



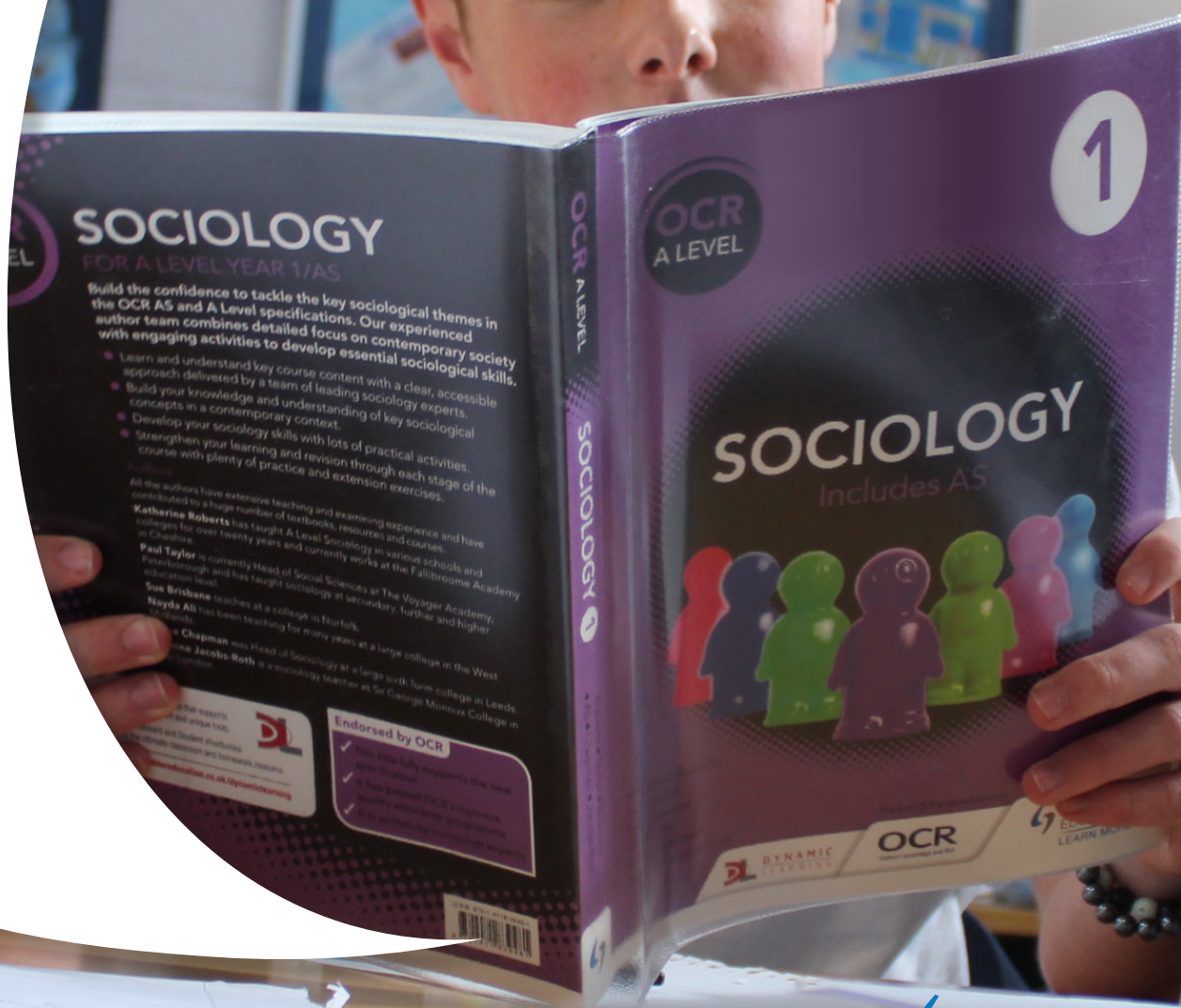
Course Options

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE



Abbeyfield
School





"The sense of community and the freedom. Everyone knows everybody and everyone helps each other. I am always happy when I am here and I have loved my 6th Form Experience"



WELCOME

At Abbeyfield, we take immense pride in our 6th Form, where our commitment to 'inspiring excellence' shines through in the remarkable achievements of our students. Our students confidently move on to their chosen Post-18 pathways, whether it's attending prestigious universities such as Oxbridge and the Russell Group, pursuing degree apprenticeships, or exploring the world and broadening their horizons far beyond Wiltshire.

By choosing Abbeyfield 6th Form, you are choosing a place where you'll be fully supported to reach your highest potential. Alongside exceptional academic outcomes, you'll benefit from a rich array of extra-curricular opportunities and leadership programmes, all within a close-knit, vibrant community that values each individual student.

Our curriculum is designed to offer something for everyone. We provide a broad selection of Level 3 subjects, from traditional A-Levels in STEM, English, Business, Economics, and Humanities subjects, to more applied qualifications including IT BTEC, Criminology, Sport, and Applied Sciences. Our creative courses, including Art, Photography, and Performing Arts, are also a key part of our thriving academic culture.

As you explore the following pages, you'll gain valuable insights into the courses we offer, helping you make informed choices for your future.

If you have any questions or would like to visit our 6th Form, please feel free to contact me at sxj@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk.

We look forward to welcoming you!

Miss Jones
Head of 6th Form

Abbeyfield
School





Why Abbeyfield 6th Form?

At Abbeyfield School we are extremely proud of our 6th form offer, which allows our students to excel academically whilst also providing the skills and opportunities to be able to flourish within their chosen Post-18 pathway.

- Outstanding results and experienced subject teachers
- Dedicated 6th Form study spaces allowing us to be a full time 6th Form
- Smaller class sizes to allow for more 1:1 contact time with teachers
- Supervised study to support independent study
- Nationally recognised financial excellence programme
- Excellent Post-18 support, including CIAG trips, work experience and an Employability Day
- Extensive volunteering programme to add value to post-18 applications
- Gold Duke of Edinburgh
- Nationally recognised sports leadership programme
- Senior student leadership opportunities, including leading our House system
- Access to our fitness suite
- A range of curriculum and non-curriculum trips



Abbeyfield
School



PATHWAYS



MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENT:

***5 x GCSE GRADE 4 OR ABOVE**

(to include Grade 4 English Language and Grade 4 Maths)

*includes BTEC Level 2 Pass

Pathway 1:

For students with mostly Grade 4 GCSE profile
subjects available to these students are shown in red.

Pathway 2:

Recommended for students with mostly Grade 4 / Grade 5 GCSE profile. Subjects available to these students are shown in red and blue, but please also check subject specific course requirements. For this pathway, it would be most appropriate to have no more than 1 BTEC within course choices, and Core Maths should be taken as an additional course if you are studying Economics, Business Studies, Geography, Psychology or any science subject and not taking Maths A-Level.

Pathway 3:

Recommended for students with mostly Grade 6+ GCSE grade profile. Subjects available to these students are shown in blue and black (red only on discussion), but please also check subject specific course requirements.

Recommended to study 3 x A-Level subjects, and either Core Maths, EPQ but please also check subject specific course requirements.

4 x A-Level, or 3 + 1 x AS-Level (including Further Maths in conjunction with A-Level Maths only) are also available for Grade 8+ students.

RECOMMENDED PATHWAYS

Sept 2026

Please note: Sufficient uptake is required for a course to run.

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D	Block E
Physics	Maths	Biology	Chemistry	Core Maths
English Literature	Photography/Art	English Language	Applied Science	EQP
Criminology	History	Economics	Geography	Further Maths
Psychology	Sociology	Performing Arts	IT	
Spanish or French	Economics	CTEC	Media	
Business A-Level		Philosophy & Ethics		
		Sport		

Core Maths AS, *Further Maths AS and EPQ are outside the option blocks and are taken as an additional subject in Year 12 (CM & EPQ) / Year 12 & 13 (FM) *must be taken in conjunction with Maths A-Level. If you wish to study 4 A-Levels, or an additional subject as AS only please contact Miss Jones to discuss: sxj@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk

Abbeyfield
School



SUBJECT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS



Applied Science	4/4 Combined Science.
Art & Photography	Grade 4 if studied at GCSE, BUT no requirement to have studied this previously - must be able to demonstrate a flair for the subject.
Biology	Biology Grade 6 (or Combined Science grade 6-6). Maths Grade 5.
Business Studies	Grade 4 if studied at GCSE, BUT no requirement to have studied this previously.
Sport Cam National	If you have studied an applied course, you must be able to evidence at least a Level 2 Pass.
Chemistry	Chemistry Grade 6 (or Combined Science grade 6-6). Maths Grade 6.
Criminology	If you have studied an applied course, you must be able to evidence at least a Level 2 Pass.
Economics	Maths or Statistics Grade 5. English Grade 5.
English Language	Grade 5 English (4+ on discussion).
English Literature	English Literature Grade 5. English Language Grade 5.
Further Maths	Maths Grade 7 (in conjunction with Maths A-Level only).
Geography	GCSE Geography Grade 5. Maths or Statistics Grade 5. English Grade 5.
History	Grade 5 if studied at GCSE, BUT no requirement to have studied this previously. English Grade 5.
BTEC IT	If you have studied an applied course, you must be able to evidence at least a Level 2 Pass.
Maths	Maths Grade 6.
Media Studies	Grade 5 English (4+ on discussion) and a clear interest in the subject.
Performing Arts CTEC Extended Certificate	Grade 4 Drama or Photography if studied at GCSE, but crucially you must be able to evidence an aptitude for performing arts, or theatre production.
Psychology	English Grade 5 Maths or Statistics Grade 5 and Science 5/5 minimum .
Philosophy & Ethics (Religion)	Grade 5 if studied at GCSE, BUT no requirement to have studied this previously. English Grade 5.
Physics	Physics Grade 6 (or Combined Science grade 6-6). Maths Grade 6.
Sociology	Grade 5 English Language.
Spanish	Grade 5.
Additional Subjects	
Core Maths	Grade 5 Maths.
EPQ	English Grade 6.

