Key Stage 4 Pathways

2025 - 2027

Everyone a Learner Everyone Learning.

Contents

Introduction 3
Key Dates in the Pathways Process 4
The Pathways 5
GCSE Grading Structure 6
E-Baccalaureate 6
How Should You Choose Your Pathway? 7
Skills & Employability Service 7
English 9
Mathematics 10
Science (Combined) 11
GCSE French 13
GCSE Geography 14
GCSE History 15
GCSE Triple Science 16
GCSE Art 18
GCSE Astronomy 19
GCSE Citizenship 20
GCSE Design and Technology 21
GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition 22
GCSE Music 23
GCSE Photography 24
GCSE Religious Studies 25
GCSE Textiles 26
BTEC Technical Award in Enterprise 27
BTEC Technical Award in Health and Social Care 28
BTEC Technical Award in Digital Information Technology 29
BTEC Technical Award in Performing Arts 30
BTEC Technical Award in Sport 31

Introduction

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Welcome to the options process at Abbot Beyne School. This is an exciting time for you where you have, for the first time, the opportunity to choose some of the subjects that you will study.

Please consider carefully all the information, advice and guidance that you will receive over the coming weeks to help you make decisions that could shape and influence the rest of your life.

It is really important that you take this process seriously as you only get to choose GCSEs and BTECs once and your choices could affect your future studies and career.

Please read this booklet carefully and see me with any questions that you might have throughout the process.

Kind regards

Mr James Church

Key Dates in the Pathways Process

Year 9 Hybrid Consultation Evening A chance to talk to your teachers about how you have progressed in their subject. This may help you make up your mind about which subjects to choose. Book on SchoolCloud – attend in person or virtually.	Wednesday 12th March 4 - 6pm Evershed Hall (or virtually) I will be available to give Information, Advice and Guidance around your child's possible options on a non-bookable basis on this evening – please queue when you have some free time. NB **Do not miss your subject teacher appointments as these are at fixed times**. Do not worry if you cannot see me on this evening as I will run more 1:1 sessions virtually according to demand.
Year 9 Pathways Evening - Meet the subject leaders and teachers and ask questions about optional subjects.	Thursday 20st March from 6pm to 7:30pm – Evershed Hall. **Please arrive promptly for a 6pm start** 6pm-6:20pm A short presentation about options. 6:20pm-7:30pm Subject presentations and displays.
Information Advice and Guidance Interviews A chance to discuss your choices with me and your parents. You will be given impartial advice that may assist you with your choices.	These will be bookable via SchoolCloud at various points throughout the process. I will release these sessions after the Consultation Evening. NB these are only for those parents who wish to be involved in the discussions. I will speak with all students personally at school if I have not spoken with them at a parental session.
Subject choice form due to be completed via Google forms. Students will be **emailed** with a link to the form on the 20th March after Pathways Evening finishes.	**DEADLINE: Friday 11th April 3pm** NB: Students who complete their form on time will be given preference over those who are late. There is no advantage to filling the form out early.

You will choose seven subjects in order of preference. **You will only study four option subjects,** the final three are reserve choices**.** The order is important as this will be used to build the blocks and ensure that a best fit is obtained between student choice and subject availability.

Details in this booklet are as up-to-date as they can be at this stage. However, there may be slight changes to the courses available or syllabus content in some subjects before September 2025.

The Pathways

You should choose subjects which keep your options open as far as possible into the future and which take account of your individual capabilities and interests. We will do our best to accommodate first choices but you should note that courses which attract very few students will not run.

Core Subjects

All students will take these subjects:

English Language and English Literature
Mathematics
Science (Combined, a double GCSE) – unless you choose Triple Science from Group A
Core PE (not examined)

Group A Subjects

Students **must** take one (or more) of these subjects:

French
Geography
History
Triple Science (top up from Combined Science, students will study three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics)

Group B Subjects

You **may** take one, two or three of these subjects:

Art
Astronomy
Citizenship
Design Technology
Food Preparation and Nutrition
Music
Photography
Religious Studies
Textiles
Enterprise
Health and Social Care
Digital Information Technology
Performing Arts
Sport

GCSE Grading Structure

All GCSEs have been graded 9-1 rather than A*-C for several years. This was a national change and all schools deliver these new courses. There is not a direct equivalence for all new grades but the following rules will help you understand.

The lower boundary of a grade 7 is equivalent to the lower boundary of a grade A
The lower boundary of a grade 4 is equivalent to the lower boundary of a grade C
The lower boundary of a grade 1 is equivalent to the lower boundary of a grade G

In 2027, the national standard of a "strong" pass will be grade 5 or better. This is higher than the old "good" pass of a grade C. Grade 4 passes are now referred to as “standard” passes.

