

ABINGDON SCHOOL
OTHER HALF ACTIVITIES



introduction

The 'Other Half' is a colloquialism used throughout Abingdon School. It represents a substantial part of the educational experience, involving activities that take place beyond the academic curriculum – and usually outside the classroom. It is to be seen as an essential part of the learning experience – offering boys the opportunity to learn about life in its broader context: its challenges and opportunities, successes and inevitable disappointments.

The term 'Other Half' represents the significance of extra-curricular activities within the ethos of the School. It also suggests the idea of a balance to be achieved, between academic focus and recreational enjoyment. Some of the elements of the 'Other Half' are compulsory – others are entirely voluntary.

I hope boys will enjoy looking through this booklet and that during their time at Abingdon they will have the opportunity to experience a range of contrasting activities; hopefully one or two will become pursuits they follow and develop in their adult lives.

Stuart Evans

Master i/c 'Other Half'

a philosophy for the 'other half'

Every boy should be actively encouraged to pursue an 'Other Half' programme that is balanced, physically and mentally absorbing, and demanding. A place should be found in every boy's weekly 'Other Half' timetable for both sporting and non-sporting activities. No single activity should take up more than four afternoons per week and every boy should be expected to participate in at least two contrasting activities.

The following information on 'Other Half' activities is correct at the time of going to print. Please check the school website www.abingdon.org.uk/other_half to confirm times and venues.

Details concerning the Pupil Guidelines on 'Other Half' activities can be found in the Prep Diary given to each boy at the start of each term.



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ART

The art school is open some lunchtimes and most days after school and offers a variety of clubs. These provide an opportunity for boys to either learn new skills and try out new materials or extend work started in class. It is also an ideal environment to share ideas or develop work for the numerous art competitions we enter.

Look out for opportunities on selected Saturday mornings for workshops geared at particular year groups.

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES

This session is designed for those keen to extend their skills and to try something new. Boys will be free to set their own project briefs and work on collaborative ideas if they so wish. GCSE and A level students are free to develop coursework during these sessions.

COURSEWORK DEVELOPMENT

Those doing art for GCSE or A-level are strongly encouraged to make use of the facilities during these times to extend and develop their coursework portfolio.

CERAMICS

This is an excellent chance to learn and develop pottery skills and to pursue own ideas and projects.

arts

DIGITAL MEDIA CLUB

This club is ideal for keen photographers, animators and those wishing to broaden their ICT skills into art-based outcomes.

FIRST YEAR ART CLUB

This club is designed for those keen to extend their skills and to try something new. There is an opportunity to work in both 2D and 3D.

SECOND YEAR ART CLUB

This club is designed for those keen to extend their skills and to try something new. There is an emphasis on using the iPad in creative ways.

THIRD YEAR ART CLUB

The Third Year Club investigates different approaches to making; particularly focusing initially on drawing and creating surface texture. This is an excellent opportunity for boys to further explore techniques and concepts discussed in lessons.

ART HISTORY CLUB

This is an opportunity to discover more about art, artists and the way in which art has helped shape the world and vice versa. Through watching documentaries, reading books and regular discussions, boys deepen their understanding and appreciation of art in a broader sense.

DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

The design technology centre is open to allow pupils to pursue their interest in design and technology. We have facilities to work in a variety of materials and pupils can use these sessions to develop their skills. Pupils will follow a series of set projects leading to more freedom of choice as their individual skills evolve.

WOODTURNING

Woodturning allows pupils the opportunity to develop a traditional woodwork skill. Pupils produce a range of products from wooden pens through to bowls and candlesticks.



drama

SENIOR DRAMA PRODUCTIONS

The number of opportunities for boys in the 5th Year and above to take part in extra-curricular drama productions with their counterparts at St Helen's continues to grow. Senior plays take place in the Michaelmas term or early in the Lent term to allow students to concentrate on exams thereafter. Things generally start in earnest in September, when students can choose to audition for one production from a range that may include a large-scale musical as well as a number of straight plays. Rehearsals take place after school with performances in early December or January. There are also rehearsed readings of plays written by students and, as in previous years, senior students who wish to stage their own productions are invited to bring their proposals to the drama department staff in May/June of the year before; we will do our best to accommodate them. Senior productions have often toured to the Edinburgh Festival during August and other opportunities arise to tour both in the UK and abroad.