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

Abbeyfield
School



Course
Options

Subject: Applied Science

Exam Board: OCR



Course Description:

OCR Level 3 Cambridge Advanced National in Applied Science is an academic qualification aimed at students with a strong interest in science who wish to explore its practical applications across biology, chemistry, and physics.

Applied Science develops practical skills through researching, planning and performing laboratory investigations, and provides students with a theoretical knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of science, preparing them for progression to undergraduate study" and a final paragraph "Studying Applied Sciences, provides students with the opportunity to gain broad, transferable skills and experiences that they can apply in future study, employment and life. For this reason; skills which will also support you with your other Level 3 courses.

This course covers core scientific principles alongside the skills required to apply them in real-world contexts, making it ideal for students considering higher education in fields such as healthcare, environmental science and engineering.

Assessment Overview:

- **Two external assessments (exams)**
- **Three non-examined assessments**

Course Content:

Externally assessed units:

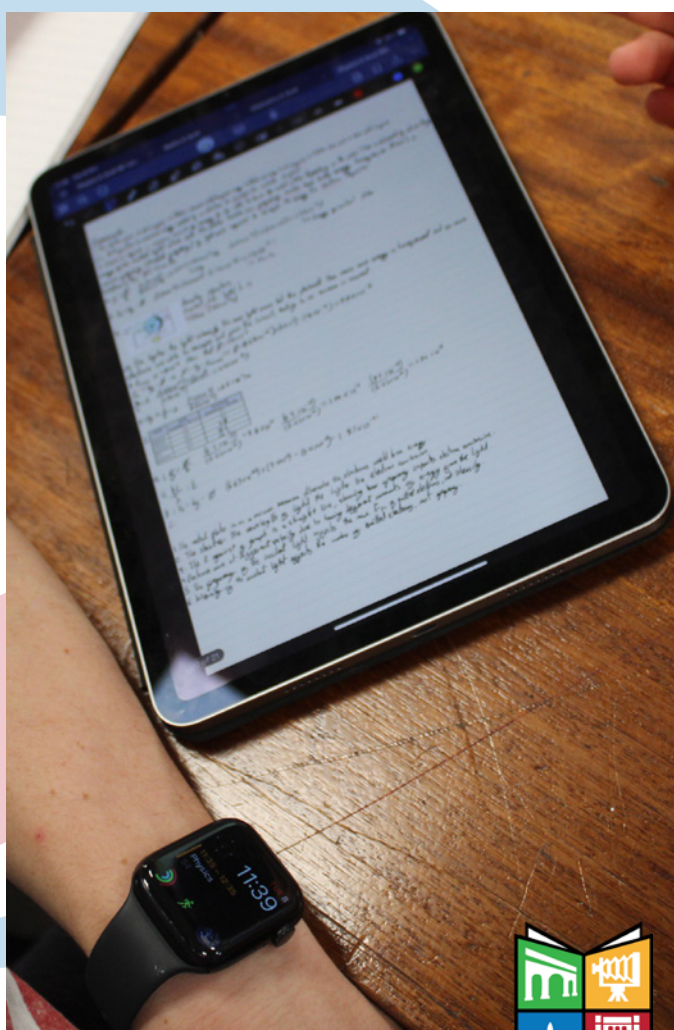
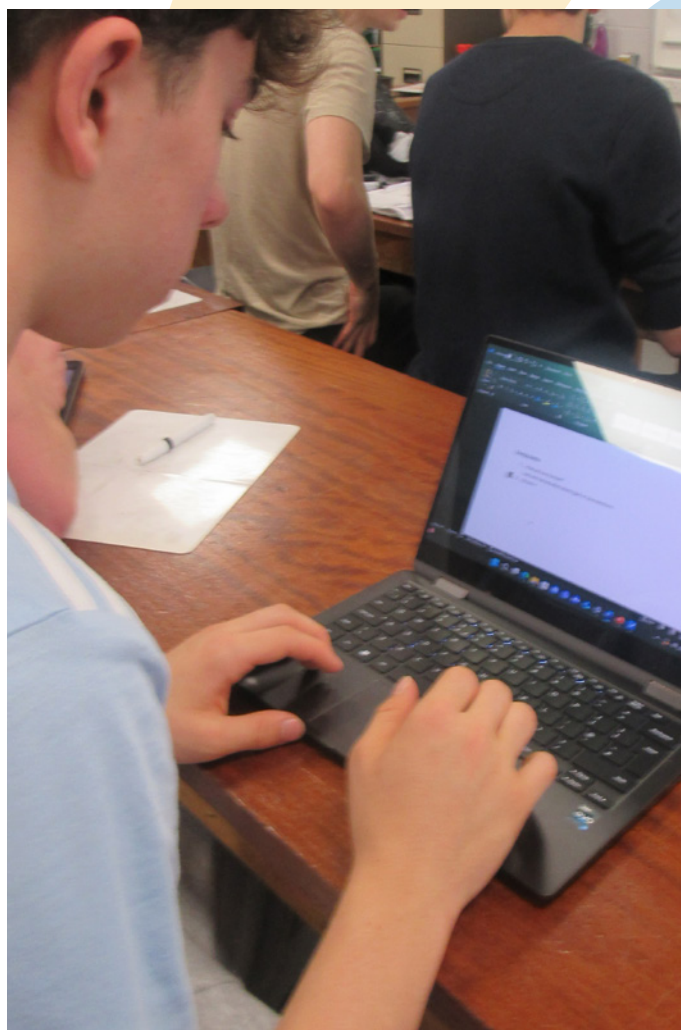
- Fundamentals of science, such as cells and microscopes, atomic structure and electricity.
- Science in society, including practical skills, data handling and scientific developments

Internally assessed units – two from:

- Analytical techniques in chemistry
- Environmental studies
- Forensics biology
- Medical Physics

To find out more, please contact:

Mr B Lansbury
Head of Science, Physics Teacher
btl@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Art and Photography

Exam Board: AQA



Course Description:

We offer two courses at A-Level: "Fine Art" and "Photography". We deliver the AQA specification and both courses follow an identical structure: 60% coursework and 40% practical exam.

Throughout the course students will explore, develop and create practical responses for their own "personal investigation" and they will support their studies through contextual research and a written essay. Students will also complete a practical project in response to an exam board theme for their practical exam in Year 13.

Students will have the opportunity to use our purpose-built art rooms along with pottery wheels and kilns, computer suite, photography studio and darkrooms. These facilities will give them access to a wide range of media from drawing, painting, textiles, ceramics, graphics, photography both digital and dark room all of which will aid them in their exploration of ideas throughout the course.

As part of the course the students will have the opportunity to be part of enrichment activities including gallery visits and workshops giving them a valuable insight into the vibrant and creative community.

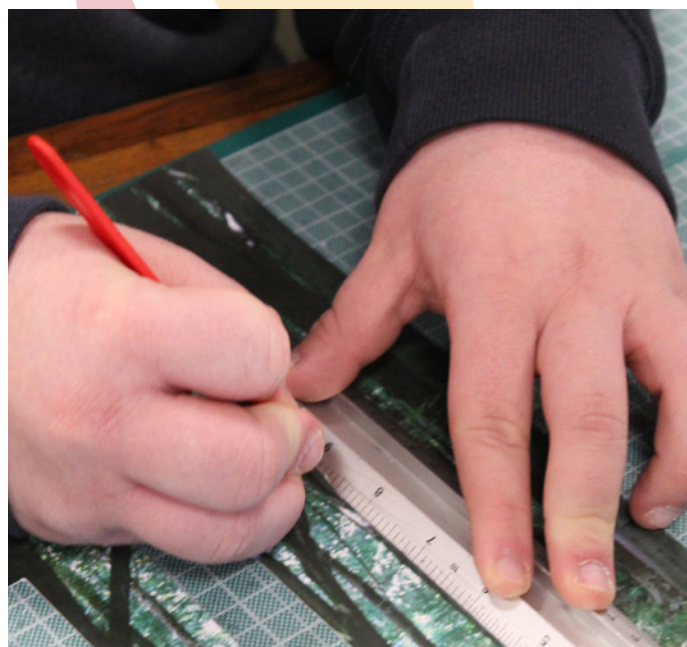
Assessment Overview:

Coursework: Worth 60% of the final grade.

A practical unit of work, internally assessed and then moderated by the exam board.

Exam: Worth 40% of the final grade.

A practical unit of work., internally assessed and then moderated by the exam board.



Course Content:

Year 1:

**A' level Art and Photography:
Coursework (Personal Investigation)
60% of the final grade**

To start their own "Personal investigation" Students will set their own title to investigate through a range of processes and techniques informed by the work of others.

