



Key Stage 4 Curriculum Booklet

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RFn/KMy/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 2015.
- 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 allows for some students to follow the English Baccalaureate, for other 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 Monday 9 March 2015. This date is after the Parents' Consultation Evening when you will have a chance to discuss with your child's teachers whether particular options are appropriate for them. 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 and therefore we cannot guarantee that this will be the case. It is important that students meet the deadline of Monday 9 March 2015, 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.

Explanation of Examinations

General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE)

The GCSE aims to help all students to do better: it is fair to students in that it gives all students the chance to show what they know, understand and can do.

The examination tests 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.

Over the two year period of the course pupils may also be judged on the work they have done during the course – practical work or pieces of work carried out in the classroom. This will mean that pupils can be tested on skills and abilities they do not always show in timed written examinations.

The GCSE examination has a single system of awarded grades of achievements, (A* – G), but students will not all do exactly the same class work and examination questions. In some subjects there will be a choice of papers or questions to suit students' abilities – in this way students can choose to give themselves the best chance to show what they can do. Students will be guided as to which papers and questions they will attempt in accordance with their ability and the work undertaken during the course.

BTEC

BTECs are work related qualifications which fully engage students. They provide a more practical, real-world approach to learning and skills development. 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.

Options 2015 - 2017

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
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 11. Each exam is worth 50% of the overall course

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!

Key Life Skills



No examination

What will I be studying?

In Key Stage 4 Students will study a different topic each term. Topics such as Study Skills, Global Citizenship, Drugs Education, Employability Skills, Financial Capability, Interview Skills, Sex & Relationships Education and receive Careers Education Guidance will be included.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through subject focused based tasks against subject specific criteria. There is no examination and you will receive a grade each full term.

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 (black pen, pencil & planner)
- complete homework on a regular basis
- contribute to group discussions

Why should I do this subject?

Key Life Skills aim is to give students to skills, knowledge and understanding to 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.

Head of Subject: Mr W Jones

Mathematics



Examining Board – Pearson 1MA0

What will I be studying?

All students follow the new GCSE specification for entry in the summer of 2015. There are two tiers of entry for KS4 Mathematics. Students are entered for Foundation tier or higher tier dependent on ability.

How will I be assessed?

The GCSE programme of study begins after the February half term in Year 9.

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 J Millard
& Miss K Lukaszewska

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 mixed groups as activities are optional. 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 Gateway B – J261

What will I be studying?

The course is broken down into 6 topics. There are two each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There are two exams at the end of the course; the second exam is worth 40% and the first 35%. A Controlled Assessment constitutes the remaining 25%.

In **Biology** you will study two:

B1: Understanding Organisms.

B2: Understanding our Environment.

In **Chemistry** you will study two topics:

C1: Carbon Chemistry.

C2: Chemical Reactions.

In **Physics** you will study two topics:

P1: Energy in the Home.

P2: Living for the Future.

How will I be assessed?

Two units are assessed by written papers. Paper one comprising units C1, P1 & B1 is one hour and fifteen minutes. Paper two, comprising C2, P2 & B2 is one hour and thirty minutes; it also includes a scientific enquiry question worth 10 marks. These both combine with a controlled Assessment worth 25% to obtain the full qualification.

How will I be taught?

Students will generally be taught by two specialist teachers, 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 and Additional Science provide 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 L3 Diplomas. (This assumes you have the correct grade at the end of the course.)

Heads of Faculty: Mrs A Hartny-Mills/Miss L Fitton

Additional Science.

Examining Board – OCR Gateway B – J262

What will I be studying in Science?

The course is broken down into 6 topics. There are two each for Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There are two exams at the end of the course; the second exam is worth 40% and the first 35%. A Controlled Assessment constitutes the remaining 25%.

In **Biology** you will study two:

B3: Living and growing.

B4: It's a green world.

In **Chemistry** you will study two topics:

C3: Chemical Economics.