BTECs are graded Distinction* (Level 2 only), Distinction, Merit or Pass. You may be entered for Level 1 or Level Two BTEC depending on your performance. All equivalences below are approximate:

BTEC Level 2 Distinction*	= GCSE grade 8/9
BTEC Level 2 Distinction	= GCSE grade 7
BTEC Level 2 Merit	= GCSE grade 5/6
BTEC Level 2 Pass	= GCSE grade 4
BTEC Level 1 Distinction	= GCSE grade 3
BTEC Level 1 Merit	= GCSE grade 2
BTEC Level 1 Pass	= GCSE grade 1

In order to gain entrance to Abbot Beyne Sixth Form, the minimum requirements are five grade fours including English and maths or higher. Some subjects require higher grades. See the School website for Sixth Form entry requirements although these may change over the next two years.

E-Baccalaureate

The E-Baccalaureate is a set of subjects that includes:

- English;
- Maths;
- Combined (or triple) Science;
- a Humanity (Geography or History);
- French.

All students at Abbot Beyne School will study English, Maths and combined (or triple) Science but Geography, History and French are optional Group A subjects.

Students considering a **Russell Group University** after A Levels should consider the E-Baccalaureate by choosing **either Geography or History plus French**. Russell Group Universities are the most prestigious universities in the country and tend to be older institutions like Oxford and Cambridge as well as the traditional “red brick” universities like Birmingham, Nottingham, Liverpool, Leeds, Newcastle etc.

High ability students should seriously consider taking **French and either Geography or History** to keep their options open for the future.

How Should You Choose Your Pathway?

Choose subjects for the following reasons:

- Because they will be useful for your future career;
- Because you are good at them;
- Because you enjoy them.

Try to make a well-balanced choice based on as much information as possible and take advice from:

- Your Subject Teachers;
- Your Head of Year;
- Friends and Family;

It is important to remember that you may not automatically get your first choices. We make every effort to accommodate your preferences but the school can put on only a limited number of groups and each group has a minimum and maximum number of students. The higher the priority that you give a subject, the more likely it is that you will be able to study it.

Skills & Employability Service

This service offers guidance to all students and, in particular, to individuals seen to be in most need. You may be contacted, or you can make contact yourself if you need advice beyond that which you can obtain from school.

Emily Hardy
Careers Adviser

Inspiring Futures
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Riverway, Stafford, ST16 3TH
T:0333 300 1900
T:0797 033 7574
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Core Subjects

English

Teacher in charge
Miss H L Bithell

What course will I do?
EDUQAS GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature (2 GCSEs)

What will I study?

English Language:

Component 1 –
We will look at a range of 20th century fiction extracts to help you build the skills needed to explore an unseen extract in the exam. You will also develop the skills needed to write creatively.

Component 2 –
You will explore a range of non-fiction extracts from the 19th and 21st centuries. This will enable you to then write persuasive and discursive texts of your own.

Component 3 –
You will prepare and deliver a speech on a controversial topic of your choice. You will then
answer a series of questions put to you about the topic you have chosen.

English Literature:

Component 1 –
Shakespeare and a range of poetry from 1789 to the present day.

Component 2 –
Post 1914 drama ('Blood Brothers'), 19th century novel ('A Christmas Carol') and unseen poetry.

Assessment

English Language
Spoken assessment completed in class at the beginning of Year 10.
Two examinations taken at the end of Year 11.

English Literature
Two examinations taken at the end of Year 11.

Additional Information
There is a single tier of entry.

Mathematics

Teacher in charge
Ms Senthilkumar

What course will I do?
OCR GCSE Mathematics or Edexcel GCSE Mathematics

What will I study?
The syllabus is split into six main topic areas:

1. Number
2. Algebra
3. Ratio, proportion and rates of change
4. Geometry and measures
5. Probability
6. Statistics

Throughout the course there will be a big emphasis on using problem solving skills within these areas of Mathematics. Students will be required to choose the appropriate Mathematics to use and apply, in given situations. Students will also be taught all relevant calculator skills
so having their own scientific calculator would be extremely beneficial (students will be advised by their teacher which model to purchase).

Assessment

The students are assessed through external examinations only, sitting one 'Non-calculator' paper and two 'Calculator' exams.
All exam papers are one and a half hours and are taken during the May/June Year 11 exam period.

Coursework

There is no coursework for this subject.

Additional Information

Tiers of entry

Higher Tier	Grades 4 to 9
Foundation Tier	Grades 1 to 5

A student's tier of entry will be determined by their overall mathematical ability.

Science (Combined)

Teacher in charge
Mrs C Lowe

What course will I do?
All students who do not opt for Triple Science will complete Combined Science GCSE.