MIDDLE SCHOOL DRAMA PRODUCTIONS

In addition to the senior productions, there are plays for 3rd and 4th year students that can also involve girls from St Helen's. In some years, there are two separate productions – one for each year group – and in others there is a combined 3rd and 4th year production. Details are usually announced in September, and performances are likely to take place in either the Lent or Summer terms, either well before, or comfortably after the school exams.





LOWER SCHOOL DRAMA CLUB / PRODUCTIONS

There are also opportunities for lower school pupils to take part in drama productions. The main one is through membership of the Lower School Drama Club. It offers both a practical grounding in different aspects of performance, and the chance to appear in a full lower school production in the first half of the summer term. Further opportunities include a gala evening for all boys in Lower School, which allows students to present work they have substantially prepared during timetabled drama lessons.



ABINGDON DANCE PROJECT

The Abingdon Dance Project, provides opportunities for pupils to work with professional actors, choreographers, dance teachers and OA Matthew Hawksworth, and other visiting dance practitioners (eg to teach flamenco, a West End musical routine etc). The classes combine learning a variety of dance skills and styles (contemporary, street, disco, lindy hop etc) with devising choreography to accompany all kinds of music, which can ultimately lead to a public performance later in the year, if desirable. The ADP is a great way to develop new skills, boost fitness, flexibility and creativity all in one.

music





BIG BAND

Big Band performs at the Christmas Concerts, the School's Bands Concert and its own Big Band Jazz Concert. It has undertaken many tours including South West France, Normandy, the Greek Islands of Naxos and Paros, Tuscany and the USA playing in Boston, New York City and Washington DC. It has also recorded two CDs which are available from the Music Department.

'ABINGDON ACADEMICALS'

This close harmony group exists for keen singers to develop their choral, sight-singing and solo skills, prior to applying for Choral Awards to Oxford and Cambridge Universities, in particular. Throughout the year we sing at a number of concerts, at Abingdon School, at high-profile events (Open Day, Foundation Dinner, etc.) as well as an increasing number beyond Abingdon: in the local community, Mercers' Hall in London, Oxford, etc. The music performed ranges from home-grown arrangements of well-known and well-loved 'pop/rock/easy listening' songs through professional King's Singers' arrangements to intimate church music settings.



ABINGDON DRUM CIRCLE

The Abingdon Drum Circle has been created for anyone with an interest in learning how to play in an African djembe ensemble. As well as learning basic drumming techniques and patterns, there is much opportunity to develop improvisation skills.

BLUES SOCIETY

The Blues Society is now an established opportunity for musicians playing contemporary instruments (guitars, keyboards, horns, drums) to learn to play together, with opportunities for

performance. We tend to focus on songs from soul and blues genres; enthusiasm, rather than great skill, is the main requirement.

BRASS BAND

Performs twice a year at the Autumn/Christmas Concerts and the School's Bands Concert. Also plays at special assemblies and other services, including every Christmas at the Community Service Tea Party.



LOWER SCHOOL BAND

This performs twice a year, normally in the New Year and at the Bands Concert in the summer.

SYMPHONIC WIND BAND

Performs twice a year at the Autumn/Christmas Concerts and the School Bands Concert. Has toured to Vienna, Prague and Budapest, and China and Hong Kong.

CHAPEL CHOIR

The Chapel Choir provides music at services during term time – and music for Evensong at college chapels and cathedrals in a wide area. Has toured with the Chamber Orchestra to Italy and is planning a tour to Spain.

music

JOINT CHAMBER CHOIR

This select group of advanced singers from Abingdon and St Helen's exists to explore the most challenging and rewarding pieces in the choral repertoire. This mixed voice ensemble allows nine Abingdonian Tenors and Bases to experience singing alongside nine female Altos and Sopranos from St Helen & St Katharine's. It performs at concerts for both schools and serves as an important platform for potential Oxbridge choral scholarship candidates.

ABINGDON VOICES

Abingdon Voices is open to any pupil with an interest in singing. It performs in a range of styles, from African songs to gospel numbers and arrangements of pop and film classics. Sight-reading ability desirable but not essential.

JOINT CHORAL SOCIETY

Open to all boys and compulsory for GCSE/A-level musicians.





CHAMBER MUSIC

A full range of ensembles, numbering between thirty and forty, are rehearsed weekly by members of the visiting music staff. They include a comprehensive range of ensembles for strings, woodwind and brass, and they meet at different times of the week. Any boys wishing to be involved in this work should ask for further details from the music staff.

String Trios, Quartets and Quintets; Saxophone Quartet; Bassoon Quartet; Flute Choirs; Double Reed Ensemble; Clarinet Ensemble; Wind Quintet; Jazz Ensembles; Brass Quintets; Horn Quartet; Piano Trios; String Quartets; Abingdon Academicals – close harmony and many more miscellaneous ensembles.

