'Still Life' and observational drawing, students will then develop personal ideas through independent research for their individual ideas. You will learn how to use a wide variety of media including pencil, charcoal, paint, ink and 3d materials. Some written work is necessary as all practical work needs to be contextually linked to artists/designers, which students will need to describe and analyse, being willing to express personal opinions of both traditional and contemporary artworks.

Art will encourage you to:

- apply a creative approach to problem solving
- consider and develop original ideas from initiation to realisation
- analyse critically your own work and the work of others
- express individual thoughts and choices confidently
- take risks, experiment and learn from mistakes.

How will I be assessed?

- The PERSONAL PORTFOLIO consists of all classwork and homework (approx. 120 hours) and is worth 60% of the GCSE
- The EXTERNALLY SET ASSIGNMENT (10 hour Exam) is worth 40% of the GCSE

The Assessment objectives require you to:

RESEARCH	- observational drawing, collecting found images, taking your photographs, copying images, selecting relevant artists to study
ARTISTS	- make accurate colour copies of artists work, with written analysis
DEVELOPMENT	- demonstrating a variety of personal ideas for final pieces, an ability to select and use a variety of media, and a willingness to improve and develop ideas
REALISATION	- be able to create high quality final pieces in a variety of scales and media and being able to write evaluation about your work

How will I be taught?

You will learn through different teaching methods including Artist presentations and specialised skill demonstrations, teaching you how to use a wide variety of media. Students develop knowledge, understanding and skills when completing their Personal Portfolio, which they then go on to use and refine when completing the Externally Set Assignment.

What will I need to do?

expected to purchase a spiral bound sketch book and basic Art materials/equipment.

- committed to the subject and working to complete all tasks including home work to the best of your ability, always aiming for a high quality finish and presentation.
- expected to prepare your work for a final exhibition at the end of Year 11.

Why should I do this subject?

GCSE Fine Art will teach you many new skills in the areas of drawing, painting, print making and sculpture.

ASDAN

Examining Board – Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network

Students will be invited to join this course

What will I be studying? Certificate of Personal Effectiveness

During this two year course you will be studying:

Modules (topics) choice including:

- Communication
- Independent Living
- Health and Fitness
- Work related Learning & Enterprise
- Citizenship & Community
- The Environment
- Vocational Preparation
- Expressive Arts
- Sport and Leisure
- International Links
- Science & Technology
- Beliefs and Values

Typically each module is split into 2 or 3 sections. Each section is worth 1 full credit = approximately 10 hours work

How will I be assessed?

You will keep a portfolio of evidence to show completion of the following:

- 12 full credits to gain Certificate of Personal Effectiveness at either:- Level 1 or Level 2
- Key Skills will include:-
 - Improving own learning and performance
 - Working with others
 - Problem solving
 - Communication

How will I be taught?

- You will be taught in a small group (typically 10 to 12 students).
- You will complete practical tasks and written work to meet the challenges set within each module.

What will I need to do?

You will need to:

- take responsibility for planning, organising and carrying out a number of activities or challenges
- develop and provide evidence of working with others, improving your own learning and performance and problem solving
- develop and provide evidence of the skills of research, discussion and presentation
- produce evidence of your achievements in a Portfolio (file or folder)

Why should I do this subject?

This subject suits students who prefer to work within more practical situations and who may need additional support to achieve their goals. It is a GCSE equivalent course so students are working towards formally accredited goals.

Business Studies GCSE

Examining Board – AQA - 8132

What is Business Studies?

Everything in life involves Business. Therefore this course will give you an understanding of how businesses operate, who and what can affect them, and how they can become more successful.

You will learn about how business works. In particular you will look at the following topics:

- Business operations
- Human resources
- Marketing
- Finance

How will I be assessed?

- Influences of operations and HRM on business activity (1 hour 45 minutes)
- Influences of marketing and finance on business activity (1 hour 45 minutes)

How will I be taught?

You will learn through different teaching and learning methods, including discussions, videos, case study scenarios and problem solving.

Why should I do this subject?

Business Studies GCSE will help you understand the processes of how business works and is a valuable learning experience for those who will work in a business in future or who wish to start up their own business.

Business Studies

Examining Board – Pearson BTEC

What is Business Studies?