What will I study?
A wide range of topics covering science in the everyday world and in the press. The course is designed to inform the citizens of the future.

Assessment
100% exam taken at the end of Year 11. There will be 2 1 hour 15 minute exam papers from each of the Biology, Chemistry and Physics units.

Additional Information
At the end of each topic there will be an exam that will count towards the teacher's assessment during the year and will help students track their own progress.

Students will study two full GCSEs in Science.

Tiers of entry

Higher Tier	Grades 4 to 9
Foundation Tier	Grades 1 to 5

A student's tier of entry will be determined by their overall scientific ability.

Students will be entered for Foundation or Higher tier for the end of year exams, this will be based on the advice of their teachers and how confident they feel about the topics studied.

IMPORTANT:
Please choose Triple Science on the Option Form should you wish to upgrade from Combined Science to Triple Science (three separate GCSEs in Biology, Chemistry and Physics). This is especially useful, although not essential, for those wishing to study Science A Levels.

Group A Subjects

GCSE French

Teacher in charge
Ms Linda Graine

What course will I do?
AQA GCSE French

What will I study?
Assessment is set in the context of these three themes.

- Theme 1: People and lifestyle
- Theme 2: Popular culture
- Theme 3: Communication and the world around us

GCSE French has a Foundation tier (grades 1–5) and a Higher tier (grades 4–9). Students must take all four question papers at the same tier. All question papers must be taken in the same
series.

Assessment
Paper 1: Listening, what's assessed

- Understanding and responding to spoken extracts comprising the defined vocabulary
  and grammar for each tier
- Dictation of short, spoken extracts

Paper 2: Speaking, what's assessed

- Speaking using clear and comprehensible language to undertake a role-play
- Carry out a reading aloud task
- Talk about visual stimuli

Paper 3: Reading, what's assessed

- Understanding and responding to written texts which focus predominantly on the
  vocabulary and grammar at each tier
- Inferring plausible meanings of single words when they're embedded in written
  sentences
- Translating from French into English

Paper 4: Writing, what's assessed

- Writing text in the language in a lexically and grammatically accurate way in response
  to simple and familiar stimuli
- Translating from English into French

Additional Information
It is highly recommended that students study an additional language in order to achieve the English Baccalaureate which is essential to many degree courses. Studying an additional language not only broadens future job opportunities, it is also highly regarded by many employers and many will employ people at a higher starting salary if they speak an additional language. The study of French also encourages students to step beyond familiar cultural boundaries and develop new ways of seeing the world and other people.

GCSE Geography

Teacher in charge
Mr J Stafford

What course will I do?
AQA GCSE Geography

What will I study?
Paper 1 Physical Geography:

- The challenge of natural hazards
- The living world
- Physical landscapes in the UK

Paper 2 Challenges in the human environment:

- Urban issues and challenges
- The changing economic world
- The challenge of resource management

Paper 3 - Geographical Skills

- Pre-Release Issue Based Geographical Decision Making Exercise
- Geographical skills
- Fieldwork Write-up

Assessment
35% - External examination of Paper 1 – Physical Geography (1 hour 30 minutes). Question types: Multiple-choice, short answer, levels of response, extended written responses.

35% - External examination of Paper 2 – Human Geography (1 hour 30 minutes). Question types: Multiple-choice, short answer, levels of response, extended written responses.

30% - External examinations of Paper 3 – Geographical application (1 hour 30 minutes). Pre-release resources booklet made available 12 weeks before the Paper 3 examination.

Additional Information
Fieldwork **must** take place outside the classroom and school grounds on at least **two** occasions.
The two enquiries must be carried out in contrasting environments and show an understanding of both physical and human geography. In at least one of the enquiries students are expected to show an understanding about the interaction between physical and human geography.

GCSE History

Teacher in charge
Mrs K L Green

What course will I do?
AQA History.

What will I study?
4 units will be studied over the two year course.

Paper 1: Understanding the modern world:
- America 1840 – 1895
- Conflict and Tension 1894 – 1918 (World War I)

Paper 2: Shaping the nation:
- Britain, Health and the People c1000 to the present day
- Elizabethan England 1568 – 1603

Assessment
Two written exams to be taken in Year 11. Both exams are equally weighted 50% each.

Additional information
Many people wrongly assume that History is about writing essays – it isn't! The style of assessment questions in GCSE are the same as you have been doing in Year 9 History. History requires the ability to analyse a range of sources and to respond to evidence. Most employers value the skills gained through the study of History. GCSE History shows employers that you are able to analyse information, reach informed conclusions and have a greater understanding of the world around us. History gives us the skills to go into many different career pathways.