The ensembles perform in two special chamber music concerts after a day of ensemble workshops with coaching from distinguished musicians, prior to competing in the Pro Corda Chamber Music Competition, in which Abingdon groups have won places in the finals concerts for many years.

COMPOSERS' WORKSHOP

Led by Abingdon's Composer-in-Residence, this is a session for budding composers – or anyone interested in the craft of composition – to expand their composing experience and learn about the mechanics of how music works. The sessions will include some 'taught' elements where composers' techniques are introduced and some more improvisatory and exploratory sessions in which boys will learn about the essentials of organology (and that does NOT just mean the study of organs!).

JUNIOR STRINGS

Performs throughout the year especially for Lower School Gala Concert. For all string players from beginner to about Grade 5 standard. The atmosphere is relaxed and the ensemble progress significant.



music

FIRST ORCHESTRA

It numbers about 80 boys across the full age range, and is generally for Grade 6 pupils and above, by invitation/audition. Plays at both Autumn/Christmas Concerts and the Summer Orchestral Concert. First Orchestra toured to Central Europe performing in Warsaw, Krakow, Prague and Budapest. It has also toured to China and Hong Kong and performed in the British Embassy in Beijing, and to the USA playing in Worcester, Massachusetts, New York City and Washington National Cathedral where it received three standing ovations. Planning for a tour to Spain is underway.





SECOND ORCHESTRA

For all woodwind, brass and string players from about Grade 3 to Grade 6 standard. Plays at Christmas or New Year Concerts and in the Summer Orchestral Concert. A Lower School Orchestra is formed after the Summer Orchestral Concert and performs at the Lower School Gala Concert at the end of term.

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Chamber Orchestra consists of excellent string players who perform on Open Day, Christmas and Summer Orchestral Concerts. This Orchestra supports candidates for their A-level exams and gives concerto opportunities to chosen soloists. Chamber Orchestra toured Italy with the Chapel Choir, performing in Florence, Lucca, Venice and Padua and joined First Orchestra tours to Central Europe and China/Hong Kong. Chamber Orchestra was also highly praised for its playing at the British Embassy in Beijing.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

This activity enables a small group of selected students to learn about studio techniques and the history of audio recording, under the guidance of a Music Technologist. The pupils from Upper School will follow the A level course offered by Edexcel, although it is not envisaged that this will lead to the qualification.

service activities

AMEY THEATRE TECHNICAL CREW

Members gain experience of all aspects of technical theatre from the design stages to implementation. They are regularly involved in the preparation and running of drama productions, concerts, school events and external hires. Wednesday afternoons are put aside for the main bulk of the work but due to the large number of events, much of the work happens on other afternoons, evenings and weekends and therefore a high level of commitment is required.

BAKER AWARD

'The Baker Award' (named after retired teacher, Mr Roger Baker) represents an Abingdon School junior version of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme designed to run

over the course of a boy's time in Lower School. All lower school boys are automatically entered for the award. There are four sections: Skill, Service, Expedition and Sport. Boys are strongly encouraged to become involved in all sections, keeping track of their participation by using a record book. Satisfactory completion leads to an award, presented at the end of the second year.

BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEERS

A small number of lower school pupils can get involved in the biology department helping out with a variety of tasks. Primarily they will be involved with the routine care of the animals in the department and maintenance of the fish tanks. At certain times of year work will need to be carried out in the departmental pond and we would also be looking to set up a wildlife area somewhere on the school grounds.



CAREERS LIBRARIANSHIP

The upkeep and running of Abingdon School's Careers Library needs constant maintenance and care. Careers librarians help to take responsibility for the Library: maintaining stock up to date; introducing new stock; promoting and explaining the use of the Library, etc. Careers Librarianship helps to develop work skills: how to work with others, how to communicate, how to process information (computer and paperbased), how to solve problems and how to work with systems. It is a very worthwhile activity which serves the community of Abingdon School and can act as a service activity for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

CHARITIES COMMITTEE

The Charities Committee organises and co-ordinates the key charity events within the school. The pupils involved help with the selecting of charities to support as well as the planning, organising and promoting of events. Pupils tend to find the work very rewarding and enjoyable.