This subject helps you understand how business works. The core of any business is getting the right product or service to the consumer at the right time and at the right price.

What will I be studying?

You will learn about how business works. In particular you will look at the following topics:

- Business enterprise
- Finance
- Marketing
- Retail
- Human resources

How will I be assessed?

Each unit carries a number of credits, three units are coursework and one unit is an exam on business finance. It may be possible to study extra units.

Grades are: Distinction*, Distinction, Merit and Pass

How will I be taught?

You will learn through different teaching and learning methods, including discussions, videos, case study scenarios and problem solving. You will be expected to word process your work.

Why should I do this subject?

BTEC Business Studies will help you understand the processes of how business works and is a valuable learning experience for those who will work in a business in future or who wish to start up their own business.

GCSE COMPUTER SCIENCE

Examining Board – OCR J276

OCR's GCSE (9–1) in Computer Science will encourage learners to:

- Understand and apply the fundamental principles and concepts of Computer Science, including abstraction, decomposition, logic, algorithms, and data representation.
- Analyse problems in computational terms through practical experience of solving such problems including designing, writing and debugging programs
- Think creatively, innovatively, analytically, logically and critically
- Understand the components that make up digital systems, and how they communicate with one another and with other systems
- Understand the impacts of digital technology to the individual and to wider society
- Apply mathematical skills relevant to Computer Science.

GCSE Computer Science qualification will enable learners to develop:

- Valuable thinking and programming skills that are extremely attractive in the modern workplace.
- A deep understanding of computational thinking and how to apply it through a chosen programming language.

Computer Science Overview

OCR's GCSE (9–1) in Computer Science (J276)

Learners take Components: 01, 02, and 03; or 01, 02 and 04

Content Overview	Assessment Overview	
Computer systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Systems Architecture • Memory • Storage • Wired and wireless networks • Network topologies, protocols and layers • System security • System software • Ethical, legal, cultural & environmental concerns 	Computer systems (01) 80 marks 1 hour and 30 minutes Written paper (no calculators allowed)	40% of total GCSE
Computational thinking, algorithms and programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algorithms * • Programming techniques • Producing robust programs • Computational logic • Translators and facilities of languages • Data representation 	Computational thinking, algorithms and programming (02) 80 marks 1 hour and 30 minutes Written paper (no calculators allowed)	40% of total GCSE
Programming project ** <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programming techniques • Analysis • Design • Development • Testing and evaluation and conclusions 	Programming project (03/04) 40 marks Totalling 20 hours Non-Exam Assessment (NEA)	20% of total GCSE

*Algorithm questions are not exclusive to Component 02 and can be assessed in all components.

**Indicates inclusion of synoptic assessment.

Construction



Pearson BTEC Entry Level Award in Construction

What will I be studying?

During the two years of the course you will be studying units of work in order to achieve credits which will enable you to pass the course.

The units are:

- Health and Safety
- Working as part of a group
- Moving and handling of resources
- Carpentry and Joinery skills
- Producing timber products
- Producing A PRODUCT
- Woodwork
- Brickwork
- Basic Electric

How will I be assessed?

Formal assessments are completed within a specified time period and the normal expectation is that the student should be able to undertake the assessment un-aided. Students should be able to do this as they will have had sufficient training and practice.

How will I be taught?

- Most lessons will be devoted to the practical aspects of the course, and therefore will be practical lessons.
- Usually, one lesson per week is more theory based in order to cover the theoretical aspects of the course that enable students to complete various tests and tasks which are needed to achieve accreditation

What will I need to do?

You will be:

- expected to work safely and sensibly at all times but particularly during practical activities
- you will need determination and enthusiasm
- you must be able to work sensibly as part of a group or team and alone

Why should I do this subject?

You should do this course if you are particularly interested in the construction industry. On successful completion of this course you will have a BTEC entry level in construction and you can continue the course at college.

Head of Subject: Mr M Herridge

Dance

Examining Board – AQA GCSE Specification 8236

What will I be studying?

During the two years of the course you will be studying:

- The art of choreography, learning to structure dance, and using core choreographic skills such as; choreographic devices, form, dynamic qualities. This unit will allow individuals to explore as a soloist and in small groups.
- To further develop group performance and choreographic skills, through the process of choreographing a group piece based upon three set phrases. In this aspect of the course you will need to demonstrate the ability to organise and work independently to establish an effective rehearsal process.
- To apply performance skills to choreography.
- To appreciate professional dance works.