C4: The Periodic Table.

In **Physics** you will study two topics:

P3: Forces and motion.

P4: Electricity, waves and radiation.

How will I be assessed?

Two units are assessed by written papers. Paper one comprising units C3, P3 & B3 are one hour and fifteen minutes. Paper two, comprising C4, P4 & B4 are one hour and thirty minutes; it also includes a scientific enquiry question worth 10 marks. These both combine with a controlled Assessment worth 25% to obtain the full qualification.

How will I be taught?

Students will generally be taught by two specialist teachers, to cover the three subjects. The exact distribution of the lessons between them 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.
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Heads of Faculty: Mrs A Hartny-Mills/Miss L Fitton

Option Choices

Ebacc Cohort must choose a Language and a Humanities subject			
Main cohort must choose one from each option block			
A	B	C	D
Geography	Geography	Media	Triple Science
History	History	Hospitality & Catering	Food Technology
Computing	Computing	Health & Social Care BTEC	Business
Spanish	French	Dance	Graphics
French	Business BTEC	Art	Art
ASDAN (by invitation only)	Graphics NCFE	PE	ICT Cambridge Nationals
	Construction (by invitation only)	PE BTEC	Child Development
	Health & Social Care (Level 1) BTEC (by invitation only)	Drama	Drama
		ICT Cambridge Nationals	
		Princes Trust (by invitation only)	

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 2FA01

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 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.

How will I be assessed?

- The CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT which makes up the PERSONAL PORTFOLIO will allow students to demonstrate the culmination of skills learnt during Year 10 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.

What will I need to do?

You will be:

- 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?

CSE Art will teach you many new skills in the areas of drawing, painting, print making and sculpture. It develops researching skills and allows you to express personal ideas in an independent way.

Head of Subject: Ms G E Peterson

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

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.

Business Studies GCSE

Examining Board – AQA - 4133

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:

- Setting up a Business
- Growing as a Business
- Investigating Businesses

How will I be assessed?

- Setting up a Business is a written paper of 1 hour duration
- Growing as a Business is a written paper of 1 hour duration
- Investigating Businesses is a controlled assignment

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.

GCSE Hospitality and Catering Single Award

Examining Board – WJEC - 4730

What will I be studying?

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

- The Hospitality industry – food and drink
- Job roles, employment opportunities and relevant training
- Health, safety and hygiene
- Food preparation, cooking and presentation
- Nutrition and menu planning
- Costing and portion control
- Environmental considerations
- Specialist Equipment
- Communication and record keeping

How will I be assessed?

- Two practical tasks selected from a bank of WJEC set tasks. These will be internally assessed and will be worth 60% of the final mark.
- An externally set and marked paper containing short answer, structured and free response questions, this will be worth 40% of the final mark. This is a 1 hour 15 minutes examination.

How will I be taught?

The subject will be taught through a series of practical making activities and investigation tasks both in the classroom and through independent study. There is a written element to the course which covers the topics listed above. Work experience placements in the industry would be advantageous (though not offered as part of the course).

What will I need to do?

You will:

- 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 on the set tasks
- be prepared to work outside of the normal school hours
- be prepared to bring in your own ingredients

Why should I do this subject?

This course provides a vocationally related qualification and will allow you to develop your knowledge and skills within catering. It is a suitable qualification for those who want to progress to further education in catering and it will offer valuable preparation for those entering the world of work.

Child Development

Examining Board – AQA – Syllabus 4582

What will I be studying?

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

- Parenthood
- Pregnancy
- Diet, Health and care of the child
- Development of the child
- Support for the parent and child

How will I be assessed?

You will have to complete:

- A written examination worth 40% of your overall mark
- Two pieces of coursework – a child study, worth 40% of your overall mark
a research task worth 20% of the overall mark

How will I be taught?

You will learn through a variety of methods, including class presentations and debate, study of video material, visits from health care professionals and independent research and study.

What will I need to do?

