



Year 8

Options Booklet 2024

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Introduction

We are pleased to introduce this year's Key Stage 4 Options Booklet. This guide has been designed to support Year 8 students and their parents/carers, through the exciting process of choosing their Key Stage 4 options and should be used in conjunction with our in person Options Evening on the 15th February 2024 and curriculum profiles which you will find on the Abbey College website <https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/curriculum>

At Abbey College we undertake the options process in Year 8 and operate a three-year Key Stage 4, to provide our students with 60 hours more learning per option subject than a two-year programme. This enables our students to have the right amount of dedicated time to study the content required for their new GCSE and BTEC courses.

As you may be aware, in 2016 the Government changed the way in which GCSEs are structured. Some of the main points to note about these changes include that students are now assessed using grades 9-1 instead of grades A-E and that for most subjects, students are now be assessed at the end of Year11. Very few GCSE subjects now include coursework or controlled assessments. Many of the exams are longer and contain a large amount of content, and with this in mind, we are recommending that students consider taking at least one vocational (BTEC) or creative option. For these courses, there are fewer examinations to sit and most include assignments at key points throughout the course as well as terminal exams. Vocational courses have also been reformed over the last few years, and as such they are now just as academically challenging as GCSEs and are viewed as such by schools, colleges and universities.

On page 4 of this booklet, you will see an illustration of our whole school learning journey. All students study a broad, balanced and aspirational core curriculum at Abbey College that represents the competitive academic range of subjects known as the English Baccalaureate (EBacc). This is a selection of subjects which offer breadth and balance as well as being viewed as "academic" and are therefore viewed positively by top universities. The EBacc qualification includes English, Maths, Science, a Humanity subject (Geography or History) and a Modern Foreign Language (Spanish).

Students, you have three preferences to choose from for your option subjects. The first preference is a choice between your preferred Humanity subject (History or Geography). The second and third preferences are free choices according to the option blocks. You should also choose a reserve subject; in case your first preference is not available. This is unlikely, but it is better to be safe than sorry.

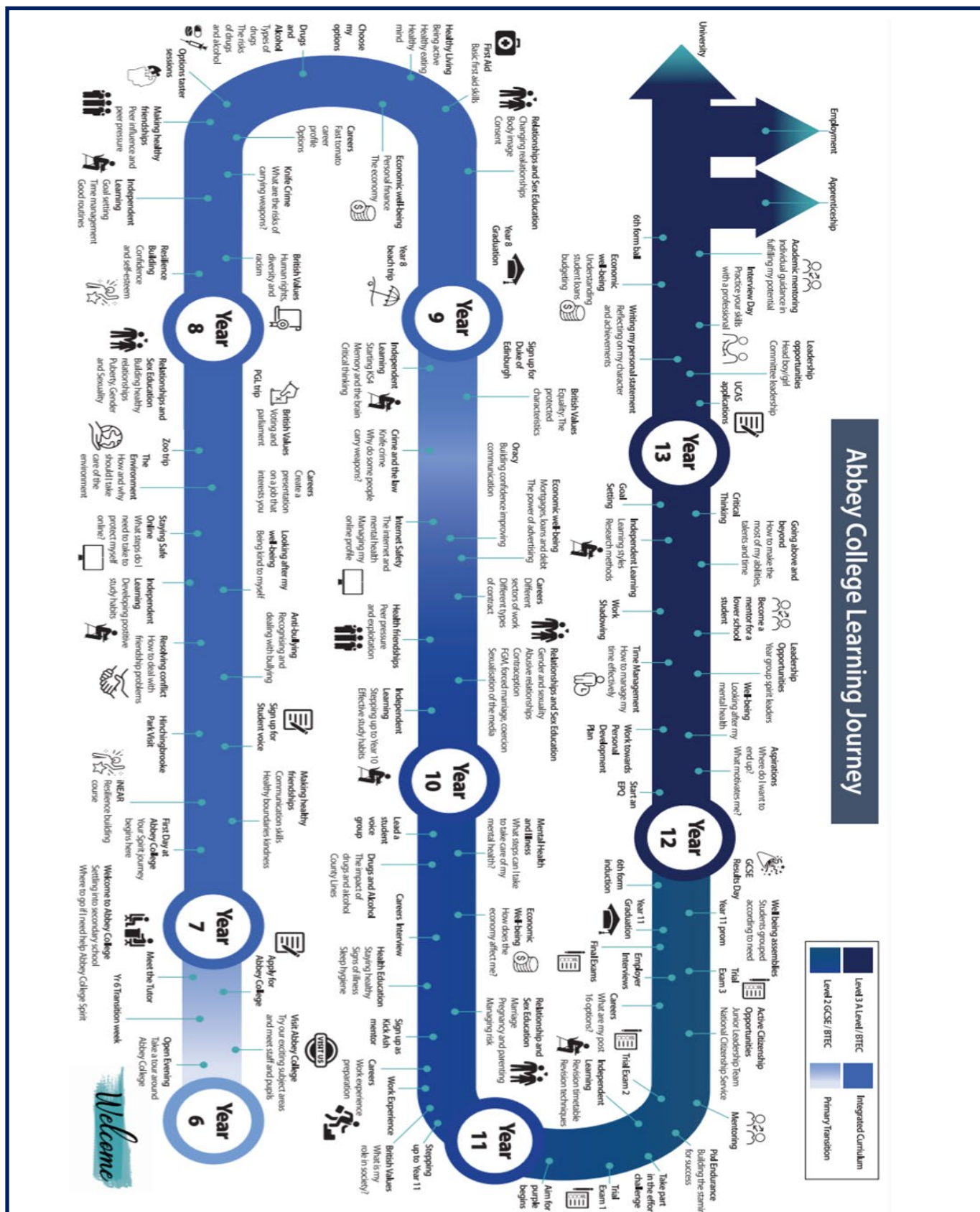
The courses that you follow in Key Stage 4 will influence how you spend a proportion of your school week, as well as affecting the direction of your learning and personal development. In addition, since the courses will lead to qualifications, these choices may affect your options for education after the age of sixteen, including further and higher education, as well as having a bearing on your career options. This means that the choices you make now are very important.

We encourage you to read through this booklet carefully, especially the key dates, curriculum journey and the information on each of the subjects (even those that you might not be considering), so that your final preferences are those that will give you the best experience at Key Stage 4.

Toward the back of this booklet, you will find details of Offers and Opportunities (OOPs) available to you now that you are about to enter Year 9. These are not a part of the options process but are activities that can further enhance your experience whilst at school and support applications to post 16 courses. We run a wide variety of extra-curricular activities at Abbey College, which you can find out more about from Ms Davey.

Please remember, your Teachers, Tutors and RSL along with the CEIAG Team, are here to support you, so if you have any questions, please do come, and ask. We hope that all students can find a suitable combination of subjects and that their Key Stage 4 studies will engage and motivate them to achieve the highest possible success in the future.

The Abbey College Learning Journey



Timeline for the Options Process



What is a GCSE or a BTEC Award?



What is a GCSE?

GCSE stands for General Certificate in Secondary Education. It is a qualification that is recognised and valued by schools, colleges, and employers. The qualification involves studying the theory of a subject, combined with some investigative work. Some subjects will also involve a practical element.

Changes to the GCSE grading

The grading system for GCSE's changed in 2016 and is now a number-based system. A grade nine is the highest grade and a one, is the lowest.

The New GCSE Grading System	The Old GCSE Grading System
9	A*
8	A
7	
6	B
5	C
4	
3	D
2	E
1	F
	G
U	U

What is a BTEC qualification?

The BTEC award is generally a more vocational qualification, which is assessed slightly differently to GCSEs. You can take a BTEC as a way of preparing for study at Post 16, for example a Level 3 BTEC Diploma or A-Levels in Sixth Form or College. Level 3 BTECs are recognised by many universities or applications to degree courses.

Dependent on the subject area, you will study a series of different units and complete several assignments and tests that link to the theory work and practical exercises you have completed. Internally assessed assignments are set and marked by your teacher but are subject to external verification. You will also be required to sit one exam. The grades available for a BTEC qualification are: Pass, Merit, Distinction or Distinction*.

- A **Pass** is equivalent to a GCSE grade 4
- A **Merit** is equivalent to a GCSE grade 5/6
- A **Distinction** is equivalent to a GCSE grade 7
- A **Distinction*** is equivalent to a GCSE grade 8/9

What makes a successful student?