How will I be assessed?

You will have to complete:

- Duet/ trio performance and set phrases through solo performance – 30%
- Solo or group choreography - 30%
- Written examination - 40% 1 hour 30 minutes

How will I be taught?

You will learn through different teaching and learning methods, based around two practical and one theory lesson per week. Sessions will include practical teacher and student led tasks, set for you to explore different movement ideas. You will appreciate work through the process of watching and analysing professional dance, recorded and live and independent rehearsals.

What will I need to do?

You will be expected to:

- Purchase the school Dance kit, and ensure it is worn in all practical lessons.
- Follow the Dance code of practice to ensure Health and Safety standards are met.
- Perform on a regular basis in front of others, as a soloist and in groups.
- Complete homework on time and to a good standard, ensuring dance folders are brought to each theory lesson.
- Organise and attend extra rehearsals.

Why should I do this subject?

The skills gained from the course will allow you to improve your physical and spatial awareness and the understanding of dance as an art form. If you enjoy dance as a fun activity then this course will further develop your passion to continue.

Design and Technology

What will I be studying?

This exciting new course is an up to date approach to Product Design that allows students to develop and draw on a range of knowledge and skills linked directly to Science, Technology Engineering and Maths, as well as design and make prototypes and models in a wide range of materials. This course would be suitable for students who might be considering design or engineering as a future career.

Three areas of theory are studied:

1 Core Technical Principles: Including new and emerging technologies, energy storage and generation, modern and smart materials, a systems approach to designing, mechanical devices and materials and their working properties.

2 Technical Principles: Selection of materials or components, forces and stresses, ecological and social footprint, scales of production, sources and origins, using and working with materials, stock forms, types and sizes, specialist techniques, surface treatments and finishes.

Specialist technical principles may be taught through many materials: Paper and board, timber, metal based materials, polymers, textile based materials and electronic and mechanical systems and form the extension of graphic product and product design style projects.

3 Designing and Making Principles: Investigating primary and secondary data, environmental, social and economic challenge, the work of others, design strategies, communication of design ideas, prototype development, selection of materials and components, tolerances, material management, tools and equipment, techniques and processes.

How will I be assessed?

Exam: 50% of GCSE - 2 hour written exam. 100marks

To be assessed:
Core technical Principles
Specialist technical principles
Designing and Making Principles

Non-exam Assessment (NEA): 50% of GCSE - 30-35 hours/ 20 page portfolio. 100 marks

This is a substantial **design and make** task, which is the **practical application** of the core, specialist and designing and making principles assessed in 4 areas:

Investigating
Designing
Making
Analysing and evaluating

Students will produce a **working prototype** and **portfolio of evidence**, marked by teachers, moderated by the exam board.

Drama

Examining Board –

What will I be studying?

This NEW specification has been carefully designed to engage and encourage students to become confident performers and designers with the skills they need for a bright and successful future.

You will learn to collaborate with others, think analytically and evaluate effectively. You will gain the confidence to pursue your own ideas, reflect and refine your efforts. Whatever your future holds, students of GCSE Drama emerge with a toolkit of transferable skills, applicable both in further studies and in the workplace.

How will I be assessed?

Component 1: Understanding drama	Component 2: Devising drama (practical)	Component 3: Texts in practice (practical)
<p>What's assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge and understanding of drama and theatre • Study of one set play from a choice of six • Analysis and evaluation of the work of live theatre makers. 	<p>What's assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process of creating devised drama • Performance of devised drama (students may contribute as performer or designer) • Analysis and evaluation of own work 	<p>What's assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance of two extracts from one play (students may contribute as performer or designer) <p>Free choice of play but it must contrast with the set play chosen for Component 1</p>
<p>How it's assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam: 1 hour and 45 minutes • Open book • 80 marks • 40% of GCSE 	<p>How it's assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devising log (60 marks) • Devised performance (20 marks) • 80 marks in total • 40% of GCSE 	<p>How it's assessed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance of Extract 1 (20 marks) and Extract 2 (20 marks) • 40 marks in total • 20% of GCSE
<p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section A: multiple choice (4 marks) • Section B: four questions on a given extract from the set play chosen (44 marks) • Section C: one question (from a choice) on the work of theatre makers in a single live theatre production (32 marks) 	<p>This component is marked by teachers and moderated by AQA</p>	<p>This component is marked by AQA.</p>

French and Spanish

Examining Board –French– Pearson–Specification code 1FR0
– Spanish – Pearson-Specification code

What will I be studying?