Year 2:

Completion of their "Personal investigation"

**Exam Unit:
40% of the final grade
A practical project in response to an AQA exam board theme.**

Students are issued the exam paper in February of Year 13 and will resolve this work in a 15hr practical exam in the May of Year 13.

To find out more, please contact:

Miss C Deevey-Hare
Teacher of Creative Arts
cxd@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk
or
Mrs C Straw
Teacher of Art
cjs@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Biology

Exam Board: AQA



Course Description:

Biologists are scientists who study the natural world and all the living things in it, from the largest mammals down to our very own microscopic DNA. The AQA A-Level Biology course provides a comprehensive study of biological principles, focusing on areas such as cell biology, biochemistry, genetics, ecology, and human physiology.

The course includes both theoretical learning and practical work, with students completing 12 required practicals to develop essential laboratory skills.

A-Level Biology is well-suited for students aiming to pursue further study or careers in fields such as medicine, biomedical sciences, environmental science, and biotechnology.

Assessment Overview:

Assessment is through three written exams at the end of the course, along with a practical skills endorsement based on laboratory performance.

Course Content:

Year 1:

- Biological molecules
- Cells
- Exchange between organisms and their environment
- Genetic information, variation and relationships between organisms

Year 2:

- Energy transfers
- Organisms' response to their environment
- Genetics, populations, evolution and ecosystems
- Control of gene expression

To find out more, please contact:

Mr B Lansbury

Head of Science, Physics Teacher

btl@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk

or

S Tucker

Second in Science, Biology Teacher

swt@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Course Description:

A-level Business Studies helps students:

- develop a critical understanding of organisations, the markets they serve and the process of adding value
- be aware that business behaviour can be studied from the perspectives of a range of stakeholders
- acquire a range of skills including decision-making and problem-solving
- be aware of the current structure of business and business practice.

Students of this course should study business in a variety of contexts (eg large/small, UK focused/global, service/manufacturing) and consider:

- the importance of the context of business in relation to decision making
- the interrelated nature of business activities and how they affect competitiveness
- the competitive environment and the markets in which businesses operate
- the influences on functional decisions and plans including ethical and environmental issues
- the factors that might determine whether a decision is successful eg the quality of data and the degree of uncertainty
- how technology is changing the way decisions are made and how businesses operate and compete
- the impact on stakeholders of functional decisions and their response to such decisions
- use of non-quantitative and quantitative data in decision making (including the interpretation of index numbers and calculations such as ratios and percentages).

The study of strategic decision making should build on the study of decision making in the functional areas.

Students should consider:

- the impact of technology on strategic decision making
- the influences of Corporate Social Responsibility, ethical and environmental issues on strategic decisions
- the difficulties in forecasting future trends
- the importance of assessing feasibility and risk when making strategic decisions
- the impact on stakeholders of strategic decisions and their response to such decisions.

The topics lend themselves to studying and engaging with the business world. The specification and assessment should encourage students to follow business developments and think critically about contemporary business issues. Most of the assessment material is based on real business situations. By examining and thinking critically about real business situations as they study the subject, students will gain an insight into different contexts which will help them to understand the key issues in any situation and compare and contrast this with other situations and apply their understanding.

Students will study a two year A2 style qualification structure, but will take AS level examinations at the end of Year 1 as they may opt to continue with three subjects going into the second year.

Details of the examinations are shown below:

Assessment Overview:

Paper 1: Business 1

What's assessed

All content above

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 100 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-level

Questions

Three compulsory sections:

A mixture of multiple-choice questions, short answer questions and 2 essay questions.

Paper 2: Business 2

What's assessed

All content above

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 100 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-level

Questions

Three data response compulsory questions worth approximately 33 marks each and made up of three- or four-part questions.

Paper 3: Business 3

What's assessed

All content above

Assessed

- written exam: 2 hours
- 100 marks in total
- 33.3% of A-level

Questions

One compulsory case study followed by approximately six questions

Course Content:

Year 1:

- 3.1 What is business?
- 3.2 Managers, leadership and decision making
- 3.3 Marketing management
- 3.4 Operational management
- 3.5 Financial management
- 3.6 Human resource management

Year 2:

- 3.7 Analysing the strategic position of a business
- 3.8 Choosing strategic direction
- 3.9 Strategic methods: how to pursue strategies
- 3.10 Managing strategic change

To find out more, please contact:

Mrs J Edwards
Head of Business,
Economics and Computing
jme@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject:

Cambridge Technical In Sport and Physical Activity

Exam Board: OCR



Course Description:

CTEC Sport offers a wide range of centre assessed units with practical and wider project-based assessment opportunities, as well as examined units on the body systems and the long and short term impacts of sport and physical activity and how sport is organised and the purpose of sports development.

Our Cambridge Technical in Sport and Physical Activity provides students with practical opportunities to develop relevant core knowledge and skills. Students further develop their skills through specialist pathways that help them deliver sport and physical activity to a wide range of participants.

Students who study sports are able to progress to sports related undergraduate courses including Sports and Exercise Science, Sports Management, and Sports Therapy and access careers such as sports coach, PT instructor, teaching and a wide range of graduate careers.

There is no requirement to have studied GCSE Sport.

The course gives an excellent grounding for students to develop a variety of very relevant and modern skills and knowledge of the current sporting world and industry.

Assessment Overview:

Assessment Overview: Units 1 and 3 external examination.
Units 2, 5 and 17 internal assignment work both written and practical, moderated by OCR.

Course Content:

Year 1:

Unit 1: Body Systems and the effects of Physical Activity.
Unit 3: Sport Organisation and Development.
Unit 5: Performance analysis in Sport and Exercise.

Year 2:

Unit 17: Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation
Unit 2: Sports Coaching & Leadership

To find out more, please contact:

Mr J Baker

Head of PE

jnb@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Chemistry

Exam Board: AQA



Course Description:

Chemistry is the science of how substances interact, combine, and change to create everything around us, from new materials to life-saving medicines. It's a dynamic field that uncovers the secrets of the molecular world, shaping the future of technology and sustainability.

The AQA A-Level Chemistry course explores a range of topics across physical, organic, and inorganic chemistry, including atomic structure, bonding, thermodynamics and analytical techniques like spectroscopy. Over two years, students will complete required practicals that develop key laboratory skills.

A-Level Chemistry is an essential qualification for students intending to pursue degrees in chemistry, chemical engineering, medicine, pharmacy, or related scientific fields.

Assessment Overview:

Assessment consists of three written exams at the end of the course, with a separate practical endorsement awarded for laboratory competence.

Course Content:

Year 1:

- Bonding
- Equilibria
- Groups of the periodic table
- Alkanes and alcohols
- Kinetics
- Thermodynamics

Year 2:

- Acids and bases
- Kinetics
- Transition metals
- Reactions of aqueous ions
- Organic chemistry.

To find out more, please contact:

Mr B Lansbury

Head of Science, Physics Teacher

btl@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk

or

Ms E Pegler

Key Stage 3

Co-ordinator for Science, Chemistry Teacher

elp@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Criminology



Exam Board:

Course Description:

This level 3 Diploma is offered to students who have a keen interest in crime. Criminology is all about an understanding of people and the society that we live in. You need to be non-judgemental, be very interested in people, society and crime. Students may find some of the content disturbing given the nature of crime, although all topics are handled sensitively.

There are four areas to study:

Unit 1 (year 1)

Changing awareness of crime:

At the end of this unit, you will have developed skills to differentiate between myth and reality when it comes to crime and to recognise that common representations may be misleading and inaccurate; the importance of changing public perceptions of crime; the skills to plan a campaign for change in relation to crime; for example to raise awareness, change attitudes or change reporting behaviour.

Unit 2 (year 1)

Criminological theories:

At the end of this unit you will have developed the skills to evaluate some criminological theories (why do people commit crimes?) and know there are debates within the different theories. You will understand how changes in criminological theory have influenced policy. You will also have gained the skills to apply the theories to a specific crime or criminal in order to understand both the behaviour and the theory.

Unit 3 (year 2)

Crime Scene to Court Room:

At the end of this unit you will have developed the skills to analyse evidence, review criminal cases and evaluate the evidence in the cases to determine whether the verdict is safe and just.

Unit 4 (year 2)

Crime and Punishment:

At the end of this unit, you will consider such questions such as "Why do most of us tend to obey the law even when to do so is against our own interests?", "What social institutions have we developed to ensure that people do obey laws?", "What happens to those who violate our legal system?", "Why do we punish people?", "How do we punish people?"

The skills learned by studying criminology are transferable; these are highly valued in many occupations, and for entry to many further courses, even if you do not pursue a career in criminology.

Careers directly linked to the study of criminology include working in the National Probation Services, the Courts and Tribunals Services or the National Offender Management Services.

Assessment Overview:

Units 1 and 3 are internally assessed.

Units 2 and 4 are externally assessed.
Both are 90 minute exams totalling 75 marks.