To make progress on this course, you will need to:

- Research as much as you can about topics covered in class
- Work as hard as you can, both in lessons, and on your homework tasks
- Meet deadlines given for coursework
- Work independently

Why should I do this subject?

GCSE Home Economics: Child Development will give you a unique insight into the entire process of having a child, from preparing for a healthy pregnancy, through pregnancy and childbirth, to how to care for a baby and how it develops. You will learn about the different health professionals that are involved. This course is an excellent introduction for anyone considering a career in the health and/or childcare services.

Construction

Award Certificate/Diploma in Basic Construction Skills - 6218

What will I be studying?

During the two years of the course you will be studying a total of 10 units of work in order to achieve an overall pass in this course.

The units are;

- Woodwork
- Brickwork
- Basic Electricals
- Guttering

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 unaided. Students should be able to do this because 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 that are needed to achieve certification.

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

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 level one certificate and you can continue the course at college.

Dance

Examining Board – AQA GCSE Specification 4230

What will I be studying?

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

- The art of choreography, learning to structure dance, using core skills of: choreographic devices, form, dynamic qualities and performance skills. This unit will allow individuals to explore as a soloist and in small groups.
- A piece of dance set by the exam board to be performed as a solo for formal examination. The context of the piece will be analysed and interpreted to ensure understanding of where it derived from.
- To further develop group performance and choreographic skills, through the process of choreographing a group piece based upon your own stimulus/idea. 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 appreciate professional dance works, including two specified by the exam board.

How will I be assessed?

You will have to complete:

- Performance in a group/duo - 20%
- Performance of set study - 20%
- Choreography - 40%
- Written examination - 20%

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 teacher led practical with tasks set for you to explore different movement ideas, 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.

Drama

Examining Board – Pearson – Syllabus 2DR01

General Information and Course Requirements:

- AQA GCSE Drama is an exciting, creative and challenging course and has been designed to help students meet those challenges.
- AQA GCSE Drama will enrich your educational experience, as well as support your more traditional subjects.
- Drama is essential if you have an interest in a career in a creative industry or merely an interest in working with others in a team environment.
- The content of this course enables a smooth transition to an A Level in Drama and Theatre Studies and other Further Education courses.

Aims of the Course:

- To develop and demonstrate competence in a range of practical, creative and performance skills.
- To explore and actively engage in a wide range of creative and stimulating activities to develop as effective and independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds.
- To work imaginatively and creatively in collaborative contexts, generating, developing and communicating ideas.
- To develop performance skills but the merits of a Drama qualification do not end there. Transferable skills including communication, increased confidence/self-esteem, team work, leadership, cooperation, tolerance and empathy when working with others are some of the further skills developed during the GCSE Drama course.

Course Content:

- **AQA Unit 2: Practical Options**
- Students have a choice of the following options: Devised Thematic Work, Acting, Improvisation, and Theatre in Education. Physical Theatre, Set Design, Costume, Make-up, Properties, Masks, Puppets, Lighting, Sound, and Stage Management.
- **AQA Unit 1: Drama Examination Paper:**
The written paper comprises of three sections.
- A – Practical work completed during the course
- B – Study and performance of a scripted play
- C – Study of a live theatre production seen.

How will I be Assessed:

- Practical options are internally assessed and equate to 60% of the final grade. Assessment for these options takes into account the student's contribution during the preparation period as well as their final performance or design.
- The Drama examination paper is for 1 ½ hours and accounts for 40% of the final grade.
- The balance between the practical options and the examination paper gives students the best opportunity to succeed.

Food Technology

Examining Board – AQA GCSE – Syllabus 4545

What will I be studying?

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

- The functions and properties of food
- Food processes and manufacture
- The different ways of combining ingredients
- Product development and evaluation methods

How will I be assessed?

- Students complete a piece of coursework comprising of a Design and Make activity which will be worth 60% of the final mark.
- Students apply their knowledge and understanding of Food Technology through multiple choice, short-answer and extended-writing type questions. The examination paper set and marked by AQA which will be worth 40% of the final mark and lasts for 2 hours.