We offer both French and Spanish at GCSE, they follow essentially the same course. It will take 2 years to complete the course. These are the main topic areas that you will be studying:

- Identity and culture
- Local area, holidays and travel
- School
- Future aspirations, study and work
- International and global dimension

How will I be assessed?

Speaking – 25% of the course

- A role play, a picture based discussion and a conversation on 2 topics one is chosen by the candidate. 7-9 minutes for Foundation tier and 10-12 minutes for Higher tier

Writing – 25% of the course

- For the Foundation Tier; You are expected to produce : 6 sentences from “headings”
 - A short passage of 60 words approximately
 - A longer passage of 90 words approximately
 - A translation from English to the target language (5 sentences)
- For the Higher Tier; you are expected to write: 2 passages one 90 words and the other 150 words approximately.
 - Translation from English to the target language (small paragraph)

Listening comprehension – Foundation or Higher – 25% of the course

Reading comprehension – Foundation or Higher – 25% of the course

- For these two skills the questions are in English and in the target language.

How will I be taught?

The course is over the 2 years but of course KS3 is a vital part for the continuity of the language. We look at the 4 skills through authentic material, power point presentation, we use many resources from the internet, homemade materials so we can vary our style of teaching to suit a wide range of ability and learning style.

What will I need to do?

You will need:

- A standard French and/or Spanish dictionary of your own or a GCSE revision guide.
- enthusiasm, commitment and determination
- Ensure that all tasks are done to the best of your ability so progress will become evident
- Homework is not an option and therefore should be taken seriously.

Why should I do this subject?

You will be able to share your interests, ideas and opinions with other people who speak the language you have learnt.

- You will learn about the countries where French/Spanish is spoken
- You will add an international dimension to your choice of GCSE subjects which is something many future employers and higher education providers look for.
- You will improve your communications skills and will have a better understanding of how your own language works
- You will create greater opportunities for yourself to work abroad or for companies in the UK with international links. Many employers look for people who speak a foreign language.

Why should I do this subject?

You will be able to share your interests, ideas and opinions with other people who speak French.

- You will learn about the countries where French/Spanish is spoken
- You will add an international dimension to your choice of GCSE subjects, which is something many future employers and higher education providers look for
- Will improve your communication skills
- You will create greater opportunities for yourself to work abroad or for companies in the UK with international links. Many employers look for people who speak a foreign language.

Food Preparation and Nutrition

Examining Board – AQA GCSE

What will I be studying?

During the two years of the course you will be studying:

- Food Nutrition and Health
- Food Science
- Food Safety
- Food Choice
- Food Provenance

How will I be assessed?

- Food investigation. The working characteristics, functional and chemical properties of ingredients. This will make up 15% of your mark.
- Food preparation. Planning, preparation, cooking, and presentation of a dish specified by the exam board. These make up 35% of your GCSE.
- GCSE exam worth 50% of your mark – 1 hour 45 minutes long.

How will I be taught?

The subject will be taught through a series of practical making activities, experiments and investigations. There will also be written work based on research through analysis, evaluation as well as class discussion and debate. This will develop knowledge and understanding of a wide range of materials, nutrition, equipment, processes, current health issues and technological development used in Design and Technology.

What will I need to do?

- be prepared to do aspects such as research as part of your independent learning
- be expected to work safely and sensibly within the kitchen and classroom areas
- be prepared to be creative and work independently to create a unique product
- be prepared to observe health and hygiene within your work area
- be prepared to bring in your own ingredients for practice dishes
- be prepared to stick to deadlines for coursework

Why should I do this subject?

If you particularly enjoyed the creative side of Design and Technology then you will have the opportunity to specialise in the food aspects over the next two years. You will also learn various life skills within this subject such as: cooking, designing planning, costing, evaluating, analysing and providing for yourself through a healthy diet. It will also give you an understanding of food properties, characteristics nutritional make up. It can lead to future careers in the food industry.