Course Content:

Year 1:

Unit 1 Changing Awareness of Crime

Unit 2 Criminologist Theories

Year 2:

Unit 3 Crime Scene to Courtroom

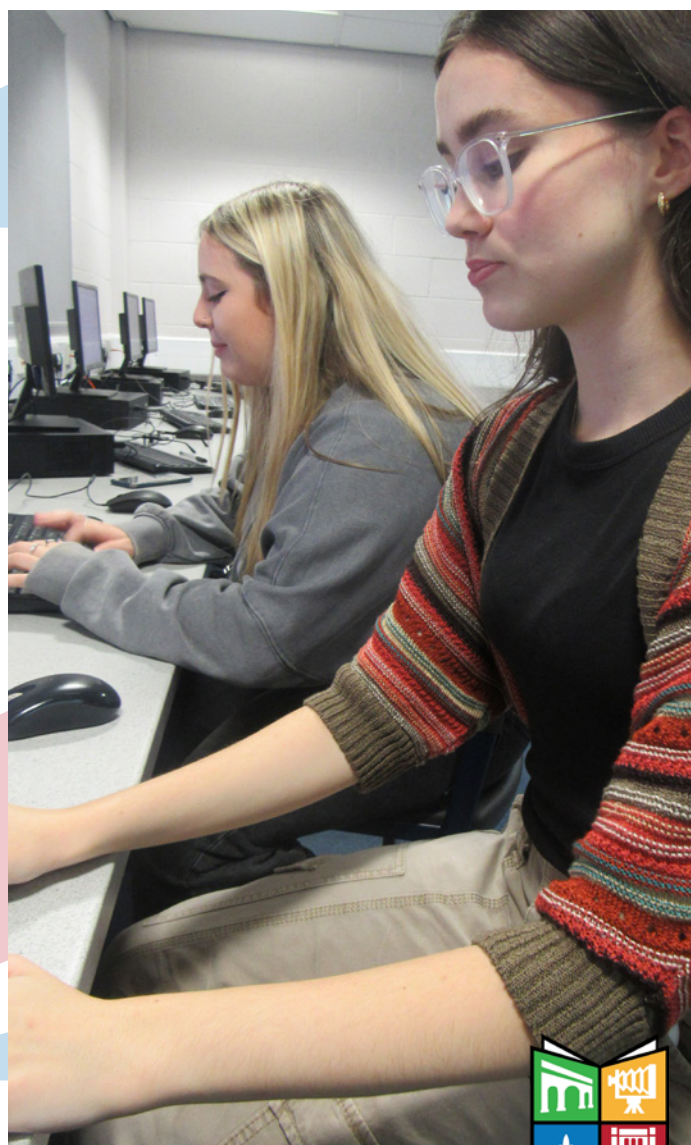
Unit 4 Crime and Punishment

To find out more, please contact:

Mrs L Farquharson

Teacher of Humanities

lkt@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Economics

Exam Board: AQA



Course Description:

Economics is a social science. It's a study of how humans behave and how scarce resources are used to meet unlimited wants. It looks at the decisions that individuals, businesses, governments and societies make, and the outcomes of these decisions such as scarcity, unemployment, market failure, growth and development.

Studying economics can open up many career paths, from finance to government. It's fascinating to understand how economies work (and sometimes don't) and to look at how supply and demand issues impact our daily lives and decision making. We are all consumers and it's powerful to reflect on the incentives and disincentives we experience when making decisions about what and what not to consume!

Assessment Overview:

A Level Economics has 3 two-hour exams at the end of Year 13;

Paper 1 – Microeconomics

Paper 2 – Macroeconomics

Paper 3 – Synoptic (including multiple choice)

Course Content:

Year 1:

Microeconomics:

The economic problem and economic methodology
Price determination in a competitive market
Production, costs and revenue
The market mechanism, market failure and government intervention in markets.

Macroeconomics:

The Measurement of macroeconomic performance
How the macroeconomy works
Economic performance

Year 2:

Microeconomics:

Individual economic decision making
Perfect competition, imperfectly competitive markets and monopoly
The labour market
The distribution of income and wealth: poverty and inequality

Macroeconomics:

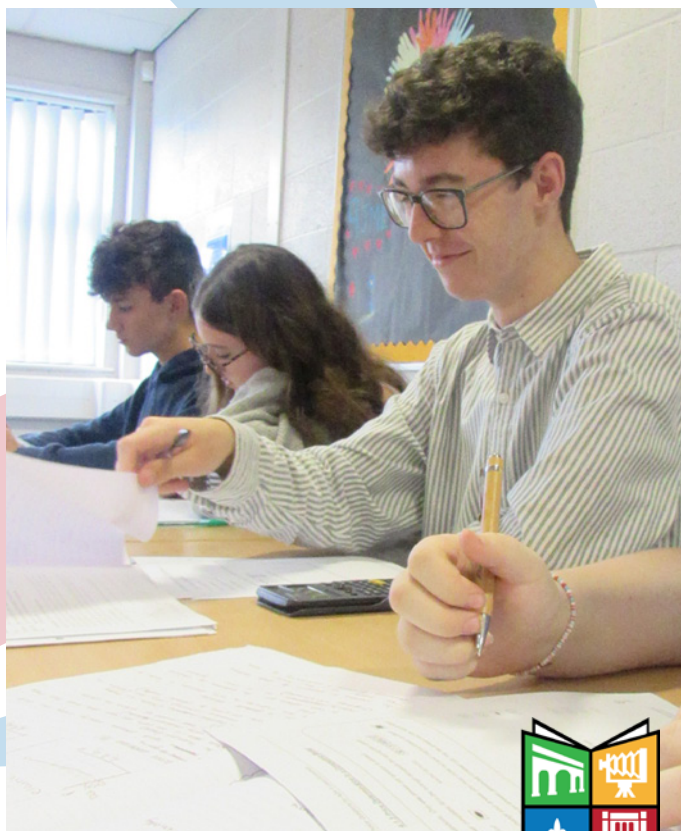
Financial markets and monetary policy
Fiscal and supply side policies
The international economy

To find out more, please contact:

Mrs J Virgin

Assistant Headteacher

jmv@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: English Language

Exam Board: AQA



Course Description:

If you have an interest in how language is acquired and how it develops across time, this is the course for you. Linguistics is the study of how we communicate and make meaning through language. We study the roots of the English language as well as the various social contexts in which it exists: how relationships are forged, power dynamics established, gender roles challenged and global communities evolved. You will also have opportunity to master the use of language for purpose yourself through producing your own texts and investigation.

The course is made up of 3 modules:

Language, the individual and society

The aim of this part of the course is to introduce students to language study, exploring textual variety and children's language development. This area of study introduces students to methods of language analysis to explore concepts of audience, purpose, genre, mode and representation. It also introduces students to the study of children's language development, exploring how children learn language and how they are able to understand and express themselves.

Language diversity and change

The aim of this area of study is to allow students to explore language diversity and change over time. Students will study the key concepts of audience, purpose, genre and mode and will explore language in its wider social, geographical and temporal contexts. They will explore processes of language change. This part of the subject content also requires students to study social attitudes to, and debates about, language diversity and change.

Language in Action

The aim of this area of study is to allow students to explore and analyse language data independently and develop and reflect upon their own writing expertise. It requires students to carry out two different kinds of individual research: • a language investigation (2,000 words excluding data) • a piece of original writing and commentary (750 words each). Students can choose to pursue a study of spoken, written or multimodal data, or a mixture of text types, demonstrating knowledge in areas of individual interest.

Assessment Overview:

- **Paper 1: Language, the Individual and Society**
2 hours, 30 minutes
40% of A Level
- **Paper 2: Language Diversity and Change**
2 hours, 30 minutes
40% of A Level
- **NEA (H472/03) Language in Action**
Independent coursework (investigation, original writing and commentary)
20% of A Level

Course Content:

Year 1:

- **Meanings and Representations:** how to analyse different features of language in a range of text types and make comparisons
- **Language Diversity and Change:** a study of issues affecting language use and attitudes e.g. gender, power, accents and dialects, history, World English
- **Original Writing:** exploring how to write different text types and genres, completing Original Writing coursework
- **Child Language Acquisition:** learning about the milestones babies go through when learning language

Year 2:

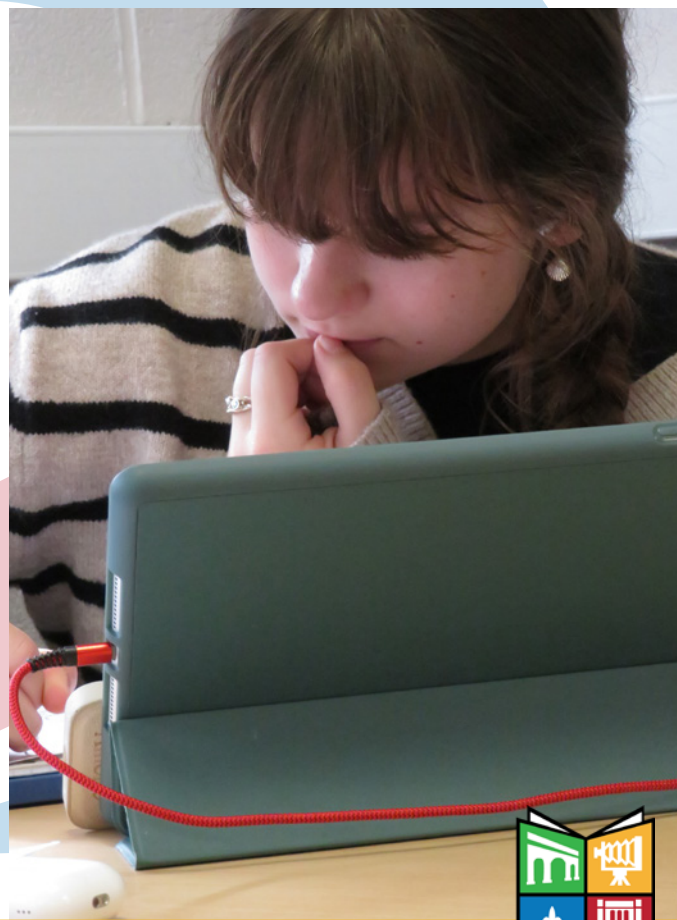
- **Investigation:** completing your own language investigation into a topic of your choice (final submission for NEA)
- **Child Language:** the theories around child language development and the stages of literacy (reading and writing development)
- **Directed Writing:** developing opinion writing about language issues
- **Revision!**

To find out more, please contact:

Miss R Champion

Head of English

rmc@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: English Literature

Exam Board: AQA (Spec A, Option B)



Course Description:

Do you have a love of reading? Are you fascinated by wide ranges of literature in different genres? Did you enjoy linking the literature you studied at KS4 to the contexts in which they were written? The A Level English Literature course is varied and accessible, suiting those with open and enquiring minds who relish interrogating the presentation of characters, themes and social ideas within great literature.