How will I be taught?

The subject will be taught through a series of practical making activities. There will also be written work based on research through analysis and evaluation as well as class discussion and debate to 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?

You will:

- 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 bring in your own ingredients for practice dishes in year 10, which you can take home and for the final coursework choice in year 11.**

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, planning, evaluating and providing for yourself through a healthy diet. It will also give you an understanding of food and its nutritional make up.

Geography

Examining Board – OCR – Specification (A) J382

What will I be studying?

- **Extreme environments:** What do we know about them and how people react to them, where they are found, what they are like, how people use them and what challenges they pose.
- **The Global Citizen:** Focusing on how people are connected to each other around the world and how the decisions we make can have positive and negative impacts on many different people around the world. This could include issues such as population change, our changing planet, the challenge of urban planning, trade, aid and superpowers.
- **Similarities and differences in settlements and population:** The study of two locations, Northampton and Mumbai.

How will I be assessed?

You will have to complete:

- Two written exams. 'Contemporary Themes in Geography', which is 1 hour and 45 minutes long and worth 50% of your grade and 'Geographical Skills', which is 1 hour and 15 minutes long and worth 25% of your grade.
- A controlled assignment worth 25%.

How will I be taught?

You will learn through a variety of teaching and learning methods, including whole class discussions, debates, role-plays, contemporary newsreel footage, making posters, ICT, presentations, field trips to name a few.

What will I need to do?

You will:

- be expected to undertake your own research by reading-up on what we are studying using the school and local libraries.
- try your best and work hard at all times.

Why should I do this subject?

Are you curious about places? Are you interested in other cultures, places and landscapes? Do you have strong opinions on the big issues in life? Are you a problem solver? Do you want to change the world for the better? Do you want to try and see the 'Big Picture'?

If you answered yes to these questions then you should choose Geography. Geography is helpful in supporting other subjects in school such as Science and English and is seen as a useful qualification by employers and Universities.

Graphic Design NCFE

Examining Board – NCFE – GCSE 'B' Equivalent

What will I be studying?

- How to communicate a message or concept through image and text.
- Develop knowledge and skills in Graphic Design.
- A range of different graphic media, including traditional and digital.
- A range of designing skills using a variety of materials.
- Solving graphic problems from given briefs in a professional setting.

How will I be assessed?

- You will sit four units. All four units will give an overview of the design process and each unit builds on the knowledge of the previous one.
- You will be marked by your subject teacher, then the work will be verified internally followed by external moderation.

Units of work:

During this two year course you will study four units relating to Graphic Design; you will be taught all the skills necessary such as idea generation, layout, drawing presentation and finishing techniques.

How will I be taught?

There will be a mixture of hand generated drawing and exploratory work as well as the use of digital media. You will also practice in different media in order to find your strengths and weaknesses.

What will I need to do?

You will:

- have a reasonable level of graphic skill and ability.
- complete all work by the deadlines given to you.
- use your imagination and creativity in a graphics context.
- follow the advice and guidance given by your teachers.
- follow the Health and Safety requirements of each unit of work studied.

Why should I do this subject?

This is a progression route for further study in design orientated courses and professions. It will help you to understand the skills needed for graphic design based careers; it will also help you to understand methods and strategies for communicating to various consumer groups.

Graphic Design - GCSE

Examining Board – OCR - GCSE – J303

What will I be studying?

- How to communicate a message or concept through image and text.
- Develop theory knowledge and skills in Graphic Design.
- A range of different graphic media, including traditional and digital.
- A range of modelling skills using a variety of materials.
- Solving graphic problems from given briefs.

How will I be assessed?

- You will sit three units. Two units which are practical for which you will research, design and make a product. The final unit is a written theory exam.
- You will be marked by your subject teacher, and then the work will be moderated externally.