Paper 1
America, 1840 – 1895: Expansion and consolidation
This period study focuses on the development of America during a turbulent half century of change. It investigates how America was developed by the settlers, the impact this had on the American Indian way of life and how the Civil War impacted on America and the end of slavery.

Conflict and tension 1894 – 1918.
This course studies the causes of tension in Europe leading to World War 1. The different battles and conditions in the war and how the war ended.

Paper 2
Britain: Health and the people: c1000 to the present day
This thematic study compares the continuity and change of medicine over 1000 years. It is an overview rather than an in depth study.

Elizabeth 1 1568-1603
A study of the political and social aspects and change in Elizabethan England. How she managed to rule single handed, how she dealt with the plots against her including the execution of her cousin, Mary Queen of Scots. It also studies how England was transformed under her rule.

As part of the GCSE unit we will also visit Kenilworth Castle.

GCSE Triple Science

Teacher in charge
Mrs C Lowe

What course will I do?
There is an option for an AQA Separate science course. This is taken up by 1 option block and gives students 3 separate GCSE grades.
All students who do not opt for this will carry on to complete the combined science GCSEs.

What will I study?
A wide range of topics covering science in the everyday world and in the press. The course is designed to inform the citizens of the future.

Assessment
Triple Science students will have 6 exams in June of Year 11, 2 per subject each 1 hour 45 minutes.

Additional Information
At the end of each topic there will be an assessment that will count towards the teacher's assessment during the year and will help students track their own progress. Students will study three full GCSEs in Science.

Tiers of entry

Higher Tier Grades 4 to 9
Foundation Tier Grades 1 to 5

A student's tier of entry will be determined by their overall scientific ability.

Students will be entered for Foundation or Higher tier for the end of year exams, this will be based on the advice of their teachers and how confident they feel about the topics studied.

IMPORTANT:
Please choose Triple Science on the Option Form should you wish to upgrade from Combined Science to Triple Science. This is especially useful, although not essential, for those wishing to study Science A Levels.

You will also probably be in set 1 or 2 and have a high level of interest in Science to be able to access this course. Please discuss with your Science teacher if in doubt.

Group B Subjects

GCSE Art

Teacher in charge
Mr S P Randall

What course will I do?
AQA GCSE Art – with Painting and various Media

GCSE Art will teach students the creative process involved in producing a successful visual project which culminates in a final piece. They will learn how to use various media, understand the design process, be creative thinkers, use artists to develop their own style and create work that has visual impact. The course is 60% coursework and 40% exam, all of which is practically based and marked internally and externally moderated.

Career opportunities from Visual Arts subjects:
You should remember that an option choice from this area is, in fact, 'another GCSE' that leads to you having a number of GCSEs: and that the number of good GCSEs you have is one of the most important factors in 'being qualified' to do a particular job or progress further in education. You are likely to be most successful in your pursuit of that 'number' if you choose a subject you think you will enjoy or one you know you are good at.

Careers in the Visual Arts are as varied as they are absorbing and there are many pathways to many sorts of jobs using the skills you will develop on this course. Many Art and Design disciplines overlap and the boundaries are becoming more blurred as more artists and designers become multi-skilled. Common to them all, however, is the need to work out creative solutions to problems and ideas which is an essential skill in any career path.

Art and Design training can lead to careers in all sectors of industry, besides publishing, advertising and the media, or working as a fine artist as the 'creative industry' is one of the biggest in the world. Some of the 'industries' you could access with a qualification in this Visual Arts area include working in;

Advertising, Animation, Architecture and stained glass design, Book covers and book-binding, Designing carpets, ceramic tiles glassware, furniture and pottery, Clothing and Fashion, Heritage – Gallery and museum work, Art History or restoration of artefacts, The Environment and its design, Education, Film, Video, Television and Photography, Footwear, Furniture, Graphic design (product, packaging, website, magazines), Illustration, Interior design and decorating, Jewellery, Knitwear, Photography, Printing, Textile design, Theatre and set design.
Further information can be obtained from; www.design-council.org.uk ('Your creative future'); 'Guide to Courses and Careers in Art, Craft and Design: Creative Futures' NCEAD – www.nsead.org

GCSE Astronomy

Teacher in charge
Mr L Wagg

What course will I do?
Edexcel GCSE Astronomy (9-1)

What will I study?
Paper 1 Naked-eye Astronomy
● Topic 1 – Planet Earth
● Topic 2 – The lunar disc
● Topic 3 – The Earth-Moon-Sun system
● Topic 4 – Time and the Earth-Moon-Sun cycles
● Topic 5 – Solar System observation
● Topic 6 – Celestial observation
● Topic 7 – Early models of the Solar System
● Topic 8 – Planetary motion and gravity
Paper 2 Telescopic Astronomy:
● Topic 9 – Exploring the Moon ● Topic 10 – Solar astronomy ● Topic 11 – Exploring the Solar System ● Topic 12 – Formation of planetary systems ● Topic 13 – Exploring starlight ● Topic 14 – Stellar evolution ● Topic 15 – Our place in the Galaxy ● Topic 16 – Cosmology

Assessment
50% - External examination of Paper 1 – Naked-eye Astronomy (1 hour 45 minutes).
A mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations, graphical and extended-open-response questions.
50% - External examination of Paper 2 – Telescopic Astronomy (1 hour 45 minutes).
A mixture of different question styles, including multiple-choice questions, short-answer questions, calculations, graphical and extended- open-response questions.