Geography

Examining Board – AQA

What will I be studying?

Living with the physical environment

Discover more about the challenge of natural hazards and the living world, physical landscapes in the United Kingdom and human interaction with them. This unit develops an understanding of the tectonic, geomorphological, biological and meteorological processes and features in different environments. It provides you with the knowledge about the need for management strategies governed by sustainability and consideration of the direct and indirect effects of human interaction with the Earth and the atmosphere.

Challenges in the human environment

This unit is concerned with human processes, systems and outcomes and how these change both spatially and temporally. You will develop an understanding of the factors that produce a diverse variety of human environments; the dynamic nature of these environments that change over time and place; the need for sustainable management; and the areas of current and future challenge and opportunity for these environments.

How will I be assessed?

Three written exams. Papers 1 and 2 are 1 hour 30 minutes long and contribute 70% of your final mark. Paper 3 is 1 hour 15 minutes and contributes 30% of your GCSE grade.

How will I be taught?

You will learn through a variety of teaching and learning methods, including whole class discussions, debates, documentaries, creating presentations, field trips and more.

Alongside the subject content, you'll also learn:

- to recognise different sides in debates and make decisions based on sound argument
- to undertake a fieldwork enquiry developing transferable skills in research, data collection, analysis and evaluation
- written/verbal communication skills, including report writing and data presentation
- the highly regarded skills of being able to work independently and within a team, considering different ideas and coming to an agreed consensus
- how to develop and use a wide range of maps from atlas to Ordnance Survey
- numerical and statistical skills

What will I need to do?

Undertake your own research by reading-up on topics and making use a variety of different resources and attend the two compulsory field trips which assessed in Paper 3. The current cohort are visiting the River Chess in Buckinghamshire, and the Olympic Park in London.

Why should I do this subject?

Studying geography gives you the opportunity to travel the world via the classroom, learning about both the physical and human environment. You'll understand how geography impacts your life every day and discover the key opportunities and challenges facing the world.

Choose GCSE Geography and you'll learn how today's world was shaped and understand the challenges we face in the future. You'll also examine the Earth's natural resources and the increasing battles between the man-made and natural world. This knowledge, paired with your essential curiosity, will give you the sought-after transferable skills for success in further education and the workplace.

BTEC Level 2 First Award in Health and Social Care



Examining Board – Pearson BTEC

What is Health and Social Care?

This course is designed to develop knowledge and understanding required in health and social care sectors. It provides an opportunity for learners to gain a nationally recognised qualification to either enter employment or progress to BTEC Level 3 in Health and Social Care or other national diplomas. It is also recognised as a level 2 qualification which is the equivalent to 1 GCSE at “C” grade or above

What will I be studying?

- Effective Communication in Health and Social Care.
- Health and Social Care values.
- Human Lifespan and Development.
- The Impact of Nutrition on Health and Well-being

How will I be assessed?

The course is assessed in two parts:

1 x 1 hour exam

3 Portfolio assessments that are internally and externally assessed

How will I be taught?

You will learn through different teaching and learning methods, including discussions, videos, case study scenarios and problem solving. You will be expected to word process all of your coursework assignments. Where possible visiting speakers and workers from the profession will visit lessons to assist student’s understanding.

Why should I do this subject?

The course will enable the learner to either continue in further education, prepare them for Level 3 Health and Social Care studies or use the qualification to enter employment.

Head of Subject: Mrs J Nash

History GCSE

Examining Board – Pearson Edexcel (1HI0)



What will I be studying?

During the two years of the course you will be studying:

- **Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000–present and Whitechapel, c1870–c1900: crime, policing and the inner city.** – you will learn about the history of crime, punishment and policing in Britain and how these features of life have changed over a 1000 year period, through the Middle Ages, Tudor & Stuart periods, and 19th & 20th Centuries. There will also be a special focus on Whitechapel at the end of the 19th Century.
- **Anglo-Saxon and Norman England, c1060–88** – you will learn the story of the Norman Conquest and how William the Conqueror established his rule in England.
- **The American West, c1835–c1895** – you will learn about the life and culture of the Native American Indians and how America was settled and changed by Non-Native Americans.
- **Weimar and Nazi Germany 1919-1939** – you will learn about the challenges faced by Germany after World War One, as well as the rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party and how they controlled and changed the lives of all in Germany.