The transition to KS4 can be challenging for many students, but we know that there are certain qualities that will stand you in good stead for success with your learning and your overall experience at school. These skills and qualities are already embedded within you, from your work at Key Stage 3, and from the ethos that we all demonstrate at Abbey College, in our Spirit values ***Humility, Intuition*** and ***Passion***.

To be successful, you will need to have:

- ***Perseverance, resilience and determination***
- ***Curiosity, creativity and open-mindedness***
- ***Communication, oracy and listening***
- ***Independence and participation***
- ***Planning, preparation and organisation***

Choosing your subjects

We understand that choosing your prospective career path, and therefore associated option subjects, may be a daunting task, but it need not be as there are lots of ways to help you make an informed decision.

Take your time to review all the subjects on offer in this booklet and reflect on what the taster lesson was about, as this will give you a good flavour for any subjects that are new to you. Talk to teachers of the subjects that you are interested in, to find out more about what is involved.

Visit the Abbey College Options Evening on the **15th of February 2024**.

As well as your teachers, you can contact Ms Pollard in the Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) Hub. You have had a Unifrog session in ICT lessons, in which you were asked to research careers of interest and the subjects that would be useful for these. Using your Unifrog profile is a really good way of linking your career interests to option subjects. If you have not yet completed your questionnaire, please try and do so before selecting your options.

Try to keep your options as open as possible and to choose subjects that you already enjoy, or that really interest you.

How to submit your option choices

Once you have made your choices and chosen a reserve, you should complete the example form on page 36, which you can keep for your reference. To submit your application, you should complete the online Options Form. This will go live on the website (<https://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/students/year-8-options>) and will be sent with a letter via Edulink detailing how to complete it, following the Options Evening on the **15th February 2024** as we want to give you the time to fully research and consider your choices before submitting them.

The form will be available until the **14th of March 2024**. Applications can only be submitted once, so please do not attempt multiple applications.

Can students change their mind?

We encourage you to thoroughly research the options available before choosing your preferred subjects, as changing courses after the timetable has been arranged is difficult to do. Any changes to option choices after the deadline will be on an individual basis with Mrs Craig.

Top tips for making the right choice.



Top tips for making the right choices.

When considering your option choices, you should try to balance the following factors:

- Interest
- Enjoyment
- Balance and broad choices

Do.....

- ✓ Remember that all courses are of an equal standard and value.
- ✓ Choose courses that you are interested in and likely to enjoy.
- ✓ Think about the variety within the curriculum as you select your subjects and try to arrive at a balance, which matches your interests and talents.
- ✓ Choose courses in which you are likely to achieve success, breadth and challenge.
- ✓ Choose courses that fit with your future needs; although the core curriculum is designed to provide breadth, a solid groundwork in a subject that you may want to continue with at Post 16 will be helpful.
- ✓ Remember that courses last for three years. You will not be able to change your mind in Year 10!
- ✓ Pay attention to the method of assessment and choose a subject where you can obtain a high level of marks.
- ✓ Find out more about careers you may be interested in. Which qualifications are needed for the different levels of entry? Researching this can provide you with a goal to focus on during your GCSE studies.
- ✓ Talk to your parents, your teachers and the CEIAG Team. They will not make the decision for you, but they will each be able to offer their own perspective.
- ✓ Try to be realistic in your choices. Commitments outside of school such as drama, music and sport are also important and should complement your academic choices.

Don't.....

- ✗ Choose subjects just because your friends are choosing them.
- ✗ Choose a subject just because you get on well with your teacher. You may well have a different teacher at KS4.
- ✗ Choose a subject you do not enjoy, just because it fits with your career needs. You may find that you change our mind about career choices many times.
- ✗ Base your choices on what your parents or carers choose (It is you, not your parents that will study the course for three years. Although we do encourage you to listen and consider parents' advice).
- ✗ Choose a new subject without researching what is required throughout the course. Speak to teachers, consider the taster lessons, and visit the Virtual Options Evening. Research is time never wasted!

The Key Stage 4 (KS4) Curriculum



In Year 9, students have an element of choice, which enables them to personalise their Key Stage 4 curriculum. There are, however, eight subjects that are compulsory for every student, these are the core subjects. The core GCSE curriculum follows the academically rigorous English Baccalaureate (EBacc) and offers every student an opportunity to become a scholar in an area that they are passionate about.

The Core Curriculum

Subject	Teaching hours per fortnight	Number of GCSEs	Summary information
English	9	2	All students will have the opportunity to achieve a GCSE in English Language and English Literature
Maths	9	2*	All students will achieve one GCSE in Maths and will have the opportunity to achieve a second GCSE in Statistics in Year 10
Science	9	2	All students will have the opportunity to study Biology, Chemistry and Physics separate sciences and will either gain two or three GCSE in science.
(MFL) Spanish	4	1	All students will achieve one GCSE in Spanish
Faith and Ethics	5	1	All students will achieve one GCSE in Faith and Ethics
Social Studies	2	0	Social studies is taken by all students to provide a platform for learning about contextual citizenship
PE	2	0	Core PE is taken by all students to embed the importance of good health, fitness, and wellbeing

Option Choice Blocks

Students can choose a further three subjects. One of these must be a humanity choice (Geography and or History) the other two are free choices. Students should also choose one reserve (from Block A, B or C), in case one of their initial preferences is not available.

Option A	Option B	Option C
Business	Computer Science	Art
Engineering	IT	Textiles
Drama	Health and Social Care	Combined Cadet Force (CCF)
Psychology	Sport studies	Music
Catering	Catering	Geography
Geography	Geography	History
History	History	

Higher Prior Attainers Project for Key Stage 4



As well as choosing your options this year, you are encouraged to think about a subject, topic or area of interest that you would like to learn more about. It could be that you are interested in the causes of global warming; whether animal testing should be allowed; whether VAR has enhanced or inhibited sporting performance, or even how the brain changes when you fall in love. The list is endless and is yours to decide. This will take place outside of curriculum time and thus you need to ensure that you are choosing an area you will be passionate about.

Don't worry, at this stage you do not need to have a specific project proposal in mind. You will complete a course of study throughout Year 9 and 10, which will include researching for a project about your chosen area of interest. This will involve using your pillar skills and developing a wide range of new ones, with the support of a supervisor. In completing your project, you will work towards an accredited qualification, known as a **Level 1 Foundation Project Qualification (FPQ)**, or a **Level 2 Higher Project Qualification (HPQ)**.

The list below shows you some ideas that are available. The pathways are wide ranging and the subjects next to each one provide an indication of the areas of study available to you. Consider how you like to learn. If you enjoy writing, you might want to choose a pathway such as Languages and Culture, or if you enjoy problem solving, you might want to choose STEM. Think wide, base it on what interests you.

Language and Culture	• English; MFL; History; Geography; Faith and Ethics
STEM	• Science; Technology (BITE); Engineering; Maths; Psychology
Creative Arts	• Arts, Crafts, Design; Catering; Textiles
Performing Arts	• Dance; Music; Drama
Sports	• Sporting Performance; Sporting Theory
Enterprise and Vocation	• Child Development; Health and Social Care; CCF, Enterprise (Business Studies)

The Benefits of the English Baccalaureate (EBacc)



Department
for Education

HELP YOUR CHILD MAKE THE BEST GCSE CHOICES

You and your child may currently be considering, with advice from their school, what GCSE subjects they should take next year.

The Department for Education recommends these core subjects, which make up the English Baccalaureate (EBacc), and help keep options for young people open:

- English language and English literature
- Maths
- Science
Combined science or 3 single sciences from Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Computer science
- History or Geography
- A language
Ancient or modern

WHAT IS THE EBACC?

The EBacc is not a qualification in its own right – it's a combination of GCSE subjects, including a language, that offer an important range of knowledge and skills to young people.

EBACC FUTURE PROOFS YOUR CHILD'S PROSPECTS

While your child may not have decided on their future career path yet, choosing the EBacc at GCSE gives them access to a full range of employment options when they leave secondary school and the broad knowledge that employers are looking for.

If they are thinking of going to university, the EBacc is also recommended by Britain's most prestigious universities.



The research found that students studying EBacc subjects for GCSE, were more likely to stay in education after 16.