Units of work:

During this two year course you will study three units relating to Graphic Design; you will be taught all the skills necessary such as colour theory, layout, drawing presentation and working drawings.

How will I be taught?

There will be a mixture of hand generated drawing and exploratory work as well as the use of digital media. You will also practice joining methods and making material types.

What will I need to do?

You will:

- have a high level of graphic skill and ability.
- complete all work by the deadlines given to you.
- use your imagination and creativity in a graphics context.
- follow the advice and guidance given by your teachers.
- follow the Health and Safety requirements of each unit of work studied.

Why should I do this subject?

This is a progression route for further study in design orientated courses and professions. It will help you to understand the skills needed for graphic design based careers; it will also help you to understand methods and strategies for communicating to various consumer groups.

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.

History GCSE

Examining Board – Pearson - Specification B SHP
Syllabus 2HB01

What will I be studying?

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

- The American West 1815–1890 – looking at the Native American Indians and how America was eventually taken over by Non-Native American Indians
- Crime and punishment in Britain through the ages – looking at types of crime, punishment and methods of enforcement over a 2000 year period.
- Aspects of British History in relation to WW1 or WW2 in preparation for the controlled assignment.

You will be following the Pearson Specification B SHP (2HB01) GCSE course.

How will I be assessed?

You will have to complete:

- three written examinations, worth 75% in total, taken at the end of the Year 11
- one controlled assignment comprising 3 questions completed in class worth 25 %

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 newsreel 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 of the school and/or local library.
- 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. It is an excellent foundation for Advanced Level study and because of the skills you will develop (research, analysis, use of evidence etc) it 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.

GCSE COMPUTING



Examining Board – OCR J461

This carefully planned course gives students a real, in depth understanding of how computer technology works. It offers an insight into what goes on 'behind the scenes', including computer programming, which many students find absorbing.

What I will gain from this qualification?

- Develop their understanding of current and emerging technologies and how they work
- Look at the use of algorithms in computer programs
- Become independent and discerning users of IT
- Acquire and apply creative and technical skills, knowledge and understanding of IT in a range of contexts.
- Develop computer programs to solve problems
- Evaluate the effectiveness of computer programs/ solutions and the impact of computer technology in society.

Why should I choose GCSE Computing?

- It's a great way to develop critical thinking, analysis and problem-solving skills, which can be transferred to further learning and to everyday life.
- Students who want to go on to higher study and employment in the field of Computer Science will find it provides a superb stepping stone.
- Exciting new resources: we are working with partners such as Raspberry Pi and Computing At School to invigorate the curriculum and develop new resources.
- Computer Science is now part of the English Baccalaureate and is included as one of the qualifications that count towards new school performance measures

What will I be studying?

There will be a scenario set by OCR within which learners should be able to identify a potential coded solution to a problem using basic programming techniques. The scenario will be sufficiently open to allow a variety of viable solutions.

How will I be assessed?

Unit A451: Computer systems and programming

This unit covers the body of knowledge about computer systems on which the examination will be based.

Assessment Method: 1 hour 30 minutes - Written paper (80 marks - 40%)

Unit A452: Practical investigation

An investigative computing task, chosen from a list provided by OCR, Controlled assessment which assesses the following: research, technical understanding, analysis of problem, historical perspective, use of technical writing skills, recommendations/evaluation.

Assessment Method: Investigative task. OCR-set scenario with a choice of research tasks. - (45 marks - 30%)

Unit A453: Programming Project

Students will need to:

- Understand standard programming techniques
- Be able to design a coded solution to a problem including the ability to:
 - Develop suitable algorithms
 - Design suitable input and output formats
 - Identify suitable variables and structures
 - Identify test procedures.
- Create a coded solution fully annotating the developed code to explain its function
- Test their solution:
 - To show functionality
 - To show how it matches the design criteria
 - Identifying successes and any limitations

Assessment Method:

- Controlled assessment.
- Programming task.
- Design, develop and test a solution to a problem within the OCR-set scenario (45 marks – 30%)

OCR Cambridge Nationals in ICT

Examining Board – OCR Oxford Cambridge & RSA

The OCR Cambridge Nationals are vocationally related qualifications that take an engaging, practical and inspiring approach to learning and assessment. They're industry relevant, geared to key sector requirements and very popular with schools and colleges because they suit such a broad range of learning styles and abilities. The new generation of Cambridge Nationals has been developed to ensure that they build upon the legacy and reputation of the existing qualifications.