You will be following the Pearson Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Specification (1HI0) GCSE course.

How will I be assessed?

You will have to complete three written examinations, taken the end of the Year 11:

- Paper One: Crime and punishment in Britain. 1 hour 15 minutes, 30% of the qualification
- Paper Two: Anglo-Saxon and Norman England plus The American West. 1 hour and 45 minutes, 40 % of the qualification
- Paper Three: Weimar & Nazi Germany. 1 hour and 20 minutes, 30% of the qualification.

How will I be taught?

You will learn through different teaching and learning methods, including whole class discussion, debates and role-plays, use of ICT, study of video documentaries and contemporary footage, and study of western films.

What will I need to do?

You will:

- be expected to undertake your own research by reading-up on topics and making use a variety of different resources.
- be willing to work hard and try your best at all times.

Why should I do this subject?

GCSE History will help you gain a much better understanding of the world's history. Future careers open to students of History include media, journalism, law, police service, marketing, public relations, research, management, and further academic study as well as teaching at both Primary and Secondary levels. You'll develop skills of research, analysis, and use of evidence, and learn to work independently and in a team. As such History is a subject that is highly valued by employers and universities. If you enjoy finding out about the past and how it has shaped our lives then this subject is for you.

Head of Subject: Mr D Thomas

Media Studies



Examining Board – AQA Specification A

What will I be studying?

- You will need to read texts carefully and be able to read for meaning.
- You will have a thorough grounding of media theory and practise.
- You will have the chance to study a range of media and have a go at making your own piece of media.

How will I be assessed?

- For Media Studies there are two written exams which are worth 70% of your grade. These exams will be taken in the summer of Year 11.
- There is also a practical assignment, which is worth 30% of your final grade.

How will I be taught?

You will be taught in a variety of different ways; group activities, whole class discussion, presentations, using media equipment and ICT.

What will I need to do?

- be willing to try your best
- be able to voice your opinions and take part in debates
- be able to work outside of class on your coursework
- be well motivated!
- be creative
- be able to stick to deadlines!

How will this subject help me?

Media Studies can help you in many ways; as well as being able to understand the many different media industries you will be able to find out about audience targeting and how advertisers get you to buy their products. You will also be more aware of when you are being targeted and be able to use this information to make informed decisions. Media Studies will also help you to apply the skills you have learnt in your English lessons in a new and exciting way by; analysing varied media forms, completing your own research and being able to think critically.

We hope that you really enjoy the course and learn something about other people's ideas opinions and viewpoints!

Head of Subject: Mrs Claire Wawrzesta

Music

Examining Board - AQA

Why study GCSE Music

- This accessible yet challenging qualification allows students to develop their knowledge of musical language through the study, creation and performance of music from a wide range of styles and genres.
- Research has shown a direct link between music and improved reading ability in children. It shows that pupils who were given certain types of music instruction had improved reading comprehension compared to those who did not.
- As well as an academic subject, it helps with your skills in teamwork, cooperation, self-confidence, responsibility, discipline and social skills. These are key skills to have whether you pursue a career in music or not.

Course requirements and assessment

- The GCSE is a two-year course of study, with an examination at the end.
- There are no requirements that a pupil must have achieved a certain level/standard to be able to undertake this course, but you must be prepared to either perform or sing as a soloist, and, as part of an ensemble.
- There are three components that are assessed:
 1. Performing music (solo and ensemble) 30%
 2. Composing music (one piece) 30%
 3. Written examination (including a listening test) 40%
- Performances and compositions are assessed internally by your Head of department, as well as being assessed externally by Eduqas.
- There are four main areas that you will study which come under the following genres:
 - **Musical Forms and Devices**
 - **Music for Ensemble**
 - **Film Music**
 - **Popular Music**

What will I need to do?

You will be expected to:

- Rehearse and choose suitable music for your solo and ensemble performance (your teacher will support you with this). You can either perform one solo performance and one ensemble, or two ensemble performances for the performance coursework.
- Become familiar with your set-works outside of lessons through listening and reading.
- Complete homework to develop your theoretical skills.