The Centre for Longitudinal Studies,
August 2017

LANGUAGES GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE A COMPETITIVE EDGE

11

Languages are an important part of EBacc. Studying a foreign language can be extremely rewarding and exciting. They provide an insight into other cultures and can open the door to travel and employment opportunities. They can also broaden pupils' horizons, helping them flourish in new environments.

If your child finds languages difficult, don't forget that they will have been studying them for much less time than their other subjects and, while it can be a challenge, learning a language will greatly enhance their future opportunities.

What's more, we know that employers value languages, as they are increasingly important to make sure we can compete in the global market. Because of this, languages are increasingly becoming a requirement for many graduate schemes, such as those offered by Lidl.

"Having language skills under your belt will help make you stand out from the crowd, whether you're applying for an entry level position, a management role or an internal transfer."

Steve Cassidy, Senior Vice President & Managing Director, UK & Ireland, Hilton

The Russell Group has named languages as subjects that open doors to more degrees at universities.

(The Russell Group is a group of 24 universities with a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement)

"Young people skilled in the languages of Europe, China and other key markets around the world, can look forward to exciting and rewarding careers."

Dr Adam Marshall, Director General of the British Chambers of Commerce

WHAT ABOUT ARTS AND MUSIC?

While arts and music are not included in the EBacc, every child should still experience a high-quality arts and cultural education throughout their time at school as part of a balanced curriculum. If your child can take 9 GCSEs, they will have either 1 or 2 further options and can choose subjects based on their wider interests like art or music as well as others such as physical education or technology.

Schools where more pupils select the EBacc at GCSE maintain the number of pupils that select arts.

Trends in arts subjects in schools with increased EBacc entry July 2017



Further Information

Search EBacc on GOV.UK for more information.

You should also get in touch with your child's school directly — they will be able to tell you about their specific GCSE and EBacc offer and explain all of your child's options.

English Language and Literature (Core Curriculum)



What does the course involve?

In English Language, you will gain an understanding of how different texts are formed for different audiences and purposes and learn to craft your own and analyse a range from the 1800s to present day.

In English Literature, you will study a 19th century novel, a collection of conflict poetry, a Shakespearean play and a post-1914 play, developing your analytical skills.

Assessment:

Assessment is through 4 exams in Year 11.

- o Language Paper 1: 19th Century extracts and imaginative writing (40%)
- o Language Paper 2: Non-fiction and transactional writing (60%)
- o Literature Paper 1: Shakespeare and post-1914 play (50%)
- o Literature Paper 2: 19th Century novel and poetry (50%)

Teachers:

Ms Stollery
Mrs Coxon
Miss O'Connell
Mrs Smithson-Ingrey
Mrs Taylor
Mrs Holden
Mrs Edwards

Exam Board:

edexcel

What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Dystopian fiction
- o A post-1914 novel
- o Othello
- o Non-fiction and transactional writing
- o Poetry

Year 10:

- o 19th Century fiction
- o Imaginative writing
- o A set 19th century novel
- o Conflict and unseen poetry
- o An Inspector Calls

Year 11:

- o Non-fiction and transactional writing
- o Shakespeare
- o Exam preparation



English will help you to consider a wider range of audiences and the needs of others when writing.



You will be given many opportunities to reflect on the how our beliefs, attitudes and actions impact other people.



You will be encouraged to express your views clearly on a range of issues, through discussion and written work.

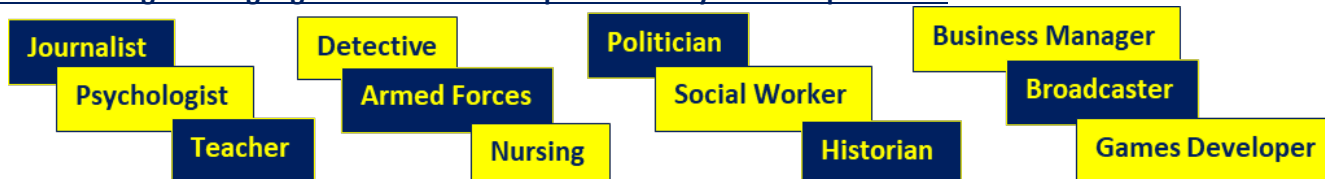
How do current students feel about this course?

"English Language has helped me to write to a higher standard that will help me get a job in later life."

"I didn't think I'd enjoy Shakespeare, but the plot is quite interesting! The psychology behind some of the characters makes me think about my own life and the decisions I make."

"I like the variety of lessons that we get in English. The teachers make a real effort to make them consistently fun and interesting."

How can English Language and Literature help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using English:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/english>

Faith and Ethics (Core GCSE Curriculum)



What does the course involve?

You will gain an understanding of the role of religion in the world by studying the key beliefs, teachings and practices of Christianity and Islam.

In addition to this you will consider and reflect on several ethical issues including relationships, human rights and life after death.

Assessment:

Assessment is through 2 exams in Year 11.

- o Paper 1: Themes (50%)
- o Paper 2: Christianity & Islam (50%)

Teachers:

Miss Clements
Miss Dowd
Mrs Hemraj
Mrs Noble
Dr Stiopu
Mrs Fogarty-Hari
Dr Stiopu



Exam Board:

What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Crime & Punishment
- o Christian Beliefs
- o Relationships

Year 10:

- o Islamic Beliefs
- o Human rights
- o Christian practices

Year 11:

- o Religion & Life
- o Islamic practices
- o Exam preparation

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Faith and Ethics will help you to embrace working with people from a wide range of backgrounds.



You will be given many opportunities to reflect on the how our beliefs, attitudes and actions impact other people.



You will be encouraged to express your views clearly on a range of issues, through discussion, debate and written work.

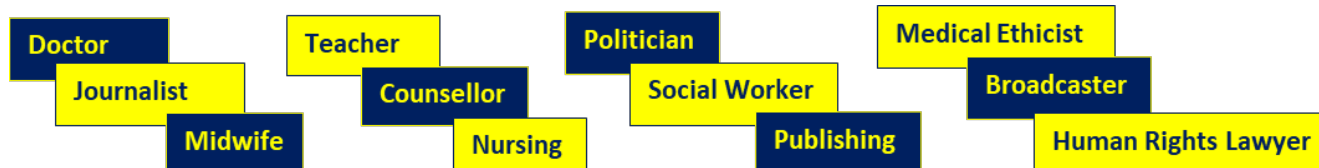
How do current students feel about this course?

"Faith and Ethics makes you more aware of the world around you and allows you to appreciate diversity."

"It is interesting to understand how religion has shaped so much around us; from the laws, festivals, our school holidays and even the food we eat."

"The best thing about Faith and Ethics is the discussions and debates. It is the only subject where you can ask questions about why we are here."

How can Faith and Ethics help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Faith and Ethics:
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/theology-and-religious-studies>

What does the course involve?

You will have the opportunity to explore and discuss a range of topics that will help you to navigate life as a teenager as well as preparing you for adult life.

Assessment:

Social Studies is a non-examined course and therefore you will not be formally assessed.

We will regularly survey you about what you have learnt to make sure that you have a good understanding of the topics covered and that you are able to help us to shape your curriculum according to your needs.

Teachers:

Miss Harris Clements
Mrs Fogarty-Hari
Dr Stiopou
Miss Dowd
Mrs Noble

Exam Board:

You will not get a formal qualification from Social Studies

What will I study on this course?

- Equality and the Protected characteristics
- Oracy
- Economic well-being
- Relationships
- Knife crime & the law
- Mental health and well-being
- Drugs and alcohol
- Careers
- Relationships
- Building study stamina
- Mental Health and Well-being



Social Studies will help you to build humility through developing your understanding of other people.



Your intuitive skills will be developed through group work, discussions and listening to the views of others.



You will be encouraged to show passion by contributing to your class and actively engaging in shaping our community.

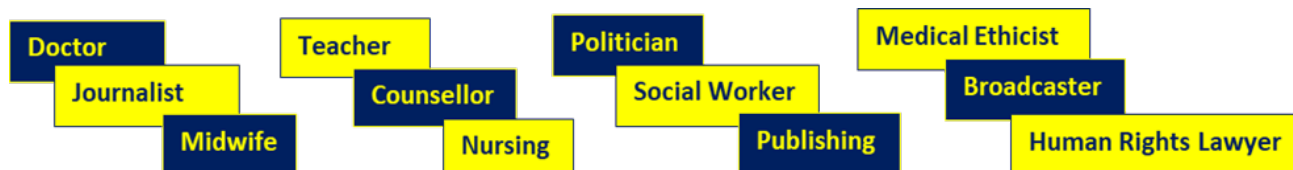
How do current students feel about this course?