Additional Information
Throughout their study of this qualification, students should develop their observational skills. Students must undertake at least one unaided and one aided observation, from a given selection. Students will need to use their knowledge and understanding of observational techniques and procedures in the written assessments.
Students will need to record the work that they have undertaken for these observations. The observation record must include the knowledge, skills and understanding they have derived from the observational activities. This is a mandatory requirement for the course and successful completion of the observations is needed to allow candidates to sit the examinations.
NB This course has the following important points to consider:

1. There is a significant mathematical content (mainly algebra) and hence students may be refused based on their mathematical abilities.
2. Triple Science is a much better preparation for A Level Science Studies and hence may be more appropriate for many. However, A Level Physics has an Astro Physics unit and this course will give you a good grounding for that unit.

GCSE Citizenship

Teacher in charge
Miss J Wood

What course will I do?
OCR Citizenship

Citizenship Studies introduces you to key citizenship issues and helps you develop a practical understanding of what it means to be a citizen today. You will acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to think critically and play a positive role in public life.

What will I study?

Three interrelated components.

- Citizenship in perspective
- Citizenship in action
- Our rights, our society, our world

Each component enables learners to understand what it means to be a citizen in today's society in a practical way.
The subject content is split into four key sections:
Section 1: Rights, the law and the legal system in England and Wales
Section 2: Democracy and government
Section 3: The UK and the wider world
Section 4: Citizenship Action

Assessment- All by external examinations
25%- Citizenship in Perspective: 50 marks, 50 minute written exam
50%- Citizenship in action: 100 marks and 1hr 45 minute written exam
25%- Our rights, our society, our world, 50 marks and 1 hour

Additional information

Specific topics that will be covered

Democracy and government	• Democracy, elections and voting in the UK • National, local, regional and devolved government • British Constitution • The role of the media and free press • Politics beyond the UK
Citizenship participation in democracy and society	• Citizen participation in democracy and society
Rights, the law and the legal system in England and Wales	• Rights and responsibilities • The law • The legal system (England and Wales)
The UK and its relations with the wider world	• The UK and its relations with the wider world • Identities and diversity in UK society
The economy, finance and money	• The economy, finance and money

GCSE Design and Technology

Teacher in charge
Mrs K Franklin

What course will I do?
AQA GCSE Design Technology

What will I study?
GCSE Design and Technology will prepare students to participate confidently and successfully in an increasingly technological world. Students will gain awareness and learn from wider influences on Design and Technology including historical, social, cultural, environmental and economic factors. Students will get the opportunity to work creatively when designing and making and apply technical and practical expertise.

Assessment
Assessment is based on one Designing and Making project (NEA) worth 50% of the total mark, plus a 2 hour written examination paper worth 50% of the marks. Both of these are completed in Yr11.

Coursework
GCSE Design and Technology allows students to study core technical and designing and making principles, including a broad range of design processes, materials techniques and equipment. They will also have the opportunity to study specialist technical principles in greater depth.

Additional Information
You can find out about the AQA Design and Technology qualification at aqa.org.uk/design and technology.
This new qualification is modern and relevant, so students can learn about contemporary technologies, materials and processes, as well as established practices. The new GCSE places greater emphasis on understanding and applying iterative design processes. Students will use their creativity and imagination to design and make prototypes that solve real and relevant problems, considering their own and others' needs, wants and values.

GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition

Teacher in charge
Mrs K Taylor

What course will I do?
AQA GCSE Full Course

This is a creative course which focuses on practical cooking skills. A thorough understanding of nutrition, food provenance and working characteristics of food materials.

What will I study?
Food Preparation skills are integrated into 5 core topics:

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

Assessment
Written paper (1 hour 45 minutes) 50% of GCSE.
Based on theoretical knowledge of food preparation and nutrition.

Non Exam
Task 1 – Food Investigation (15% of GCSE)
Report on practical investigation and the working characteristics of ingredients.
Task 2 – Food Preparation Assessment (35% of GCSE).
Plan, prepare, cook and present dishes combining appropriate techniques.
Demonstration of technical skills.