GCSE PE

Examining Board – OCR

This course is open to students who are interested in sport, are able to perform to a good standard in 3 sports (with at least one of them being a team sport and one being an individual sport). A good basic level of fitness is required to meet the demands of this course.

What will I be studying?

The Theory of Physical Education – In this part of the course students will learn about methods of training, why and how people get involved in physical activity, what the components of fitness are and how to measure and improve them, how to lead a healthy lifestyle, sports psychology, anatomy and physiology and how it affects sporting performance.

The performance of Physical Education – In this part of the course students will be assessed in their performance of a team sport, an individual sport and a sport of their choice. They will also undertake an analysis of performance; identifying strengths and weaknesses of an athlete.

How will I be assessed?

60% of the marks are gained from The Theory of Physical Education unit. This unit is graded by examination at the end of the course and consists of multiple choice, short answer and long answer questions.

30% of the marks are gained from the assessment of 3 sports. This section of the course is graded under controlled conditions throughout and is externally moderated. It is essential that you are able to perform to a good standard in 3 sports. If students take part in a sport at a club where they train and compete regularly, they can use these sports as part of their assessment.

10% of the course is assessed through the analysis of performance task.

How will I be taught?

Theory lessons are generally taught in the classroom; students will complete workbooks, write essays and make notes for their files.

In practical lessons students will participate in a variety of sports; learning how to play, officiate and lead. They will also be taught to participate in, lead and plan fitness testing and training sessions.

Who should take this subject?

For those who are interested in sport or for those planning a career in sport this is an ideal first step. The course is aimed at able and motivated sports performers who are interested in developing their knowledge and understanding of Physical Education. There is a considerable amount of practical work; only students willing to bring kit and participate fully should apply. You must also be able to perform well in a range of different sports, not just one.

Prince's Trust

Examining Board – Prince's Trust

Students join this course by invitation only

What will I be studying?

The Prince's Trust xl Club is a team-based programme of personal development for students, available during the last two years of compulsory education. It is a more informal option that uses a rigorous curriculum to focus on personal, social and team building skills as well as developing competencies and enthusiasm for enterprise, citizenship and employment.

How will I be assessed?

You will build a portfolio of evidence showing skills learned and subjects covered in the Prince's Trust curriculum, which will be both internally and externally moderated. You will be able to gain Level 1 or Level 2 accreditation.

How will I be taught?

In a class of between 12 and 15 students you will be encouraged to work together to achieve goals relating to your education, training and future life. You will produce written work, art work and photographs to build a portfolio of evidence for accreditation. Curriculum areas covered include: Teamwork, Undertaking an Enterprise Project, Presentation Skills, Participating in Sport, Career Planning and Managing my Money.

Students are able to gain GCSE equivalent qualifications at either:-

Level 1 (equivalent of up to 2 GCSE's at D-G Grade)

Level 2 (equivalent of up to 2 GCSE's at A*-C Grade)

What will I need to do?

- You will need to be motivated to learn in a group environment and willing to participate in all activities.
- Learning is primarily based on practical tasks. Enthusiasm and motivation, more than academic ability, will ensure your success in this option.

Why should I do this subject?

By joining the xl Club at Abbeyfield School you will be part of a UK wide network that is already helping over 9,000 young people. You will gain valuable skills for working with others, an awareness of the community and better understanding of citizenship. These skills will help you towards achieving positive post 16 options.

Sociology

Examining Board – AQA – Syllabus 8192

What will I be studying?

Sociology is the study of society and people. It explores the relationships forged between the individual and society and looks at the role of institutions like the family and media in influencing behaviour of individuals. Sociology tries to understand how different parts of societies operate and relate to each other. Your culture, your family and your friends also help shape your identity, and in Sociology we explore what it means to be a boy or a girl and how we learn gender appropriate behaviour. What happens if we do not behave appropriately? What happens if we question authority? Why do we follow rules? In what ways are we socialised to be controlled?

The study of Sociology encourages you to think independently, to open your mind and question social structures and developments. Through creative learning involving some project work and research tasks, you are expected to develop debating, explanation, analysis and evaluation skills, all the while improving your literacy through extended essay writing.