Love Through the Ages

The course is historicist, which means texts are rooted in their contexts and studied in relation to how they and their writers may find connections. In Love Through the Ages, you will explore one of the most timeless themes of literature and how portrayals of relationships have changed over the decades. Given the spirit of the specification, rather than imposing a uniform list of prescribed set texts, various options are offered in terms of both time period and genre. The texts on offer range from the more traditional, such as Shakespeare's Othello and the Romantic poets, to more modern texts like The Great Gatsby.

Texts in Shared Contexts - Modern times: Literature from 1945 to the present day

Here we study a broad ranging choice of texts, exploring issues faced in modern times to include social identity; changing morality and social structures; gender, class, race and ethnicity; political upheaval and change; resistance and rebellion; imperialism, post-imperialism and nationalism; engagement with the social, political, personal and literary issues which have helped to shape the latter half of the 20th century and the early decades of the 21st century. Set texts include Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale and Williams' A Streetcar Named Desire, as well as a body of poetry by Carol Ann Duffy.

Independent critical study: texts across time

For this part of the course, students write a comparative critical study of two texts. This particular module allows personal reading choices and provides a challenging and wide-ranging opportunity for independent study. Possible themes for the comparison are chosen by students who are free to develop their own interests from their own wider and independent reading.

Assessment Overview:

• Paper 1: Love through the ages

3 hours written exam
40% of A Level

• Paper 2: Texts in shared contexts

2 hour 30 minutes written exam
40% of A Level

*both exams are open book (you will have clean copies of texts)

• NEA: Independent critical study: texts across time

2500 words extended comparative essay with bibliography
20% of A Level

Course Content:

Year 1:

Love through the Ages

- prose study of two novels alongside the poetry anthology (pre-1900s)
- drama study – Shakespeare's Othello
- unseen poetry

NEA

- wider reading and topic choice for coursework

Year 2:

NEA

- complete coursework essay

Texts in Shared Contexts

- unseen prose and contextual linking (modern timeline)
- prose study: Handmaid's Tale
- poetry study: Feminine Gospels
- drama study: Streetcar Named Desire
- revision!

To find out more, please contact:

Ms J Powell

Head of KS5 English and Media

jmp@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Geography

Exam Board: OCR



Course Description:

The course comprises both Physical and Human Geography, as well as a non-examined component (NEA) which equates 20% of the overall mark. This content builds on GCSE content, and also introduces new ideas to add depth and breadth to your geographic knowledge. Assessment includes synoptic questions which require you to be able to make connections between different aspects of your geographic knowledge.

Geography is a dynamic and fast paced subject and to be successful you will need an awareness of current national and global issues, and therefore wider reading is fundamental to accessing higher grades.

As a highly regarded facilitating subject, A-Level Geography is a good option for students considering Russell group, or other university courses, as well as degree apprenticeships.

Graduates with Geography degrees are amongst the most employable students and are able to access a wider range of career pathways, including business, international relations, criminology, law planning, constructive, and even teaching. Basically, the number of careers you can't study with a Geography degree are far fewer than those you can!

Assessment Overview:

Paper 1: 22%
Paper 2: 22%
Paper 3: 36%
Independent Investigation (NEA): 20%

Exam questions vary from 3 mark data response questions, to 33-mark essays

Course Content:

Year 1:

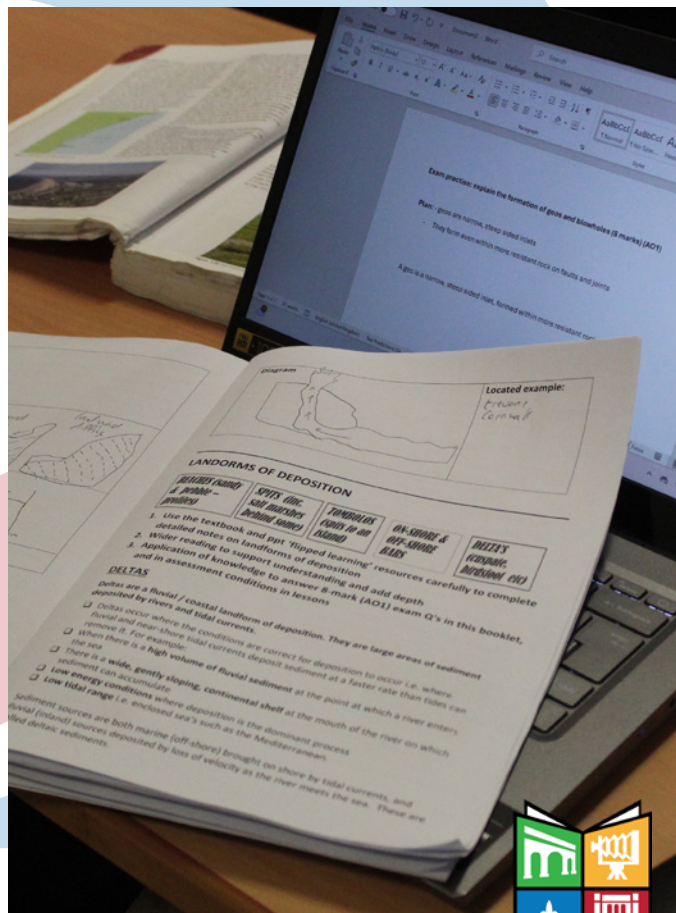
Coastal Landscapes (Paper 1)
Changing Spaces; Making Places (Paper 2)
Hazardous Earth (Paper 3)
Human Rights (Paper 2)
NEA pilot (non-examined component)

Year 2:

Climate Change (Paper 3)
International Trade (Paper 2)
Earth's Life Support Systems (Paper 1)
NEA (non-examined component.
Deadline October half term).

To find out more, please contact:

Miss S Jones
Head of 6th Form, Teacher of Geography
sxj@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Course Description:

Never has there been a more important time to study A Level History. The past is alive, controversial and hugely significant. From the discovery of Richard III's body under a carpark in Leicester, to the events that have shaped modern Russia and China, our courses show that History is more than a study of the past.

They are thought provoking, relevant and allow us to critically engage with the present and the future. History is constantly being written and rewritten, contested and reinterpreted and we interrogate and debate these issues.

Most importantly however History is about people: individuals, families and society. For we are the custodians of human experience and far from being rooted in the past, History is the passport to the future.

Assessment Overview:

- **Paper 1, Option 1e Russia, 1917–91: from Lenin to Yeltsin** 30%, 2hr 15mins exam.
- **Paper 2, Option 2e Mao's China, 1949–76** 20%, 1hr30mins exam.
- **Paper 3, Option 30 Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII, 1399–1509** 30%, 2hr 15mins exam
- **Coursework.** 20%. One single piece.

Course Content:

The A level is made up of three exams alongside a single piece of coursework:

Year 12:

Russia, 1917–91: from Lenin to Yeltsin.

This paper will cover the key political, social and economic features of communist Russia. There will be plenty of political intrigue, mass murder, crazy deaths, social upheaval and chaos. Purges, secret police, propaganda and dictatorships.

Mao's China, 1949–76.

This paper covers transformation of communist China in the years 1949-76. Basically lots of death, murder, social upheaval and dictatorship. Crazy Mao.

Coursework.

The assignment will assess the ability to carry out a historical enquiry, analysing and evaluating historical interpretations, and organising and communicating the findings. You choose the area and start this at the end of Yr12.

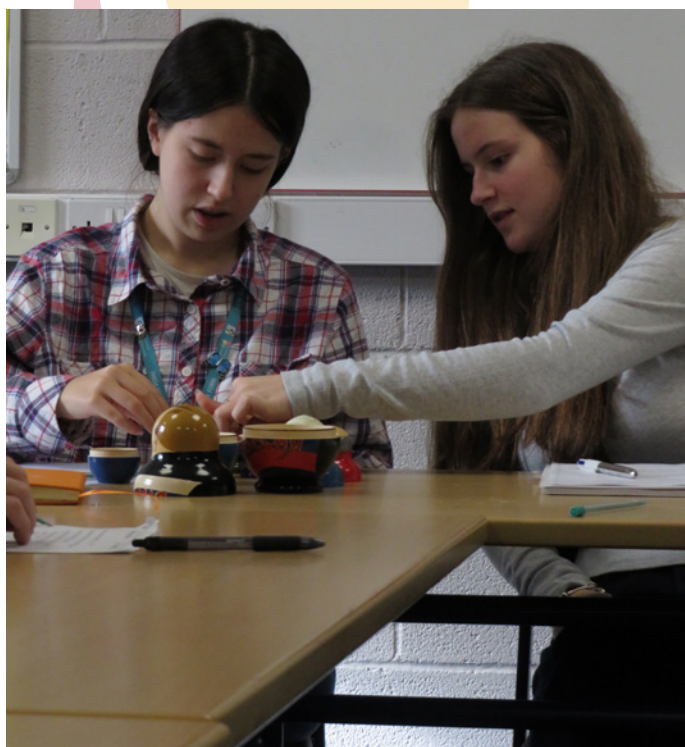
Year 13:

Lancastrians, Yorkists and Henry VII, 1399–1509.