COMBINED CADET FORCE (CCF)

CCF membership is voluntary and begins in the 3rd Year. Recruit training takes one year and boys are expected to parade every week in uniform. Pupils are expected to commit to attending for a whole year at a time – and to keep their hair cut short and smart. The CCF is a disciplined organisation, which emphasises qualities of leadership and teamwork, common sense and responsibility. CCF involves a variety of activities, parades and camps, exercises and field days throughout the year. At least one camp must be attended in each year, and in the first year this will be the Easter recruit camp. Cadet training continues into the Sixth Form, in either the RAF or Army sections of the CCF; it involves academic work, adventurous and military training. There are opportunities to fly, shoot, take part in joint exercises, to train alongside the regular armed forces in the field, and to develop an understanding of why these forces are needed and how they operate. We are well supported, and Abingdon's CCF is highly regarded outside the School for its excellent standards. Many cadets go on to join the armed forces as commissioned officers.





LIBRARY

Wednesday afternoon is the focus of the librarians' week, when the team meets for training; library administration and as a forum for discussing books and library issues. As part of the library team, boys take increasing responsibility as they progress through the school. There is an opportunity to develop a range of skills encompassing service; administration; artwork and display; website development and computer management.

'THE MARTLET'

'The Martlet' is one of Abingdon's student publications, covering both school news and features, as well as national and international stories. Opportunities include journalism, creative writing, photography or working on the design side of the newspaper.

'THE ABINGDONIAN'

'The Abingdonian' is an annual publication that provides a review of a year's events at Abingdon. Those joining the editorial team will be responsible for commissioning and editing articles and designing the magazine layout with the aim of publication at the end of the Michaelmas Term.

MOLDOVA PROJECT

Since 2000, Abingdon has been supporting the work of AGAPE, a charity working with young people in Moldova, the poorest country in Europe. There is an annual Sixth Form visit to Moldova to run a summer camp for disadvantaged Moldovan children, while Third Years can find out more about the project through the Service and Citizenship Scheme. The project represents an excellent chance to learn about a culture very different from our own – and to provide support and friendship to those in real need of it.

THIRD YEAR SERVICE AND CITIZENSHIP SCHEME

The Third Year Service and Citizenship Scheme was set up to help pupils to develop a broader understanding of their place in the wider community (local, national and global) and to encourage them to make an active contribution to the society in which they live. All pupils in the Third Year who are not involved in CCF participate in the scheme.

A range of different activities is available for which boys are invited to express their preferences at the beginning of the school year. They are then put into groups, which will change on a termly or half-termly basis.

In some cases boys will go out into the local community to undertake activities ranging from visiting residential homes and entertaining the residents, to offering ICT help in the Abingdon town library. In other groups boys will be acquiring life skills such as managing personal finance or touch-typing. Contemporary global

issues will be covered by activities such as Environmental Service and the Moldova Project.



Within the scheme, pupils will have the opportunity to do a basic First Aid course or some expedition training that will be particularly useful if they are thinking of participating in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme in the Fourth Year.

With such a wide range of activities on offer, boys are able to gain experience of different aspects of service and citizenship and many choose to continue serving the community higher up the school.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICE

By virtue of school membership everyone should consider themselves a part of the Environmental Service scheme. Our Environmental Service scheme seeks to increase awareness of waste recycling, including food waste, and energy conservation within the school and the broader community.

The third year programme is a compulsory element of the Service scheme: the aim of the 5/6 week course is to heighten awareness of our school policies and mechanisms for waste recycling and energy efficiency within the school plant.

This is suitable for any age group within the school, as part of the lower school Wednesday afternoon programme as well as a service activity contributing towards the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme. Timing and levels of commitment are negotiable.

This would be an excellent opportunity for boys with an interest in environmental issues and architecture to make a real difference at the school. In addition, there is a pupil sub-committee of the School's Environment Committee. The aim of this committee is to coordinate specific campaigns during the year to raise the profile of environmental issues within the school. In addition, this sub-committee will aim to monitor and audit our overall programme of activity and to drive new initiatives as and when appropriate. It is an important conduit for pupils to suggest and coordinate new initiatives that could become part of school policy.



There is a range of opportunities for community service including:

CHARITY SHOP WORK

Volunteer in the British Heart Foundation charity shop in Abingdon.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES AT PRIMARY SCHOOLS

There is scope for initiative and leadership. Tell us your special skills and interests: football, computers, music, art, etc. The usual commitment is for the whole school year, although this may be for a shorter time through prior arrangement if sporting activities clash in one term.

READING QUEST

Sixth formers learn techniques to help primary school pupils with literacy and numeracy.