Subjects included:

- The sociological approach
- Social structures, social processes and social issues
- Families
- Education
- Crime and deviance
- Social stratification
- Sociological research methods

How will I be assessed?

The examination is formed of **TWO** formal exam papers approved by the AQA Exam Board. You will sit all of the papers at the end of Year 11.

Paper 1-The sociology of families and education- 1 hour 45 minutes worth 50% of GCSE

Paper 2- The sociology of crime and deviance and social stratification-1 hour 45 minutes worth 50% of GCSE

How will I be taught?

You have to be open minded to study Sociology as the subject looks at many different views, opinions and sometimes controversial issues. We have lots of discussions, group work, pair work and independent learning. The lessons in Sociology are varied and include many different activities aimed at different learning types.

Why should I do this subject?

Sociology is a fun, interesting and contemporary subject that offers an insight into the world you live in. It is a very interesting and fun subject to study. It relates to the world that you live in so is easy to apply to your own experiences. If you enjoy learning about people's behaviour and often ask the question 'why', then this is the subject for you!

Where does it lead?

It is a good general subject for students as most professional careers require students to have some knowledge of our society.

Jobs where Sociology may be useful: Community Worker, Housing Manager, Journalist, Lecturer, Personnel Manager, Welfare Advice Worker, Police Constable, Prison Governor, Probation Officer, Public Relations, Social Researcher, Social Worker.

Head of Subject: Mrs K Paterson

Statistics

Examining Board – Pearson

What will I be studying?

The statistics course complements GCSE Mathematics, providing a broader view of the use of data and enabling critical analysis of statistical data. Students will be following the Pearson GCSE Statistics course and will sit the GCSE examination in June 2018.

Students study the following broad topic areas:-

- 1) Collection of Data – planning, types of data, population & sampling, data collection.
- 2) Processing, Representing and Analysing Data – tables, diagrams, measures of central tendency, measures of dispersion, scatter diagrams & correlation, time series, quality assurance, estimation.
- 3) Reasoning, Interpretation & Discussion.
- 4) Probability and modelling.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment is via two exam papers both worth 50% and taking an hour and 30 minutes. Paper one focuses on applying appropriate mathematical and statistical formula and will contain short, medium and extended response questions. Use of the statistical enquiry cycle will be taught throughout the course.

Paper two is a replacement of the controlled assessment and involves more extended response questions in a problem solving context. Students will develop analytical skills considering the reliability and accuracy of the data, possible bias and the affect this could have on the target audience. Students will need to have good mathematical knowledge to complete this course. The final exam is sat in June 2018.

How will I be taught?

All teaching takes place in Maths designated classrooms, teaching will involve regular use of the Interactive White Board and students will become familiar with Mathematical software on the departmental laptops. All students require a scientific calculator.

What will I need to do?

- be prepared for every lesson
- bring your equipment including a calculator
- work hard and ask for help
- attend revision sessions
- complete written homework tasks

How will this subject help me?

GCSE statistics provides a sound basis for future study of a number of level 3 qualifications including; Business, Economics, Psychology, Sociology, Geography & Biology all of which have significant statistics content. The qualification also enables students to better understand statistics and how they can be both misleading and informative – a skill that is useful in all areas of work and study.

Now you have to make your choices!

- ✓ Look at the 'Option Choices' on the first page of *Personal Choice* section
 - ✓ Choose a subject from each block
 - ✓ Write your first and second choices on the sheet attached
 - ✓ Return your choices to Mrs May in Student Services
Friday 10 February 2017
- You will need to be invited to join
 ASDAN / PRINCES TRUST

EXAMPLE OF A STUDENT'S RETURNED FORM

Name: An other Tutor group: 9 ABC

Choose one subject from each option column as your 1st choice. Please add different subjects as your 2nd choice which will be allocated if the 1st choice is not possible, this will only happen after a conversation with Mr Franklin or Mrs Murphy.

This is an example of what your choices grid might look like when it is filled in:

	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
1 st choice in each column	<i>Spanish</i>	<i>History</i>	<i>Food & Nutrition</i>	<i>Business</i>
2 nd choice in each Column	<i>French</i>	<i>Geography</i>	<i>Health & Social Care</i>	<i>Media</i>

Please return completed form to Mrs May in Student Services by
Friday 10 February 2017