A study into late Medieval England with a political focus on the personalities and political skills of a series of kings and queens. Expect political intrigue, rebellions, crazy kings and murder.

To find out more, please contact:

Mr M Bryant
Head of Humanities
mjb@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Course Description:

The Pearson Level 3 Alternative Academic Qualification BTEC National in Information Technology (Extended Certificate) is an Alternative Academic Qualification (AAQ) designed for post-16 students with an interest in the Digital sector and aiming to progress to higher education as a route to graduate level employment.

Students will develop the following knowledge and skills:

- Knowledge of digital technologies and how organisations plan digital projects and follow a project lifecycle
- Understanding of organisation structures and processes and how to embed digital safety to keep data and assets secure

Technical skills to:

- Design and build a website to meet user requirements using relevant tools and techniques, including testing for usability, functionality and fitness for purpose
- Follow a design methodology to create and develop a database design to meet user requirements, including testing the solution
- Transferable skills such as creativity and innovation, written communication, critical thinking and taking personal responsibility.

Assessment Overview:

Units 1 and unit 2 are externally assessed.
Units 3 and 5 are internally assessed.

Course Content:

Year 1:

The qualification has four mandatory units covering the following topics:

- Information Technology Systems – Information technology systems, including the relationship between software and hardware, and the issues related to IT systems
- Cyber Security and Incident Management – Types of cyber security attacks, the vulnerabilities in networked systems and how to plan and respond to attacks

Year 2:

- Website Development – The development tools, techniques and processes used in website development and how to test usability, functionality and fitness for purpose
- Relational Database Development – Structure of data, data design and database

To find out more, please contact:

Mrs J Edwards

Head of Business, Economics & Computing

jme@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Mathematics

Exam Board: AQA



Course Description:

A level Maths is a rigorous subject, suited to highly motivated mathematicians. Maths is one of the best subjects to develop your analytical, research and problem solving skills. Not only will studying maths help give you the knowledge to tackle scientific, mechanical, coding and abstract problems, it will also help you develop logic to tackle everyday issues like planning projects, managing budgets and even debating effectively.

Course Structure:

The A Level course is split and assessed in 3 papers with a heavy focus on Pure Maths and a minor focus on Mechanics and Statistics.

Assessment Overview:

Assessment Overview:

Three 2 hour papers:

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics

Paper 2: Pure Mathematics and Mechanics

Paper 3: Pure Mathematics and Statistics

Course Content:

Pure Mathematics

Students build on a range of topics from the GCSE such as trigonometry, polynomials and coordinate geometry. They also meet a range of new topics including calculus and series. There is an even greater focus on proof and rigour than in the GCSE, and students will be expected to use correct notation and symbols.

Mechanics

Students study vectors and mechanics. Mechanics is the study of the physical world, exploring the underlying processes that explain the movement of vehicles, planets and explores the effects of slopes and friction. Students will study classical topics including Newton's laws, Moments, Kinematics and Forces.

Statistics

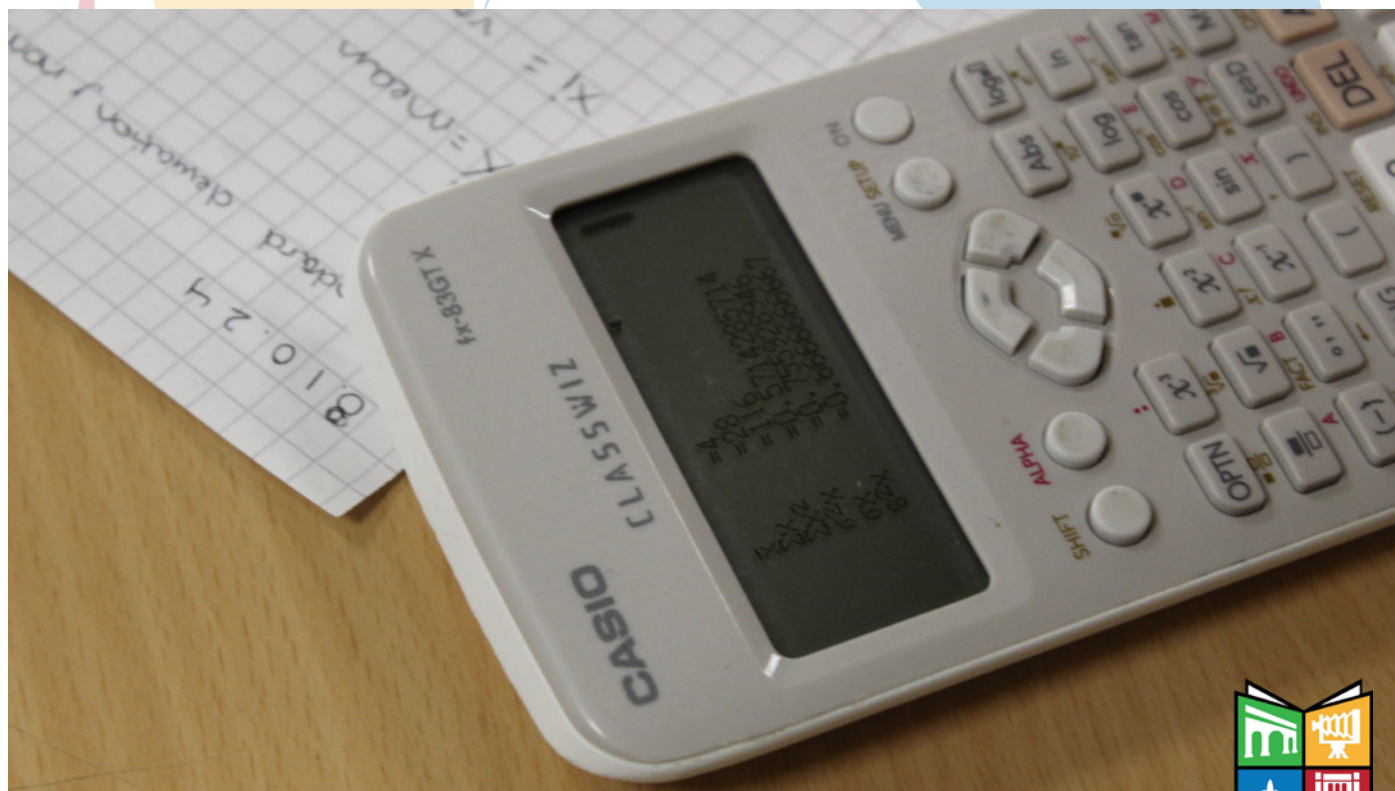
Students also study probability and statistics. Statistics will introduce students to statistical distributions and hypothesis testing. This allows pupils to understand statistical models that describe a whole host of real-world scenarios. They will study a large data set and understand the meaning of statistical measures. Probability will build on their GCSE course looking at set notation, conditional probability, mutually exclusive and independent events as well as considering the assumptions we make when we model using probability.

To find out more, please contact:

Mrs L Smy

Second in Maths

lis@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Media

Exam Board: CTEC



Course Description:

Media Studies A-Level is an exciting opportunity to embrace our media-saturated age. You will study all forms of media from advertising to television dramas to gaming franchises and everything in between. As well as gaining an in-depth knowledge and understanding of how to critically read media texts, you will also create your own production to meet a set brief and audience. Our set areas for study include exploration of production, representations, audiences, contexts and industry along with applying critical theory to media products.

The course includes both analytical and creative work, combining learned content, examining personal experience of the media along with digital skills in the creation of your production.

A-Level Media Studies is well-suited for students aiming to pursue a career within the media or any field involving communication and creativity.

Assessment Overview:

Assessment is through three units: two written exams at the end of the course, along with an NEA project involving the creation and evaluation of your own media product in response to a choice of briefs set by the exam board.

Course Content:

Year 1:

Analysing Media Language, Representation, Industries and Audiences in:

Advertising and marketing
Music videos
Newspapers
Radio
Video games

Year 2:

Completion of NEA (Cross-Media Production)
Media Forms and Products in Depth -
Television in the Global Age
Magazines: Mainstream and Alternative Media
Media in the Online Age

To find out more, please contact:

Ms J Powell

Head of KS5 English and Media

jmp@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Performing Arts

Exam Board: CTEC



Course Description:

The Level 3 Cambridge Technical in Performing Arts qualification will help you to achieve your potential and progress to the next stage of your lives, whether that's university, a degree or higher apprenticeship or employment. We have designed refreshing and exciting content that's up to date, engaging, fit for purpose and suitable for your performing arts needs, and feedback. It is examined as a mixture of performance, coursework and exams in both Year 12 and Year 13.

The qualification includes specific pathways for all performing arts specialisms: music, acting, dance, musical theatre, and theatre production. Each of these pathways has units specifically designed for the specialism and optional units that allow you to specialise even further.