Additional Information
Practical work is an important aspect of the course. Students must be prepared to take an active and enthusiastic part in this, remembering ingredients on a weekly basis. Theory work is also an important aspect of the course and forms the basis of knowledge for the exam and the written parts of the non-exam assessments.

GCSE Music

Teacher in charge
Mrs O'Regan

What course will I do?
OCR GCSE Music

What will I study?
Three main musical skills will be developed throughout the course; Performing, Composing and Listening & Appraising.
The main Areas of Study are; My Music (where you study your own instrument, which includes voice), The Concerto Through Time, Rhythms of the World, Film Music and Conventions of Pop.

Assessment
Assessment is done through coursework (60%) and an exam (40%).
You will be assessed in each of the 3 musical skills as follows:
Integrated Portfolio (30%) – Performance on the learner's chosen instrument and a composition to a brief set by the learner.
Practical Component (30%) – An ensemble performance and a composition to a brief set by the exam board.
Listening and Appraising (40%) – Listening/Written exam at the end of Year 11.
Grades 1-9 are available.

Content Overview

Integrated Portfolio	□ Solo Performance on your chosen instrument □ Composition in any style to a brief set by the learner □ Internally assessed.
Practical Component	□ Ensemble performance on your chosen instrument (can be different to solo instrument) □ Composition linked to one of the Areas of Study. □ Internally assessed.
Listening Exam	□ Listening exam based on the four Areas of Study. □ A range of short and long answer questions based on extracts of music heard. □ Externally assessed.

Additional Information
Suitable for any student with a genuine interest in and commitment to music; perfect for anyone who already learns an instrument.

All students must be prepared to perform as a soloist and as part of an ensemble as performing counts for 30% of coursework.

All instruments are valid for performance, including guitar, keyboard and voice. Students should have an interest in a wide variety of musical styles and want to discover more about styles they may not have heard before! The course provides a good foundation for those who may want to study A Level Music.

It is strongly recommended and may be a requirement that students taking GCSE Music take up instrumental or singing lessons if they do not already have them. This will give them the specialised skills required for the performance aspect of the course. Students can take these lessons privately or they can be arranged in school with our team of peripatetic music teachers.
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GCSE Photography

Teacher in charge
Mr S P Randall

What course will I do?
AQA GCSE Photography – Exploring Digital Photography and Editing

GCSE Photography will teach students the creative process involved in producing a successful visual project which culminates in a final piece. They will learn how to use digital SLR cameras successfully as well as using industry standard image manipulation software. We will look at the impact Photography has had on society and that the meaning behind the photographs are as important as the photograph itself. The course is 60% coursework and 40% exam, all of which is practically based and marked internally and externally moderated.

Career opportunities from Visual Arts subjects:
You should remember that an option choice from this area is, in fact, 'another GCSE' that leads to you having a number of GCSEs: and that the number of good GCSEs you have is one of the most important factors in 'being qualified' to do a particular job or progress further in education. You are likely to be most successful in your pursuit of that 'number' if you choose a subject you think you will enjoy or one you know you are good at.

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Creative subjects can lead to careers in all sectors of industry, besides publishing, advertising and the media, or working as a fine artist as the 'creative industry' is one of the biggest in the world. Some of the 'industries' you could access with a qualification in this Visual Arts area include working in;

Advertising, Commercial and Advertising Photographer, Corporate Photographer, Editorial and Press Photographer, Fashion Photographer, Fine Art Photographer, Wedding Photographer, Portraiture Photographer, Estate Agency Photographer, Digital Imaging Specialist, Picture Researcher, Art and Photo Editor, Multimedia Specialist, Advertising Art Director, Web Editor, Photo Retail Sales Assistant, The Environment and its design, Education, Film, Video, Television and Photography, Graphic design (product, packaging, website, magazines), Illustration, Photography,
Further information can be obtained from; https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/photographer
'Guide to Courses and Careers in Art, Craft and Design: Creative Futures' NCEAD – www.nsead.org

GCSE Religious Studies

Teacher in charge
Miss Z Berrisford

What course will I do?
AQA Religious Studies Specification A

What will I study?
This course covers a range of topics in two units:

Unit 1: Beliefs teachings and practices of Christianity and Islam.

Unit 2: Thematic Studies

Students will follow four religious, philosophical and ethical studies themes.

Theme A: Relationships and families.
Theme B: Religion and life.
Theme C: Religion, peace and conflict.
Theme D: Religion, crime and punishment.

Assessment
There is no coursework in this subject.
There are two examination papers of 1 hour 45 minutes each. Each paper is worth 50% of the overall grade.

Additional information
There is no requirement for a student to follow any religious faith in order to be successful in this course.