"I really enjoy social studies because the topics are really interesting, the lessons are engaging and it's a very helpful lesson."

"I like social studies as it allows me to explore different cultures and learn about them."

"I have found it useful that we are learning about other people and their emotions."

How can Social Studies help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Social Studies:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/sociology>

Mathematics (Core Curriculum)



What does the course involve?

The aim of GCSE study in Year 9 is to begin to build upon the key constructs of the year 7/8 curriculum. The curriculum is designed to allow students to follow a curriculum that underpins both foundation and higher content. For the vast majority of students, tiers of entry are decided by the end of Year 10.

Students will study some additional Statistics content in year 9 and 10 which will allow them to access an additional GCSE qualification in Statistics if they choose to do this. Students who are working at grade 7 or higher by the beginning of year 11 have the option to take an addition level 2 Further Maths qualification that bridges the gap to A Level study.

The key skills for each topic are taught in a way that promotes deep understanding. Students then develop fluency through reasoning and problem solving. In Year 11 a greater focus is put upon exam technique and cross topic fluency. Time is allowed for students to develop as independent learners and refine and improve their own mathematical ability.

How do current students feel about this course?

"In Maths we are able to use a variety of apps and websites to help support our learning, both at home and on the go."

"In Maths we learn by applying ideas to real life situations."

Assessment:

Assessment is through 3 exams in Year 11. Performance in the 3 papers makes up 100 % of the GCSE grade.

Each paper is 1 hour 30 minutes long.

- o Paper 1: Non-Calculator
- o Paper 2: Calculator
- o Paper 3: Calculator

Exam Board:



Teachers:

Dr Pinnock
Dr Oswell
Mrs Moodley
Mrs Scott
Miss Beel
Mr Christoforou
Ms Thistlethwaite
Miss Sidorowicz
Mr Painter
Ms Tiller

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Mathematics allows you the opportunity to study the same ideas as everyone else across the world.



You will be learning about real life situations which are maths related, whilst applying learned skills to solve problems. Careers lessons will help you to relate your mathematical skills and knowledge to the world of work.



You will be encouraged to explain your understanding of mathematical principles in relation to problem solving.

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Mathematics allows you the opportunity to study the same topics as everyone else across the world.



You will be learning about real life situations which are maths related, whilst applying learned skills to solve problems.



You will be encouraged to explain your understanding of mathematical principles in relation to problem solving.

What will I study on this course?

The Maths syllabus is divided into 6 strands which are covered in the approximate ratios below for the 2 tiers of entry – Higher and Foundation.

There is a heavy emphasis on problem solving as opposed to recall or simple skills.

Foundation is split into:
25% Number, 20% Algebra, 25% Ratio and Proportion, 15% Geometry and 15% Statistics and Probability

Higher is split into:
15% Number, 30% Algebra, 20% Ratio and Proportion, 20% Geometry and 15% Statistics and Probability

How can Mathematics help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Mathematics:
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/mathematics>

Science (Core Curriculum)



What does the course involve?

You will follow the course as three separate GCSE subjects, Biology, Chemistry and Physics.

You will gain a broad understanding of the key concepts in all three sciences and will develop an understanding of the impact that Science has in the modern world.

Practical work is an integral part of the course, allowing you develop a wide range of practical skills.

Assessment:

Assessment is through 2 exams in Year 11 for each subject. Each paper is 1 hour 45 minutes.

Exam Board:



Teachers:

Mrs Batchford
Mr Huggins
Mr Hodges
Mrs Craig
Ms Qureshi
Ms Quinlan
Mr Tuffin

What will I study on this course?

Biology:

Cell biology; Organisation; Infection and response; Bioenergetics; Homeostasis and response; Inheritance, variation and evolution; Ecology.

Chemistry:

Atomic structure and the periodic table; Bonding, structure and the properties of matter; Quantitative chemistry; Chemical changes; Energy changes; The rate and extent of chemical change; Organic chemistry; Chemical analysis; Chemistry of the atmosphere; Using resources.

Physics:

Energy; Electricity; Particle model of matter; Atomic structure; Forces; Waves; Magnetism and electromagnetism; Space.

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Science will help you to embrace working with people from a wide range of backgrounds.



You will be given many opportunities to investigate scientific concepts with real world applications.



You will be encouraged to express your views clearly on a range of issues, through investigation, discussion and written work.

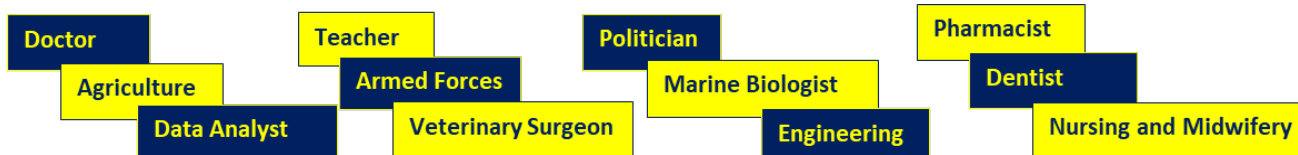
How do current students feel about this course?

"I love science. The teachers make it really interesting and relevant to the world around us."

"I really enjoy doing practical investigations, because I can make predictions and then try to prove them."



How can Triple Science help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Science:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/biology>

Spanish (Core Curriculum)



What does the course involve?

Our objective is to enable students of all abilities to develop their Spanish language skills to their full potential, equipping them with the knowledge to communicate in a variety of contexts with confidence. We strongly believe in languages as a skill for life and something students should enjoy and find rewarding. Our hope is that students develop awareness and understanding of the culture and identity of the countries and communities where Spanish is spoken.

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



You will be given the opportunity to develop an interest in other cultures.



You will be given many opportunities develop essential study skills such as identifying patterns, deducing rules, training your memory and developing creativity.



You will be encouraged to proactively listen and be resilient in your learning, by working hard to overcome obstacles.

Assessment:

Assessment is through 4 exams in Year 11.

- o Paper 1: Listening (25%)
- o Paper 2: Speaking (25%)
- o Paper 3: Reading (25%)
- o Paper 4: Reading (25%)

Exam Board:



Teachers:

Ms Stevenson
Mrs Powell
Miss Shakespeare
Mr Wilshaw
Mrs Baxter

What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Me, my family and friends
- o Technology in everyday life
- o My studies
- o Life at school/college
- o Travel and tourism



Y10:

- o Free-time activities
- o Home, town, neighbourhood and region
- o Education Post 16
- o Jobs, career choices and ambitions

Year 11:

- o Social and global issues
- o Customs and festivals I Spanish speaking countries/communities

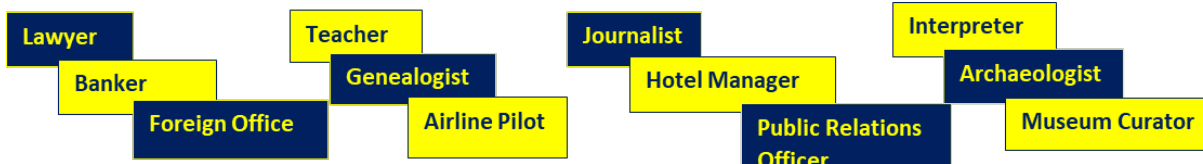
How do current students feel about this course?

"Spanish is super bien because you learn so much fun vocabulary."

"The lessons are great because they boost your confidence and ability to speak the language."

"Learning Spanish opened up a world of new interests for me."

How can Spanish help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Spanish:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/modern-languages>

Higher Prior Attainers Project Programme (Core offer)



What does the course involve?

The programme is a student led, project based opportunity that will enable students to capitalise on the pillar skills developed throughout Key Stage 3, whilst developing skills in leadership, research, independent thinking and critical analysis.

The outcome will be a qualification equivalent to half a GCSE, this will help students to develop their research and reflection skills. This will build towards the Extended Project Qualification many students choose to take post 16.

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



You will be given the opportunity to develop an interest in wider areas outside of the traditional curriculum.



You will develop skills in critical analysis, independent thinking, research and leadership.