We run the disciplines concurrently, which enables excellent combined arts performances.

Assessment Overview:

Units 1,2,3 are externally assessed via 10 week-controlled assessment periods.

Units 1 and 3 have a mix of written and practical work. You are allowed access to your notes for the written work.

Units 4 and 8 are a mix of practical and written work, internally assessed and then moderated by the exam board.

Course Content:

Year 12 and 13 are taught together and the programme of units roll between Year 1 and 2 study depending on your year.

Year 1:

Unit 2 – Proposal for a Commissioning Brief
Unit 4 – Combined Arts

Year 2:

Unit 3 – Influential Performance Practice
Unit 8 –Performing Repertoire

Unit 1- Preparing to Work in the Performing Arts Sector is studied in both years and examined in Year 2

To find out more, please contact:

Mrs Z Young
Teacher of Creative Arts, EPQ Co-ordinator
zey@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk
or
Mrs T Crook
Teacher of Creative
tec@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Physics

Exam Board: AQA



Course Description:

Physicists look for all the hidden laws that explain why all matter (that's every physical thing) and energy in the known universe exists, where it comes from and how it behaves the way it does. Physicists use the laws they uncover to develop new materials, machinery, and technology, from computers to telescopes and spacecraft.

In AQA A-Level Physics, students will study fundamental physics principles such as mechanics, electricity, waves, quantum physics, thermal physics, and nuclear physics. Students practical skills are also developed throughout the course, with successful students receiving a practical endorsement at the end of the two years.

A-Level Physics is ideal for students planning to pursue degrees in physics, engineering, computer science, or other related fields.

Assessment Overview:

Assessment consists of three written exams at the end of the course, along with a practical skills endorsement based on performance in laboratory work.

Course Content:

Year 1:

- Particle physics
- Quantum physics,
- Mechanics and Materials
- Waves
- Electric circuits

Year 2:

- Gravitational, electric and magnetic fields
- Thermal physics
- Nuclear physics
- Astrophysics

To find out more, please contact:

Mr B Lansbury

Head of Science, Physics Teacher

btl@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Psychology

Exam Board: EquaQas



Course Description:

Psychology is the scientific study of the human mind. In Psychology, we consider why we think, feel and act the ways that we do and how we might change these things. There are many different branches and areas of Psychology, including cognitive psychology and social psychology, so there is something for everyone.

Psychology is well-suited to people who have enquiring minds and wonder about why we think and do certain things. It is also well suited to those with a scientific and analytical outlook who seek to explain things and are interested in research and experimentation.

Psychology pairs well with a number of subjects, including Humanities, the Sciences, English Language (which covers some child development content), Maths and Business Studies.

Assessment Overview:

- **Component 1:**
Psychology: Past to Present 33½% of qualification

five psychological approaches, classic pieces of research evidence and a contemporary debate.

- **Component 2:**
Psychology: Investigating Behaviour 33½% of qualification

Principles of research
Compulsory questions on how psychological investigations are carried out.

Personal investigations
- **Component 3: Psychology: 33¼% of qualification**
Implications in the Real World psychological behaviours. Controversies

Course Content:

At Abbeyfield, we study the Eduqas Psychology qualification which consists of three components taken across two years.

Component 1: Psychology Past to Present

You will explore five key approaches within Psychology, considering how Psychology has changed and developed. In this component you will also consider a range of different psychological therapies for mental illness and evaluate them, as well as considering a number of debates within Psychology.

- **The biological approach**
- **The psychodynamic approach**
- **The behaviourist approach**
- **The cognitive approach.**
- **The positive approach**

Component 2: Investigating Behaviour

This component is all about how psychologists conduct research and builds towards conducting two pieces of your own psychological research.

- **Principles of research**
- **Personal investigations**
- **Application of research methods to a novel scenario -**

Component 3: Implications in the real world:

This unit focuses on how we apply our psychological understanding to the real world by looking at real life conditions such as schizophrenia and how we can use our knowledge to help find treatments today.

- **Applications**
- **Controversies**

To find out more, please contact:
Mrs N Harrison
Teacher of Psychology/Humanities
nxh@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject:

Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

Exam Board: OCR



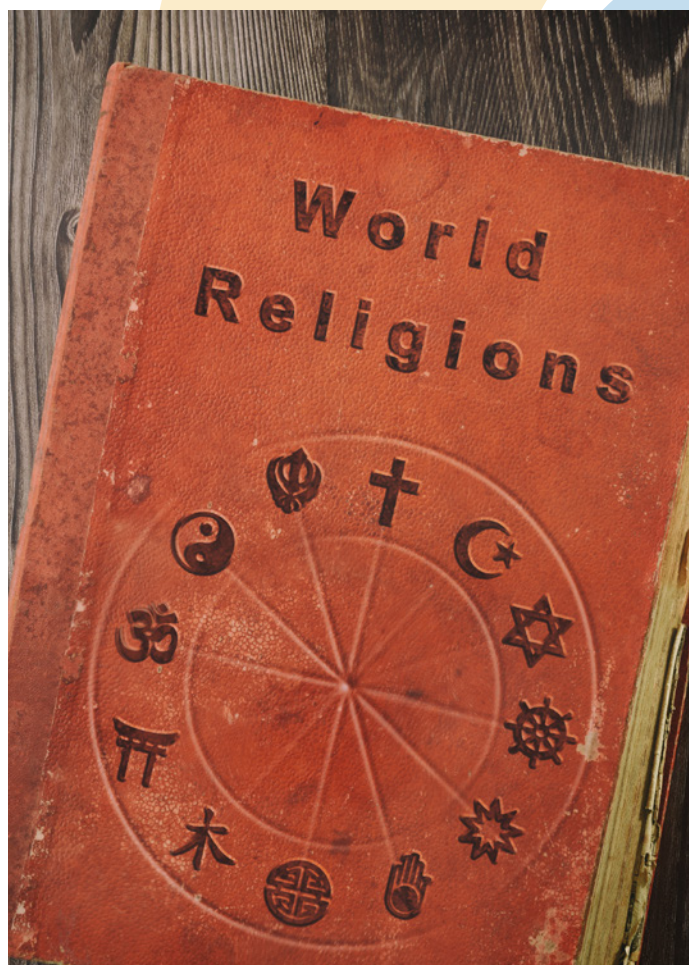
Course Description:

Do you enjoy asking why? Debating BIG QUESTIONS such as why we are here and what is the right thing to do? Engaging in high level discussion and discourse? Then Religion, Philosophy & Ethics is the course for you!

The course covers a wide range of philosophical, religious and ethical ideas including the ancient Greek philosophy of Plato and Aristotle, consideration of key ideas in Christianity and whether they are relevant today and how we make moral decisions about complicated issues such as euthanasia or sex.

Assessment Overview:

- **Unit 1 (H573/01) Philosophy of Religion: Two hour written paper. Students answer 3 essay questions from a choice of 4**
- **Unit 2 (H573/02) Ethics: Two hour written exam. Students answer 3 essay questions from a choice of 4**
- **Unit 3 (H573/0) Developments in Religious Thought: Two hour written exam. Students answer 3 essay questions from a choice of 4**



Course Content:

The A level exam is made up of three courses:

Philosophy of Religion considers some big questions of human existence. Why are we here? What does it mean to be a human? Is there a God? What happens when we die? Can we resolve the problem of evil and suffering? We consider these questions alongside the study of how thinkers over time have responded to them, and consider what makes a sound argument. The course covers thinkers from the beginning of Philosophy with Plato and Aristotle to modern day thinkers like John Hick and Richard Dawkins.

Ethics is all around us. Questions and dilemmas challenge us all the time in our relationships, at home, school or in society.. Ethical questions include how do we make moral decisions about right and wrong? Do I have a conscience? Or freewill? Can I apply ethical ideas to issues surrounding abortion, euthanasia and genetic engineering? In this course you will consider how people make moral decisions over a wide range of issues such as medicine, sexuality and business.

Developments in Religious Thought allows students to study Christianity in greater depth and focuses on how key beliefs and practices have developed over time. The course also explores the place of religion in the modern world considering its impact on law and society. Questions asked by this course include why do people believe what they do? What sources of authority do Christians use and how reliable are they?