VISITING THE ELDERLY AT A RESIDENTIAL HOME

Cygnets Court, Millstream Court, Fountain Court, The Bridge and Old Station House are residential homes for the elderly in Abingdon. They welcome visits as part of community service and it is very useful experience for aspiring medics.

OLDER AND BOLDER

Help make tea and chat to Abingdon ladies who attend an exercise class.

VISITING MEMBERS OF ST HELEN'S CHURCH AND ST EDMUND'S CHURCH CONGREGATIONS

Once a week by arrangement; organised through St Helen's Church/St Edmund's Church.

ABINGDON HOSPITAL VISITING

This is invaluable work experience for aspiring medics.

GARDENING AND CONSERVATION

The School has a fruit and vegetable garden at the back of Whitefield. There are opportunities to maintain this and develop it as a source of vegetables and summer fruits. Conservation work takes place in Boxhill Walk Nature Reserve, including maintaining a list of plant and animal species, removal of dead/decaying timber and providing management of the nature reserve and its accompanying stream, the River Stert.

ADMINISTRATION

Two middle school volunteers help with administration and record keeping (good computer skills required). Design, print and distribute posters around the school.

AFTERNOON TEA AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE ELDERLY

Tea party and entertainment for the elderly once a term. Musicians particularly welcome.

HELPING THE ARCHWAY FOUNDATION

Producing booklets and filling envelopes for the charity.

STROKE CLUB

Takes place in Trinity Church Hall and visiting by sixth-formers is by arrangement.



sports

Abingdon School's sporting philosophy is to maximise opportunity for all pupils, thereby giving credence to the idea of 'sport for all'. It is not about a member of staff, armed with a whistle and ball, taking pupils out for a kick around, it's about enhancing a pupil's individual skills through a programme tailored to their ability. It also aims to give each pupil the opportunity, at some stage in their school career, to represent the School in competition, by equipping them with the necessary skills to give them the confidence to do so. The programme is very much about teaching boys about sport for life; finding an activity they enjoy and learning the benefits of sport as a life skill, not just because of the health and fitness benefits but also commitment, dedication, and working as a team to achieve a common goal. There are few careers where these disciplines aren't relevant, so learning to play sport is important for everybody and should be part of everyone's education no matter what their sporting ambitions may be.



SPORTS CENTRE

The sports hall accommodates multi-sport activities which include badminton, volleyball, basketball, indoor hockey and cricket. There are two squash courts, two fitness suites, a climbing wall and a martial arts and fencing studio with five competition pistes. This studio has a sprung floor and has dual use as a performing arts studio. The rowing ergometer suite looks over the 25m, 8 lane indoor swimming pool and offers the latest training facilities specific to rowing, whilst the general fitness suite is used for boys looking to increase strength and stamina across all sports. There is also a physiotherapy suite.

ATHLETICS

The aim of the Athletics Club is to produce excellent athletes by enabling pupils to develop their natural abilities to the full, while providing an opportunity for all those with an interest to learn and to develop their talents. The Club intends to achieve this through a structured programme of coaching by a committed staff team and through regular competition. Coaching is provided in the full range of events; on the track: 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m, 1500m and hurdles; and in the field: shot, javelin, discus, high jump, long jump and triple jump. We compete against a large number of schools and have reached regional finals on a regular basis in recent years. We are also involved in various relay competitions, both local and national. In addition, pupils have the chance to compete in schools' county competitions.

BADMINTON

Middle and Upper School Badminton operates within the sports options programme. Both match players and learners are accepted, although often there is a trial because more boys opt than we have space for. Our record against other schools is enviable.





BOAT CLUB

The Boat Club has been in existence at Abingdon School for over 180 years, but never has it been more successful. Boys can row from the Third Year upwards, in both Lent and Summer terms. Boys are expected to commit themselves for both terms since most of the regattas are in the summer. We have around 170 boys in the Club. Training takes place both at the school and at the boathouse, which is on Wilsham Road – a mile from the School. In the Lent term there are ordinarily 2/3 rowing sessions and 2 gym sessions per week. Boys are expected to participate on Saturdays.

We have a number of aims for the Club, at different levels. The Third Year is an introductory year, and we try to give everybody a fair chance to improve and to see if they like it. We

compete in a number of 'friendlies' against other schools and later on in the year we look to compete at regattas. The next few years are spent developing 1st and 2nd eights, which will compete at external regattas and the National Schools' Regatta. The 1st VIII always competes at Henley Royal Regatta. The School also participates in the Junior International scheme and boys have represented Great Britain every year since 1992.