You will be given the opportunity to undertake primary research in a topic that you are passionate about.



Assessment:

Assessment is through:

- o Level 1 FPQ or Level 2 HPQ Project

Accrediting Board:



What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Study skills
- o Secondary research
- o Project planning
- o Reflective pieces

Year 10:

- o Primary research
- o Project implementation
- o Project presentation and evaluation

Language and Culture	• English; MFL; History; Geography; Faith and Ethics
STEM	• Science; Technology (BITE); Engineering; Maths; Psychology
Creative Arts	• Arts, Crafts, Design; Catering; Textiles
Performing Arts	• Dance; Music; Drama
Sports	• Sporting Performance; Sporting Theory
Enterprise and Vocation	• Child Development; Health and Social Care; CCF

How can I apply for this course?

You will receive further information in the Options assemblies about the project and what it entails. You will then have an opportunity to apply to the Higher Prior Attainers lead and complete an Interview which will help you to decide on the nature of your project.

Please click the links for further information about the [FPQ](#) and [HPQ](#) Qualification.

How can the Higher Prior Attainers Project Programme help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using the skills developed from earning your scholarship: <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/projects/project-qualifications/PQ2-7992>

Geography (Humanity Option)



What does the course involve?

You will be presented with a relevant and diverse course that will allow you to appreciate the link between the physical and human world.

You will travel around the planet within the classroom analysing topics such as climate change, the impact of natural disasters and how the urban environment is changing how we live.

What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Natural hazards
- o Coasts
- o Rivers
- o The living world

Year 10:

- o Urban environments
- o Changing economic world
- o Resource management

Year 11:

- o Revision of all units and focus on exam technique and practice. Fieldtrip component and analysis.

Assessment:

Assessment is through 3 exams, covering 5 units in Year 11.

- o Living with the physical environment (35%)
- o Challenges in the human environment (35%)
- o Geographical Applications (30%)

Teachers:

Ms Sharpley
Miss Coleman

Exam Board:



How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Geography will help you to understand how humans are responsible for our environment.



You will be given many opportunities to consider different attitudes and viewpoints within society.



You will be encouraged to employ reasoning and problem solving skills in Geography lessons.

How do current students feel about this course?

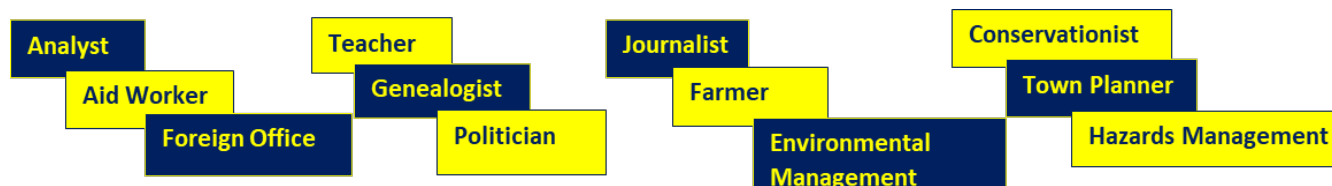
"Geography enables you to broaden your horizons and to appreciate how complex our world is."



"It is fascinating to find out about the different processes that affect our planet and how that shapes people's lives."

"Geography allows you to learn about environmental problems and solutions."

How can Geography help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Geography
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/geography>

History (Humanity Option)



What does the course involve?

You will develop and understanding of the processes that shape our world.

Learn how to evaluate a range of evidence and explain changes through precise analytical writing.

Assessment:

Assessment is through 3 exams, covering 4 units in Year 11.

Weighting:
Paper 1 30%; Paper 2 40%; Paper 3 30%

Teachers:

Mr Patterson
Ms Jones
Mr Gawronski
Mr Hedges

Exam Board:



How do current students feel about this course?

"I really enjoy the group work, it helps us to understand the topics we study."

"I like the subjects we study in GCSE History, especially the one's about the 20th century."

"I like the way that lessons are taught, the teachers make things easy to understand."

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Working with a range of people in a group when researching aspects of the course and finding out about the lifestyles of people over time.



Seeking feedback and reflecting on it when completing research as class or home work.



Using reasoning and organisation to solve problems with evidence and explanations.

What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Early Elizabethan England, 1558-1588.
- o Crime and punishment in Britain, c1000–present and Whitechapel, c1870–c1900: crime, policing and the inner city.

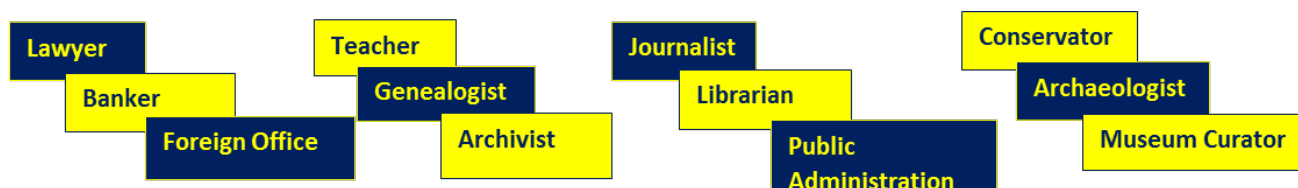
Year 10:

- o Continue with Crime and punishment.
- o Weimar and Nazi Germany, 1918–39.

Year 11:

- o Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941–91
- Revision of all units and focus on exam technique and practice.

How can History help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using History:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/history>

Art, Craft and Design



What does the course involve?

The course involves the development of independent, creative ideas and high quality outcomes. Students will work with resilience to self-lead their thematic projects with organisation and confidence.

Students will be taught to hone their mastery of art and design techniques, with a range of materials and media.

What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Introductory skills project
- o Unit 1 Coursework
- o Personal theme Folder 1

Year 10:

- o Unit 1 Coursework
- o Personal theme folder 2
- o Personal theme folder 3

Year 11:

- o Personal theme folder 3
- o Unit 2 Exam folder

Teachers:

Miss Gerrard-Cook
Mrs Wibberley

Exam Board:



Assessment:

Assessment is through 100% Coursework and 2 x 10 hour Practical Exams

Unit 1: 60% of GCSE

Unit 2: 40% of GCSE

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



You will learn to develop a greater sense of humility through learning about a range of different people and cultures through investigations.



You will be willing to take on constructive feedback to make improvements and progress in your work.



You will proactive, manage your own time and develop organisational skills. You should also develop a strong sense of pride through the presentation of your coursework.

How do current students feel about this course?

"I enjoyed the GCSE Art course because I worked towards a set goal to create a final piece, and I like that we were encouraged to make it personal to us."

"I enjoy Art, Craft and design because when you work hard and it turns out well, it is a very rewarding feeling."

"It's a way to express yourself and be creative. It is also a subject where you get a lot of support from the teachers."



How can Art, Craft and Design help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Art, Craft and Design:
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/fine-art>

BTEC Award Combined Cadet Force (CCF)



What does the course involve?

The course involves Skill at Arms training, followed by shooting opportunities. You will learn to use maps and a compass, along with first aid, military tactics, drill, field craft and expedition training.

You will develop leadership skills through a range of exciting activities.

What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Basic syllabus

Year 10:

- o 1* and 2*

Year 11:

- o 3* and 4*



Assessment:

Assessment is through practical skills demonstrated through leading younger cadets.

Some written tasks are required for the BTEC qualification.

Staff

Cpt R. Tichanow (Contingent Commander)
Lt D. Eardley (School Staff Instructor)
Lt D. Coleman
Lt C Thistlethwaite
Lt A. Thompson (Skills at Arms instructor)
SI J. Patterson
PI J. Gawronski

Exam Board:



How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



CCF will help you to embrace working with people from a wide range of backgrounds during weekend exercises and camps.



You will work with others to achieve your full potential and have a positive impact on the potential of others.



You will be encouraged to work independently and as a team to solve problems and overcome obstacles.

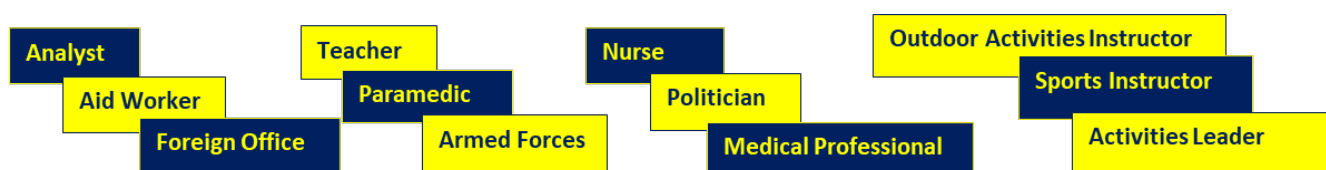
How do current students feel about this course?