GCSE Textiles

Teacher in charge
Miss B Rice

What course will I do?
Eduqas GCSE Design and Technology with a Textiles pathway.

This course is the same GCSE qualification as Design and Technology so you can only study one OR the other.

This is a creative course which focuses on practical textiles skills. You will gain a thorough understanding of a range of textile processes and how these can be applied to real life products. The textile areas explored in this GCSE are embroidery, print, weave, and knit.

What will I study?
GCSE Textiles consists of making real life problems into solutions through making textile products, whether this is in fashion or interior design. It prepares students to participate confidently in an increasingly technological world. Pupils will gain an understanding of historical, social, cultural, environmental, and economic factors in the Textiles industry and other Design and Technology areas.
A broad knowledge of materials components and technologies will be developed. Along with technical principles and design and making principles focusing on textiles in fashion and interior design.

Assessment
Written examination: 2 hours
50% of qualification
100 marks

NEA: approximately 35 hours

50% of qualification

100 marks

Additional Information

Practical work is an important aspect of the course. Students must be prepared to take an active and enthusiastic part in this, by working creatively when designing and making.

Theory work is also an important aspect of the course and forms the basis of knowledge for the exam and the written parts of the non-exam assessment.

This qualification investigates a range of materials with a focus on in-depth knowledge and understanding of textiles and how textiles can be applied to different scenarios or environments.

BTEC Technical Award in Enterprise

Teacher in charge
Mr F Razaq

What course will I do?
BTEC Tech Award in Enterprise Level 1 and 2

Enterprise is an important factor when it comes to the success of any business. Enterprising employees help drive organisations further enabling them to grow and stand out against competitors. Whilst studying this course you will develop your communication and presentation skills as well as your business knowledge.

What will I study?

Component 1: Exploring Enterprises
Internally Assessed Assignment (30%)

You will learn about the characteristics of different local small and medium enterprises and what leads to their success.
Learning Aims –
- Examine the characteristics of enterprises.
- Explore how market research helps enterprises to meet customer needs and understand competitor behaviour.
- Investigate the factors that contribute to the success of an enterprise.

Component 2: Planning for and Pitching an Enterprise Idea
Internally Assessed Assignment (30%)

You will create a business plan and have the opportunity to plan and pitch a micro enterprise idea of your own to an audience. You will also think about the resources you need and risks you will have to overcome to be successful..

Learning Aims–
- Explore ideas and plan for a micro-enterprise activity
- Pitch a micro-enterprise activity
- Review own pitch for a micro-enterprise activity

Component 3: Promotion and Finance for Enterprise
Externally Assessed Exam (40%)

This component will bring together all of the knowledge from all of the components you have studied. Questions will be based on real life scenarios allowing you to relate to the material.
In the assessment you will:
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of elements of promotion and financial records.
- Interpret and use promotional and financial information in relation to a given enterprise.
- Make connections between different factors influencing a given enterprise.
- Be able to advise and provide recommendations to a given enterprise on ways to improve its performance.

BTEC Technical Award in Health and Social Care

Teacher in charge
Ms L Bewley

What course will I do?
Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Health and Social Care.

Health and Social Care is ideal for you if you are a pre-16 student working at level 1 or level 2 and would like to find out more about health and social care. This course offers a practical introduction to life and work in the health and social care sector. The qualification, which is the same size and level as a GCSE.

What will I study?

Health and social care is one of the fastest growing sectors in the UK with demand for both health and social care employees continuously rising. In 2019/20, the adult social care sector contributed approximately £41.2 billion a year to the UK economy. Social care employees such as care assistants and social workers work with individuals to support them to be as independent as possible in their own homes, in care homes or nursing homes. Healthcare employees, such as doctors, pharmacists, nurses, midwives, healthcare assistants and physiotherapists, work with individuals to enhance their quality of life by improving their health. Approximately 3 million people are currently employed in the sector. In 2019, it was estimated that by 2035 approximately 2.17 million health and social care job vacancies will need to be filled.

This course will give you the opportunity to develop knowledge and technical skills in a practical learning environment. You will also develop key skills relevant to the health and social care sector such as research techniques and how to measure someone's physical health. You will also develop your written communication skills as you create health and wellbeing plans for an individual with specific needs.

Assessment

- Human Lifespan and Development
- Health and Social Care Services
- Health and Wellbeing

BTEC Technical Award in Digital Information Technology

Teacher in charge
Mr J Church

What course will I do?
BTEC Tech Award in Digital Information Technology Level 1 and 2

Modern organisations are increasingly reliant on the use of digital systems to complete every day, business-critical tasks. The development of these systems has presented organisations with many opportunities to work in new, inventive and flexible ways to achieve their aims.