To find out more, please contact:

Mr J Warrington

Teacher of Religious Studies

jnw@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



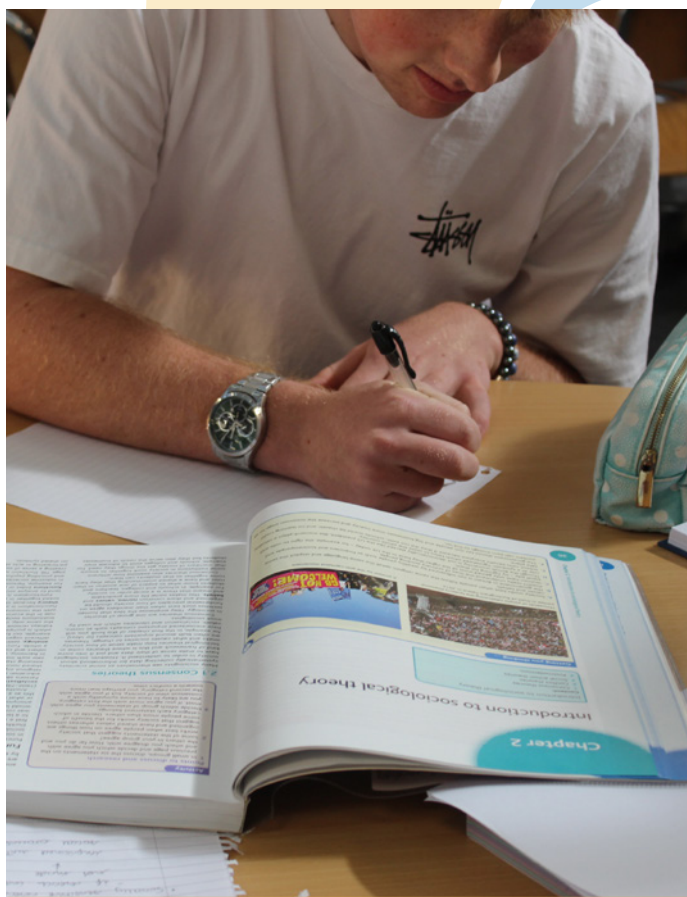
Course Description:

Do you enjoy exploring the world around you? Would you like to gain a deeper understanding of the structure of society? Would you like to explore the social issues that are relevant to your own experiences and those of the people around you? Sociology seeks to explore the factors that influence our everyday decisions and experiences. It looks to explore and analyse a variety of theories which attempt to explain how our society and community functions today. It is the study of human behaviours and the interaction between human groups and institutions.

Assessment Overview:

Students study three exams:

- 1. Socialisation, Culture and Identity. Families and Relationships. Component 1: 90 minute written exam, 30 % A level**
- 2. Researching and Understanding Social Inequalities. Component 2: 2 hour 15 minute written exam, 35 % A level**
- 3. Globalisation and the digital social world. Crime and Deviance. Component 3: 2 hour 15 minute written exam, 35% of A level**



Course Content:

Unit One – Socialisation, culture and identity

Section A:

- Introducing socialisation, culture and identity.
- What is culture?
- What is socialisation?
- What is identity?

Section B:

- Families and relationships

Unit Two – Researching and understanding social inequalities

Section A:

- Research methods and researching social inequalities (class, age, gender, ethnicity)
- What is the relationship between theory and methods?
- What are the main stages of the research process?
- Which methods are used in Sociological research?

Section B:

- Understanding social inequalities
- What are the main patterns and trends in social inequality and difference?
- How can patterns and trends in social inequality be explained?

Unit Three – Debates in contemporary society

Section A:

- Globalisation and the digital social world.
- The relationship between globalisation and digital forms of communications.
- The impact of digital communications in a global context.

Section B:

- Crime and deviance

To find out more, please contact:

Mrs L Farquharson
Teacher of Humanities
lkf@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Spanish

Exam Board: AQA



Course Description:

Students will study technological and social change, looking at the multicultural nature of Hispanic society. They will study highlights of Hispanic artistic culture, including a focus on Spanish regional identity and the cultural heritage of past civilisations. They will learn about aspects of the diverse political landscape of the Hispanic world.

Students will explore the influence of the past on present-day Hispanic communities. Throughout their studies, they learn the language in the context of Hispanic countries and issues and influences which have shaped them. Students will study texts and film and will have the opportunity to carry out independent research on an area of their choice.

Assessment Overview:

Assessment tasks will be varied and cover listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.

**Paper 1 – Listening, reading, writing.
Paper 2 – Writing, Paper 3 - Speaking**

Course Content:

The specification is designed to be taken over two years, with a range of topics being studied over the 24 month period.

These include:

Social issues and trends

- Modern and traditional values
- Cyberspace
- Equal rights

Political and artistic culture

- Heritage of the country and modern Spain as a contrast.
- Popular movements, traditions and values

Grammar

Literary and film works

The **Individual Research Project** as part of the speaking exam.

To find out more, please contact:

Mr D Wicks
Head of MFL
dmw@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject:

AS Further Mathematics

Exam Board: AQA



Course Description:

AS-level Further Mathematics is designed to broaden and deepen the mathematical knowledge and skills developed when studying A-Level Mathematics. Students taking Further Mathematics overwhelmingly find it to be an enjoyable, rewarding, and empowering experience. For someone who enjoys mathematics, it provides a challenge and a chance to explore new and/or more sophisticated mathematical concepts.

It is also very much recommended for anyone hoping to study any mathematical based course at university. AS Further Maths is taught over two years but with fewer lessons than a full A-Level.

Assessment Overview:

Paper 1: Pure Mathematics 90 minutes

Then 2 of the following 3: 90 minutes total

Paper 2 part	1:	Mechanics
Paper 2 part	2:	Discrete Mathematics
Paper 2 part	3:	Statistics

Course Content:

The AS-Level course is split and assessed in 2 papers with a heavy focus on Pure Maths and a minor focus on two of Discrete Maths, Mechanics and Statistics. Depending on the students who take Further Maths, we will choose the suitable option.

Pure Mathematics

Students build on many topics from the Maths A-Level and meet a variety of important new topics too. They will study familiar topics such as algebra and functions, calculus and vectors. They will also study new and important topics such as complex numbers, polar coordinates and hyperbolic functions.

Two of the following three:

Mechanics

Students build on the Mechanics covered in A-Level and the content also ties in with A-Level Physics. They will study topics such as the work-energy principle, which looks at how energy is transferred as well as Hooke's Law concerning elasticity of springs.

Discrete Mathematics

Students study a relatively new branch of mathematics interested in optimisation. This is widely used in the modern world, especially where a business uses programming. Students will study topics such as graphs and networks and very practical topics such as critical path analysis. They will also study sophisticated concepts such as game theory.

Statistics

Students study new topics including discrete and continuous random variables as well as building on their knowledge of Statistics from the Maths A-Level by studying further statistical distributions and type I and type II errors when carrying out hypothesis tests.

To find out more, please contact:

Mrs L Smy
Second in Maths
lis@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject: Level 3 Certificate in Mathematical Studies (Core Maths)

Exam Board: AQA



Course Description:

Core Maths is about students doing applied mathematical problems to increase their confidence in using maths and to be better equipped for the mathematical demands of other courses, higher education, employment and life.

Core Maths has been designed in collaboration with universities and employers to teach you the mathematical skills you need to be successful in a wide range of courses including the sciences and humanities alongside more traditionally mathematical courses such as Economics. Furthermore it will develop your real-life maths skills. What you study is not purely theoretical or abstract; it can be applied on a day-to-day basis in work, study or life and the course will include a financial maths element where you look at calculations for tax, APR and loan repayments.

Core Maths is strongly recommended for students studying sciences, Geography, Business, Psychology or Economics, but not taking A-Level Maths. It will also add value for all Post-18 applications, and provide value numeracy skills to support with budgeting household incomes in the future.

Assessment Overview:

Regular assessments throughout including 2 full mock examinations.

2 x 1.5 hour examinations to be sat at the end of the year 12. Grade achieved in the Summer before Year 13.

Course Content:

Year 1:

Chapter 1 – Analysis of Data
Chapter 2 – Personal Finance
Chapter 3 – Estimation
Chapter 4 – Critical Analysis of Data and Models
Chapter 5 – The Normal Distribution
Chapter 6 – Confidence Intervals
Chapter 7 – Correlation and Regression Lines

Year 2: N/A

To find out more, please contact:

Mr M Pinnell

KS3 Co-ordinator for Maths, Teacher of Maths

MXP@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk



Subject:

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Exam Board: Edexcel



Course Description:

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is a single piece of work of a student's choosing that demonstrates evidence of planning, preparation, research and autonomous working. This evidences the level of independence required for undergraduate study, and this for this reason EPQ's add value to post-18 applications.

Many universities also provide contextual offers for students who achieve well in an EPQ i.e. offers are at least 1 grade lower.

An EPQ will also add value to apprenticeship or work applications.

Strongly recommended for students continuing to university, particularly Russell Group or if you need to demonstrate a particular skill set or subject expertise not evidenced by your A-Level subjects.

Assessment Overview:

Worth **50%** of an A Level i.e. up to 28 UCAS tariff points.

The EPQ is a 1-Year course, with work submitted by May of Year 12, with a grade secured ahead of post-18 applications.

The EPQ consists of the main work, activity log, a presentation and review. It is internally marked and moderated by the exam board.

This is an independent study project, supported by 2 supervision lessons per fortnight.

Course Content:

Students can undertake a project on a topic of their own choosing, which may or may not be linked to their A-level subjects.

The project can be essay based/ field study/ performance or artefact. The only qualifying criteria is that you must be able to form an argument i.e. it is not just a presentation of information.

Projects designed by previous and current students are diverse and challenging, and include:

- Is our current approach to protecting against human African trypanosomiasis appropriate?
- Does the overuse of technology really affect people's eyesight?
- Is murder ever morally justifiable?

To find out more, please contact:

Mrs Z Young
Teacher of Creative Arts, EPQ Co-ordinator
zey@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk





Apply via the relevant on-line Application Form on our web page.

Deadline 12th December 2025 in the first instance,
but we can accept late applications until September 2026.

We welcome applications from new students
and a tour of our 6th Form accommodation can be provided upon request.

For more information please scan:



Reception: 01249 464500
Email Miss Jones: SXJ@abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk

Abbeyfield School
Stanley Lane
Chippenham
Wiltshire
SN15 3XB

@abbeyfieldschool

abbeyfield_school

www.abbeyfield.wilts.sch.uk