"CCF has helped me to become more confident and resilient. I love every part of it! You get to do things that are more hands on."

"I enjoy CCF, especially weapons training. I have valued taking part in weekend camps and getting to meet new people."

"I was immensely proud and thoroughly enjoyed hearing about the trip from my son. In fact, he could not stop talking about it for several days. The trip was a huge success." Abbey College Parent.

How can CCF help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using CCF:

<https://combinedcadetforce.org.uk/>

Computer Science



What does the course involve?

In this course you will develop skills in System architecture, memory and storage, computer networks and their security.

You will also learn about System software, Boolean Logic, programming skills, as well as the ethical, legal, and environmental impact of technology.

Assessment:

Assessment is through two written exam papers:

Computer Systems (1 hour 30minutes)
– 50% of GCSE

Computational Thinking, Algorithms and Programming (1 hour 30minutes)
– 50% of GCSE

Teachers:

Mr Tichanow
Mr Thompson
Mr Stebbing

Exam Board:



What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- Architecture of CPU
- Data Storage
- Boolean Logic

Year 10:

- Algorithms
- System software
- Programming

Year 11:

- Networks topology and security
- Exam preparation

Attributes for success in this course:

- An enjoyment of Maths

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



You will be discussing impact of modern technology on environment and ethical issues associated with technological progress.



You will learn how to respond to feedback when working on programming projects.



You will need to independently solve problems when learning programming, learning Boolean Logic and working with binary and hexadecimal number systems.

How do current students feel about this course?

This new course has many opportunities for students to take part in extra-curricular projects and technology related competitions.

"Computer Science provides excellent problem-solving skills using computers that can be applied in a wide range of careers." Mrs. Warne.

How can Computer Science help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Computer Science:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/computer-science>

Information Communications Technology (ICT)



What does the course involve?

You will learn about:

How IT can be used to fulfil the needs of organisations and individuals.
 How data and information is used and transferred
 The legal, moral, ethical, cultural and environmental impacts of IT and the need for cybersecurity.
 How IT can be used to fulfil the needs of organisations and individuals.
 How data and information is used and transferred.
 Why data must be fit for purpose and how input data is checked for errors.

What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o How IT can be used to fulfil the needs of organisations and individuals
- o How data and information is used and transferred

Year 10:

- o Legal, moral, ethical, cultural and environmental impacts of IT and the need for cybersecurity Data Storage
- o Planning, creating, modifying and using databases

Year 11:

- o Planning, creating, modifying and using spreadsheets
- o Planning, creating and modifying an automated document and manipulating images

Assessment:

Unit 1: ICT in Society On-screen examination:
 1 hour 20 minutes 40% of qualification

Unit 2: ICT in Context Controlled assessment:
 40 hours 60% of qualification

Teachers:

Mr Thompson
 Mr Stebbing

Exam Board:



How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



You will be discussing the impact of modern technology on environment and ethical issues associated with technological progress.



You will learn how to respond to feedback when working on spreadsheet and database projects.



You will need to independently solve problems.

How do students feel about this course?

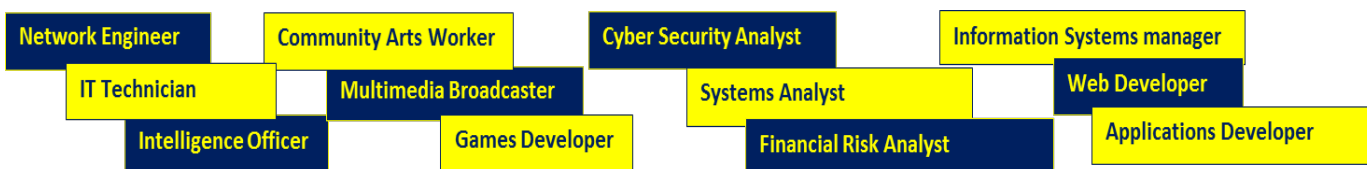
"ICT offers me excellent, practical skills I can use in any future career."

"ICT has helped me to build project management and numeracy skills, as well as to think more logically when solving problems".

"There are lots of opportunities to take part in projects and technology competitions".



How can ICT help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using ICT

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/information-systems>

Drama



What does the course involve?

The Drama GCSE course consists of:

Understanding Drama, in which students will develop their knowledge and understanding of how drama and theatre is developed and performed. Students will also develop the ability to analyse and evaluate the live theatre.

Devising Drama, in which students will create and develop ideas to communicate meaning in a theatrical performance.

Texts in practice in which students will develop the ability to interpret texts, create and communicate meaning and realise artistic intention in text-based drama.

What will I study on this course?

Year 9 - 11:

- o Roles and responsibilities
- o Performance skills
- o Working with a text
- o Blood Brothers
- o Devising from a stimulus
- o Live theatre
- o Set design
- o Costume design
- o Analysing performance work

Assessment:

Component 1: Understanding Drama (40%)
Component 2: Devising Drama (40%)
Component 3: Texts in Practice (20%)

Teachers:

Miss Davey
Miss Pollock

Exam Board:



How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Drama will help you embrace working with people from a wide range of backgrounds.



You will be given many opportunities to work within a creative setting and develop your personal skills.



You will be encouraged to build your confidence and develop your creativity and performance skills.

How do current students feel about this course?

"Drama has allowed me to express myself more and gives me freedom to find new ways of developing my performance skills."

"I have been able to build my confidence while working with like-minded people to develop our creativity."

"The best thing about Drama is being able to create performances that display a wide variety of themes."



How can Drama help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Drama

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/drama>

BTEC Award in Engineering with STEM Silver Crest Award



What does the course involve?

This exciting and challenging course will introduce you to the engineering sector, which covers a wide range of rapidly developing areas including: Renewable energy, low carbon production, aerospace, automotive and bioscience.

You will develop important knowledge and develop skills with a practical learning environment.

You will have the opportunity to build on your STEM Bronze award from Years 7&8 and will be entered for a Silver Crest Award. This additional award will run alongside your Engineering Course.

What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Marking out skills
- o Properties of metals
- o Engineering processes
- o CAD skills

Year 10:

- o Key practical and technical skills and measurement
- o Making prototypes and CAD work
- o Research and planning

Year 11:

- o Engineering Processes and manufacturing skills
- o Responding to a CAD brief

Assessment:

The Cambridge National Engineering Manufacture qualification includes:
R14- The exam unit Principles of Engineering Manufacture
R15- Manufacturing a One off Product (this is a workshop practical task)
R16 -Manufacturing in Quantity (This is a CAD/CNC task)

Teachers:

Mr Austin

Exam Board:



How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Engineering will help you embrace working with people from a wide range of backgrounds.



You will be expected to make a valuable contribution as part of a group by offering feedback and suggestions to others.



You will be encouraged to work independently, be creative and to work towards clear deadlines.

How do current students feel about this course?

"The best bits about Engineering are the teamwork, class discussions, solving problems and work independently in the workshop."

"Engineering makes me feel like I have achieved something. I love the CAD work and having the opportunity to work on the machines myself. Engineering is a great course, and I am so glad I chose it."

"STEM in Year 9 gives me an opportunity to achieve a STEM Silver Crest Award, which builds on my bronze from last year. STEM is fun and I really want to aim for my Silver Award."

BTEC Award in Enterprise



What does the course involve?

You will gain an understanding of creating and developing enterprises through the study of small to medium enterprises (SME's). You will be exploring the various stages of enterprise, such as starting up and establishing, as well as what success for many enterprises looks like.

This course will teach you finance and the management of an enterprise's basic accountancy.

Assessment:

Assessment is through two coursework pieces and one exam in Year 10.

Component 1: Exploring Enterprise (30%)
Component 2: Planning for and pitching and enterprise activity (30%)
Component 3: Promotion and finance for enterprise exam (40%)

Teachers:

Mr Thompson

Exam Board:



What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Business idea generation
- o Marketing and promotion
- o Financial forecasting

Year 10:

- o Purpose of enterprise
- o Entrepreneurial skills and characteristics
- o Types of enterprise

Year 11:

- o Financial documentation
- o Profitability and liquidity
- o Sources of finance

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Enterprise will help you to use reasoning and organisation to solve problems.