Why should I choose OCR Cambridge Nationals?

ICT skills are essential for success in employment and higher education, and are among the fundamental transferable skills required by employers. Cambridge Nationals deliver these skills across the whole range of learning styles and abilities, effectively engaging and inspiring all students to achieve great things.

As part of the Cambridge Nationals, students will undertake the following units:

R001: Understanding Computer Systems

- Written exam based on a pre-release case study.
- Consists of two sections, each comprising short answer and extended response questions.

R002: Using ICT to create a business solution: Coursework

R006: Creating Digital Images: Coursework

R007: Creating dynamic products using sound and vision: Coursework

The OCR Cambridge Nationals is 75% coursework and 25% Examination. Students will be using industry standard software throughout the units listed above, such as Microsoft Access and Excel.

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 is one written exam which is worth 40% of your grade. This exam will be taken in the summer of Year 11.
- There are also three assignments, including a practical assignment, which combined are worth 60% 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!

Modern Foreign Languages

Examining Board – French – Pearson – Syllabus 2FR01
– Spanish – Pearson – Syllabus 2SP01

What will I be studying?

We offer French and Spanish. Both follow essentially the same course.

- Out and about
- Customer service and transactions
- Personal information
- Future plans, education and work

How will I be assessed?

Speaking – 30% of the course

- A discussion with your teacher about a photo or picture that you have brought in of something personal to you
- A short presentation about something that interests you

Writing – 30% of the course

- You will carry out two pieces of writing such as an article for a magazine, a web page, a blog or a letter

Listening comprehension – Foundation or Higher – 20% of the course

Reading comprehension – Foundation or Higher – 20% of the course

How will I be taught?

- talking about yourself, your family, your life and plans and views.
- understanding French/Spanish people.
- discussing contemporary issues such as health, relationships and lifestyles.
- reading about issues, such as the above.
- using French/Spanish in practical work situations.

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

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.

BTEC Level 2 First Award in Sport

Examining Board – Pearson – First Award

What will I be studying?

You will study the following core units:

1. Fitness for Sport and Exercise – Computer based exam
2. Practical Sports Performance
3. Training for Personal Fitness
4. Leading Sports Activities

How will I be assessed?

All units except Unit 1- Fitness for Sport will be assessed internally. The internal assessment may be written, through an interview or through a practical performance. Unit 1 is externally assessed. The external assessment will take the form of an on screen multiple choice test.

How will I be marked?

For each unit you will be graded with a pass, merit or distinction. Each grade is worth a certain number of credits. These credits are then added together to give you your final grade of pass, merit, distinction or distinction*.

What will I need to do?

You will be expected to:

- complete all coursework by the deadlines given to you
- have kit for all practical lessons

Why should I do this subject?

BTEC PE is a good option if you enjoy PE and it is an area that interests you. You must also be able to perform well in a range of different sports. It is a good starting point for those of you who wish to continue to study PE and Sport in the future.

GCSE PE



Examining Board – Pearson 2PE01

This course is only open to those students who are studying for the English Baccalaureate. You also need to be able to offer good practical performance levels in at least 3 sports.

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, 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 the role of player, official or leader in 4 different sports. They will also undertake an analysis of performance; identifying strengths and weaknesses of an athlete.

How will I be assessed?

40% 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. Half the marks in this unit are gained from studying the Healthy and Active Lifestyles module, the other half of the marks in this unit are gained from studying The Healthy and Active Body module.