Digital skills are a key part of our everyday lives and vital to the UK economy. Digital skills span all industries, and almost all jobs in the UK today require employees to have a good level of digital literacy. The modern world expects digital skills to be as important as English and maths.

What will I study?

Component 1: Exploring User Interface Design & Project Planning Techniques
Internally Assessed Assignment (30%)
You will develop your understanding of what makes an effective user interface and how to effectively manage a project. You will use this understanding to plan, design and create a user interface for a product.

Component 2: Collecting, Presenting and Interpreting Data
Internally Assessed Assignment (30%)
You will understand the characteristics of data and information and how they help organisations in decision making. You will use data manipulation methods to create a dashboard to present and draw conclusions from information.

Component 3: Effective Digital Working Practices
Exam (40%)
You will explore how organisations use digital systems and the wider implications associated with their use.

In this component you will study:
- Modern technologies e.g. cloud computing
- Cyber security
- The wider implications of digital systems

BTEC Technical Award in Performing Arts

Teacher in charge
Miss G Hughes

What course will I do?
BTEC Technical Award in Performing Arts (with focus on acting) Equivalent to 1 GCSE Grade 9-1

What will I study?
This is a practical course.
Assessed with performance-based tasks and assignments, rather than written exams.

Component 1		How am I assessed?
Exploring the Performing Arts 30% - Marked by your teacher	How Performance Styles and Genres work (Acting and/or Musical Theatre).	Completing a Project and taking part in Workshops and Performances.
Component 2		
Developing Skills and Techniques for Performance 30% - Marked by your teacher	Acting out scenes that already exist from plays. . Looking at your own skills as a performer. How you rehearse and perform your work. Reviewing your work.	Rehearsals, Performing and Reviewing your work.
Component 3		
Performing to a brief – work as a group to create a performance 40% - filmed and then marked by an examiner	Create, develop, rehearse and perform a performance piece. Evaluate the development and performance.	You get 3 hours (not all in one go). Completed in Year 11.

Assessment
You will be assessed both externally and internally in each module with the criteria: L2 Distinction*; L2 Distinction; L2 Merit or L2 Pass.

Coursework Details
The qualification is gained through 40% external assessment and 60% coursework using a variety of assessment methods for example; recordings, diaries, portfolios and evaluations.

Who would enjoy this course?
-if you like working in a group and like to create things together
-if you like to talk and be out of your seat and doing things
-if you are creative and enjoy making things
-if you like performing and watching performances

Why is this useful to me?
-if you want to work with people and communicate or understand their point of view
-if you want to work with teams of people and use problem solving skills
-if you want to be able to present yourself in front of others and lead a team
-if you think you need to develop your confidence
-if you are creative and want to follow that pathway

BTEC Technical Award in Sport

Teacher in charge
Mrs C Winfield

What course will I do?
BTEC Level 2 Tech Award in Sport
The BTEC Tech Award in Sport (Level 2) is offered at Abbot Beyne and is equivalent to 1 GCSE Grade 9 to 4. The course is examined by Pearson and designed to provide specialist related qualifications.

What will I study?
Component 1: Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Activity.
You will explore the different types and provision of sport and physical activity available for different types of participants, barriers to participation and ways to overcome these barriers to increase participation in sport and physical activity. You will also research equipment and technological advances in a chosen sport or physical activity and how to prepare our bodies for participation in sport and physical activity.

Component 2: Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance.
You will investigate the components of fitness and their effect on performance, take part in practical sport, explore the role of officials in sport and learn to apply methods and sporting drills to improve other participants' sporting performance.

Component 3: Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants' Performance in Sport and Physical Activity.
You will be introduced to and develop an understanding of the importance of fitness and the different types of fitness for performance in sport and physical activity. You will also develop an understanding of the body and fitness testing.

Assessment
Component 1: Preparing Participants to Take Part in Sport and Activity.
- Internally assessed assignments 30% of the total course

Component 2: Taking Part and Improving Other Participants Sporting Performance.
- Internally assessed assignments 30% of the total course

Component 3: Developing Fitness to Improve Other Participants' Performance in Sport and Physical Activity.
- Externally assessed task 40% of the total course

Additional Information
- Prepares young people for careers in the sports sector.
- Provides learners with opportunities to link education and the world of work in engaging relevant and practical ways.
- Motivates learning via applied learning and assessment.
- BTEC qualifications are recognised by employers and education institutes.
- Provide learners with a route through education that has clear progression pathways into further study or an apprenticeship.
- Students considering taking this option must be fully committed to working independently and within groups to develop their sporting skills.
- Both practical and theory elements are included in the course.

Abbot Beyne
School
KS4 Pathways
2023-2025