You will be given any opportunities to seek, reflect and act on feedback.



Enterprise will help you to become more proactive and give you skills to overcome obstacles.

How do current students feel about this course?

"Enterprise has given me excellent employability skills that I can use in a wide range of careers."

"I like that the course is mainly coursework, as it helps me to know what my grade will be before the end of Year 11."

"This course is helping me to become an entrepreneur in the future, so that I can run my own business."

How can Enterprise help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/business-management>

BTEC Tech Award in Health & Social Care



What does the course involve?

Through a combination of practical experience and written assignments, this BTEC course provides students with the knowledge, skills and understanding needed for a career in the health care sector.

You will develop a range of practical skills and techniques, through completing a selection of units that are essential for successful performance in working life.

Assessment:

The course consists of:
One examined unit (40%)
Two internally assessed assignments (30% each)

Teachers:

Mrs Sims

Exam Board:



What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Human lifespan development (coursework assignment)

Year 10:

- o Health and Social Care services and values (coursework assignment)

Year 11:

- o Health and wellbeing (external examination)

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



You will learn about people from different background situations and apply this and your work experience to your assignments.



You will reflect on different health and social care situations and the impacts that they have on individuals.



You will be encouraged to always aim high and challenge yourself.

How do current students feel about this course?

"This is a great course that teaches you skills and knowledge that can be used within health and child care sectors."

"Studying Health and Social care has helped me to communicate with people in the wider community. It will also help me fulfil my dream of becoming a social worker."

"I love health and social care lessons because they are fun and engaging."

How can Health & Social Care help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Health and Social Care
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/social-work>

BTEC Award in Music



What does the course involve?

You will gain knowledge of how the music industry works as well as developing your own practical skills.

You will study popular music through the decades and gain an understanding of how music has progressed as well as the impact that technology has made on music.

You will gain a good understanding of music theory and apply it when analysing music. In year 11 you will be expected to put your practical skills to use by responding to a commercial brief for your big coursework assignment.

Assessment:

Assessment is through three components:

Component 1: Products and styles (30%)

Internally marked

Component 2: Skills development (30%)

Internally marked

Component 3: Responding to a commercial brief (40%)

Externally marked

Teachers:

Miss
Sheldrake

Exam Board:



What will I study on this course?

Year 9 - 11:

- o Rehearsal skills
- o Performance skills
- o Compositional techniques
- o Sequencing skills
- o Notation skills
- o Styles/genres of music
- o Music industry roles
- o Music industry structure
- o Marketing/promotion methods
- o Musical product types

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Music will help you embrace working with people from a wide range of backgrounds.



You will be given many opportunities to work within a creative setting and develop your personal skills.



You will be encouraged to build your confidence and develop your creativity and performance skills.

How do current students feel about this course?

"The privilege to learn and play music has changed my life for the better."

"I love Music. It is the perfect complement to my other academic subjects."

"I want to go into the music industry when I am older and this course has given me a really good understanding of what it involves."

How can Music help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Music

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/music>

Psychology



What does the course involve?

You will gain an understanding of the different theories for human behaviour and the process of psychological research.

Assessment:

Assessment is through 2 exams in Year 11, each out of 100 marks:

Paper 1: Cognition and behaviour (50%)
Paper 2: Social context and behaviour (50%)

Teachers:

Mrs Moore
Mrs Glen

Exam Board:



What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- o Memory
- o Perception
- o Research methods

Year 10:

- o Development
- o Social influence
- o Language, thought and communication

Year 11:

- o Brain and neuropsychology
- o Psychological problems

Attributes for success in this course:

- o A strong interest in Maths and Science.

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Psychology will help you embrace and potentially understand people's differences.



You will have opportunity to reflect on your own behaviour and actions.



You will be supported to express your own views and develop those views on a range of issues through passion of psychological knowledge.

How do current students feel about this course?

"Psychology has made me a more open minded person."

"I like learning how our brain stores memories."

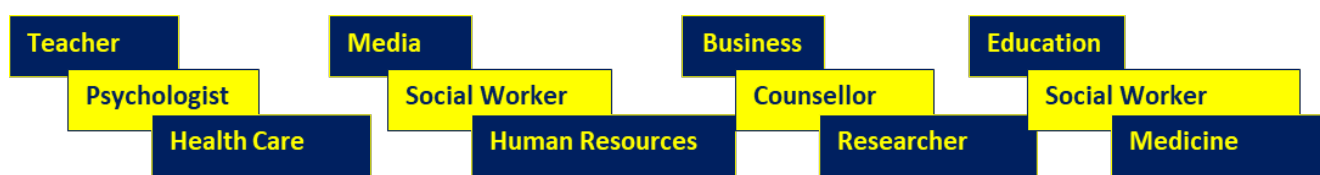
"I enjoy how interactive our lessons are."

"I love learning about things I've never learnt before."

"It is relatable to today's society and I enjoy being able to apply what we learn, into the context of the world we live in."

"Psychology is a very interesting and enjoyable subject, due to the variety in the content that we learn."

How can Psychology help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Psychology
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/psychology>

Sports Studies



What does the course involve?

This course has two pathways.

GCSE – You will study how the body works and allows movement, as well as the different factors that impact sporting performance.

Cambridge National – You will study Sports Leadership, outdoor activities and the factors that affect who participates in sports and why.

Assessment:

GCSE PE – You will complete two exams in Year 11 (60%). You will complete a practical element worth (30%) and course work (10%).

Cambridge National – You will complete 2 coursework units, each worth 30%. You will also complete 1 exam in Year 11 (40%).

Entry Requirements – please be aware that due to the nature of practical assessment on PE courses, students must be playing at least one sport outside of school in order to pick PE.

Teachers:

Mr Pugh
Miss Beel
Mr Landy
Miss Mulberry
Miss Mott

Exam Board:



What will I study on this course?

Cambridge National:

- o Sports Leadership – What makes a good leader?
- o Planning, delivering and evaluating lessons.
- o Outdoor Activities – What they are, how they benefit people.
- o Visit to Grafham Water to take part in two practical activities
- o Practical grades in one team and one individual sport and a 6 week training programme.

GCSE PE:

- o Paper 1 – Anatomy and physiology, principles of training.
- o Paper 2 – Socio-cultural issues, sports psychology, health, fitness and wellbeing.

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



Sports studies will help you to embrace working with people from a wide range of backgrounds, in team sports, leadership and officiating scenarios.



You will be given many opportunities to reflect on your own practical performance in a range of activities.



You will be given the opportunity to demonstrate your passion for all things sport, in both theory and practical lessons.

How do current students feel about this course?

"Sports studies prepares you for lots of careers in sport. I want to be a PE teacher and in my Cambridge National lessons, I have learnt how to lead effectively"

"In GCSE PE I have learnt how the bones, heart and lungs work to allow our bodies to move. This has been a great course and has prepared me for my career in physiotherapy."

"I love the practical element of the course."

How can Sports Studies help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Sports Studies
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/sport-and-exercise-science>

Fashion & Textiles



What does the course involve?

This title is defined as the creation of designs and products for woven, knitted, stitched or printed fabrics and involves an understanding of fibres, yarns and fabrics.

Areas of study include:

- Constructed textiles
- Digital textiles
- Dyed fabrics
- Printed fabrics
- Fashion design
- Installed textiles
- Soft furnishings
- Stitched and/or embellished textiles.

What will I study on this course?

Year 9:

- Development of practical skills within fashion and textiles through project investigations.

Year 10:

- Theme selected and investigated across two terms.
- Theme selected and investigated across two terms.

Year 11:

- COMPLETE UNIT 1
- UNIT 2 - ESA

Assessment:

Portfolio

Worth 60% of the GCSE - 100% practical

ESA – Externally Set Assignment

Worth 40% of the GCSE - 100% practical

Both marked across 4 Assessment Objectives; to find out more, visit the specification online

www.eduqas.co.uk/media/ozvli0g/eduqas-gcse-art-and-design-spec-from-2016-27-01-2020.pdf

Teachers:

Miss Foreman-Bates
Mrs Wibberley

Exam Board:



How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?



You will learn to develop a greater sense of humility through learning about a range of different people and cultures through investigations.