60% of the marks are gained from The Performance in Physical Education unit; consisting of The Practical Performance module and the Analysis of Performance module. This section of the course is graded under controlled conditions throughout and is externally moderated. It is essential that you are able to gain good marks out of 10 in at least 3 different 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.

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.

Head of Subject: Mrs C Perrin

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.

Triple Science – Biology, Chemistry and Physics

Examining Board – OCR – Syllabus J263/J264/J265

This option is available to students who have achieved a Level 6 or above at the end of Key Stage 3.

What will I be studying in Triple Science?

In **Biology** you will study two units, broken down into these six topics:

- Paper 1**
- Unit 1 Understanding organisms
Fitness, health and genetic variation
 - Unit 2 Understanding our environment
Classification, energy flow through food chains and adaptations
 - Unit 3 Living and growing
The genetic code, life processes and genetic engineering
- Paper 2**
- Unit 4 It's a green world
Photosynthesis, plant structure and farming
 - Unit 5 The living body
The circulatory and respiratory systems, excretion and growth
 - Unit 6 Beyond the microscope
The biology of disease and enzymes in action

In **Chemistry** you will study two units, broken down into these six topics:

- Paper 1**
- Unit 1 Carbon chemistry
Hydrocarbons, polymers and smart paint
 - Unit 2 Chemical resources
The structure of the earth, reversible reactions and fertilisers
 - Unit 3 Chemical economics
Rates of reaction, mass and properties of substances
- Paper 2**
- Unit 4 The periodic table
Atomic structure, bonding and chemical and physical properties of elements
 - Unit 5 Quantitative analysis
How to measure and calculate quantities in chemistry
 - Unit 6 Chemistry out there
Electrolysis, fuels and the chemistry behind keeping clean

In **Physics** you will study two units, broken down into these six topics:

- Paper 1**
- Unit 1 Energy for the home
Heat and energy transfer
 - Unit 2 Living for the future
Generating electricity, nuclear power and Space
 - Unit 3 Forces and motion
Speed, energy in motion and car safety

Paper 2	Unit 4 Electricity, waves and radiation Electrostatics and radioactivity Unit 5 Space for reflection Motion, projectiles and waves Unit 6 Electricity for gadgets. Power generation, circuits and logic
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How will I be assessed?

For each GCSE - All 3 units are assessed by written papers at the end of Year 11, Paper one 1 hour 15 minutes, Paper two 1 hour 30 minutes, which contribute a total of 75% of the final grade. The other 25% comes from a controlled assessment, linked to a section of the course. This controlled assessment comprises three parts; planning, observing and concluding. Students will receive a separate grade for each subject.

How will I be taught?

Students will generally be taught by three specialist teachers, one for each subject. 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?

Triple Science without a doubt provides an excellent foundation for the continuation of Science at AS and A2 level. It offers an opportunity for students to familiarise themselves with the separate Sciences and to excel in one or all of them. However, it also offers students a chance to study a subject that they are genuinely interested in, even if they have no wish to take it to a more advanced level, but may give them a useful grounding in a chosen profession that may involve Science.

It's Crunch Time



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
 - ✓ Hair & Beauty covers 2 blocks
- ✓ Write your first and second choices on the sheet attached
 - ✓ Return your choices to Student Services
By Monday 9 March 2015
- You will need to be invited to join ASDAN / PRINCES TRUST / HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE LEVEL 1 & CONSTRUCTION

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.

	Option A	Option B	Option C	Option D
1 st choice in each column				
2 nd choice in each column				

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>Computing</i>	<i>French</i>	<i>Hospitality & Catering</i>	<i>Food Tech</i>
2 nd choice in each Column	<i>Spanish</i>	<i>Computing</i>	<i>Health & Social Care BTEC</i>	<i>Child Development</i>

Please return completed form to Mrs May in Student Services by
Monday 9 March 2015

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