You will be willing to take on constructive feedback to make improvements and progress in your work.



You will be proactive, manage your own time and develop better organisation skills. You should also develop a greater sense of pride through the presentation of your coursework.

How do current students feel about this course?

We are excited to announce that we are reintroducing Fashion & Textiles as a GCSE subject.

This exciting opportunity will help students who wish to venture into a field of fashion, textiles, arts and crafts, design and manufacturing. There are a plethora of areas Fashion & Textiles can lead into.

You will learn practical skills, as well as historical and cultural knowledge. It will also allow you to develop personal skills such as reading, writing and problem solving along with nurturing your creativity and independence.

We advise that all students purchase an A3 sketchbook for the beginning of the academic year, and we also advise you start to collect and store any fabrics, craft pieces or materials to be recycled and used during the GCSE.

How can Textiles help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Textiles:

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/fashion>

Catering



What does the course involve?

The level 1_2 technical award in food and cookery is designed for learners who want an introduction to food and cookery that includes a practical and theory-based element.

The qualification will appeal to learners who wish to pursue a career in the food and hospitality industry or progress on to further studies.

The qualification is graded as

Level 1 – Pass/Merit/Distinction

Level 2 – Pass/Merit/Distinction/Distinction *

(Equivalent to GCSE grades 8.5 – 1)

Teachers

Mrs K Glen

Mrs D Neal

Exam Board:

NCFE

Assessment:

Assessment is through 2 externally set units.

Unit 1: 60% Coursework

Unit 2: 40% External exam

How will I develop the Abbey College Spirit in this subject?

You will learn to develop a greater sense of humility through learning about a range of different people and food cultures through your investigations.

You will be willing to take on constructive feedback to make improvements and progress in your work.

You will proactive, manage your own time and develop organisational skills. You should also develop a strong sense of pride through the presentation of your practical and coursework.

How do current students feel about this course?

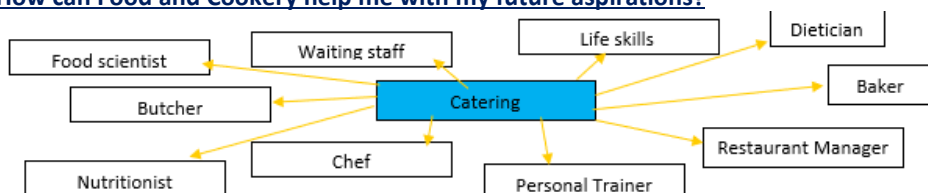
This is a new course coming to Abbey College for 2024.

What will I study on this course?

Over the duration of the course, you will cover the following topics:

- Health and Safety relating to food, nutrition, and the cooking environment.
- Food legislation and food provenance
- Food groups, key nutrients, and a balanced diet
- Factors effecting food choice.
- Food preparation, cooking skills and techniques.
- Recipe Amendment, development, and evaluation
- Menu and action planning for completed dishes

How can Food and Cookery help me with my future aspirations?



Visit the following website for further information on how to further your careers using Catering:

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-categories/hospitality-and-food>

Subject Choices for Key Stage 4



The Options form will go live on the website and a letter will be sent via Edulink detailing how to complete it, following the Options Evening on the **15th February 2024**.

The online Options form must be submitted **by no later than 15th March 2024**. Please note, once you have submitted your online form, you will not be able to amend it. Therefore, we recommend that you take your time to research which courses you would like to study and that you complete the table below for your records, before submitting your online form.

Please keep this page as a record of the subjects you have chosen.

Subject	Teaching hours per fortnight	Number of GCSEs	Summary information
English	9	2	All students will gain a GCSE in English Language and English Literature
Maths	9	2*	All students will achieve one GCSE in Maths and will have the opportunity to achieve a second GCSE in Statistics in Year 10
Science	9	3	All students will have the opportunity to achieve Biology, Chemistry and Physics separate science qualifications.
(MFL) Spanish	4	1	All students will achieve one GCSE in Spanish
Faith and Ethics	3	1	All students will achieve one GCSE in Faith and Ethics
Social Studies	2	0	Social studies is taken by all students to provide a platform for learning about contextual citizenship
PE	2	0	Core PE is taken by all students to embed the importance of good health, fitness, and wellbeing

Please select your option preferences and interest in the Scholars Pathway (HPA interest) on **the form below and keep for your records**. We recommend that you do not complete this form until **after** the Options Evening on the 15th February 2024.

Preference	Subject Choice
1 (Option A)	
2 (Option B)	
3 (Option C)	
4 (Reserve from Block A, B or C)	
Higher Prior Attainers Project Programme	Please tick this box if you asked to receive more information on the programme. <input type="checkbox"/>

Offers and Opportunities for Year 9



Duke of Edinburgh Award



In Year 9, students at Abbey College are given the opportunity to start their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Award. The DofE award can offer a life-changing experience for participants. It provides fun times with friends, opportunities to discover new interests and talents, whilst developing essential skills for life and work. The DofE is a recognised mark of achievement, respected by employers.

Students who participate in the Bronze DofE will undertake completing four sections as follows:

- Volunteering – Undertaking service to individuals or the community
- Physical – Improving in an area of sport, dance or fitness activity
- Skills – Developing practical and social skills and personal interests
- Expedition – Planning, training for and completing an adventurous journey

BRONZE			
Volunteering	3 months	PLUS a further 3 months in the Volunteering, Physical or Skills section.	
Physical	3 months		
Skills	3 months		
Expedition	2 days	1 night	
			
SILVER			
Volunteering	6 months	Direct entrants must do a further 6 months in the Volunteering, or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.	
Physical	one section for 6 months, the other for 3 months		
Skills			
Expedition	3 days	2 nights	
 			
GOLD			
Volunteering	12 months	Direct entrants must do a further 6 months in the Volunteering, or the longer of the Physical or Skills sections.	
Physical	one section for 12 months, the other for 6 months		
Skills			
Expedition	4 days	3 nights	
  			
Residential	5 days	4 nights	

STARTING AGES:



All Awards must be completed by the participant's 25th birthday

For more information please visit:

<https://www.dofe.org/do/>

For ideas for skills, physical, and volunteering sections, please visit: <https://www.dofe.org/do/ideas/>

If you have any questions about the DofE Award at Abbey College, please get in touch with

CThistlethwaite@abbey.college



The Abbey College OOP

The Offer and Opportunity Programme

What is it?

The OOP is the whole school enrichment programme for students that run throughout the year for all year groups 7-10 during lunchtime and afterschool.

It has a huge variety between 'open' offers which anyone can sign up to and then some 'application' based offers which are all included in the information on each offer on EduLink.

Why should I do an OOP?

Being a part of the Abbey College community gives you lots of new experiences and hopefully ignite new passions and interests.

Try something new!

How do I sign up?

You access Edulink and find the 'clubs' tab and sign up to your offer

Who to contact

If you know who the leader is, contact them on Teams or Email.



Access to Edulink

<https://www.edulinkone.com>

School ID is 'acr'



Key Contacts



Key Contacts

We encourage you to use this booklet in conjunction with conversations with your tutors, teachers and the CEIAG Team as well as at the Options Evening on the 15th February 2024.

However, if you have any queries that you are unable to answer through these means, please contact:

Mrs G Craig – Assistant Head Teacher responsible for the Options Process

gcraig@abbey.college

Ms Rachel Mills – Year 8 Raising Standards Lead

rmills@abbey.college

Ms O'Connell – Lead Learner for English

koconnell@abbey.college

Dr E Pinnock – Lead Learner for Maths

epinnock@abbey.college

Mrs T Batchford – Lead Learner for Science

tbatchford@abbey.college

Mrs S Stevenson – Lead Learner for MFL

sstevenson@abbey.college

Ms G Harris-Clements – Lead Learner for Moral and Spiritual

gharris-clements@abbey.college

Mr S Hedges – Lead Learner for Political Sciences

shedges@abbey.college

Mr A Thompson – Lead Learning for Computing (BITE)

athompson@abbey.college

Mr B Pugh – Lead Learner for PE

bpugh@abbey.college

Mr R Tichanow – Combined Cadet Force

rtichanow@abbey.college

Ms L Pollard – CEIAG Manager

lpollard@abbey.college

Miss S Dowd- Assistant Head in charge of Higher Prior Attainers

sdowd@abbey.college