We try to accommodate all abilities and levels of commitment to foster enjoyment of a great team sport. We have an excellent boathouse. We hope to maintain, and build on, our reputation as one of the most successful school boat clubs in the UK. There is a very active parents/friends supporters club.

CANOEING

The Canoe Club aims to introduce boys to various paddlesports and currently allows them to specialise in whitewater kayaking, open canoeing and racing. Although most paddlesport sessions take place from the boathouse on the River Thames we also run sessions in the school swimming pool where we can develop key skills, such as rolling, or play canoe polo. We are affiliated to the British Canoe Union and boys can obtain various qualifications during training sessions.

Boys can also complete their Duke of Edinburgh's Award expeditions at all levels in open canoes. In the past this has involved expeditions to various parts of the UK as well as overseas expeditions.



CRICKET

The Cricket Club continues to grow at Abingdon. We currently play block fixtures against Radley, St Edward's, Berkhamsted, Bloxham, Haberdashers' and Winchester College as well as entering local county tournaments. National competitions include the National Schools 20/20 and the Lord's Taverners trophy. Tours include South Africa and the United Arab Emirates pre-season trophy in Dubai. Many players represent county and regional squads.

CROSS-COUNTRY

Cross-country running is open to all. Training assumes a motivation for good health, competition in both Michaelmas and Lent terms, a long-standing commitment to the values and competition schedule of the Club, and strict adherence to teamwork. We start our training in September with very short distances and build gradually and carefully to longer distances of 20km. The season ends in March. Training is a mixture of long slow distances, circuits and speed work.

All staff who coach are competitive athletes locally, nationally and internationally. Runs take in most of rural Oxfordshire and beyond. Past pupils have captained their own club at university and some have competed on the international stage. One of the aims of the Club is to build a life-long affinity towards running and competition.



FENCING

Fencing is available throughout the year. All year groups are welcome to come and try this Olympic sport, from beginners to experienced fencers. Full coaching will be given and the School provides fencing kit and weapons for students. A minimum commitment of one session per week for one full term is required, although in practice many boys enjoy doing much more fencing than this. Matches are arranged with other schools throughout the calendar year, and keen fencers from our Club have competed in and won many national and international competitions in the recent past.





FOOTBALL

Football is now an established sport at Abingdon with over 17 teams across the school. The Club plays regular Lent term fixtures against Haileybury, Radley, St Edward's, Oratory, Berkhamsted, Cokethorpe and Magdalen College School. The 1st XI competes in the Pritchard Cup that comprises independent schools in the Oxfordshire and Berkshire area. Boys have represented the ISFA rep side as well as county and academy squads.

FUTSAL CLUB

A recent addition to Abingdon is the Futsal Club. The game was originally developed in South America and combines Association Football with the smaller 5-a-side game. The nature of the ball and pitch size has proven to be an excellent way of developing boys' skills and self confidence on the ball.

sports

GOLF

The golf team meets for coaching from a PGA professional at Drayton Golf Club. The team consists of players with, or aspiring to have, single-figure handicaps. During these sessions we work on all aspects of the game including course management, shot shaping and the short game, and there is the opportunity to computer-analyse players' swings. The Golf team plays in the Oxfordshire county championships, and both the HMC foursomes and Independent Schools' Golf Association knock-out competitions, as well as various friendly fixtures against other school sides. There is a House Golf competition in the summer term. There is also the opportunity for a broader range of players to have the chance to play, and to receive expert coaching. Golf lessons take place as a group on the driving range, but there are opportunities for specialised putting practice as well as visits to the 'par 3' course (weather permitting). Places are limited, and are allocated term by term, depending on boys' sports options.



HOCKEY

The School has 19 teams throughout the age groups and all teams have regular matches against other schools.

Hockey is a major sport in the Lent term. The Hockey Club usually fields 15 teams throughout the age groups, with every team from U14D to 1st XI competing in the Independent Schools Hockey League, ISHL. All Abingdon teams will play against the other seven teams in the league throughout the season, playing Radley, Bradfield, Wellington, Cheltenham, Marlborough, Eton and St Edward's. Trophies are awarded to the winning team at A team level and results are uploaded onto www.schoolsports.com

The regular hockey season fixtures take place in the Lent term with every team training three

times a week and ISHL matches every Saturday. There is indoor and outdoor hockey in the Michaelmas term culminating in the ISHL indoor tournaments in December. During the Summer term, Abingdon enter the Oxford Hawks summer league, playing matches every Wednesday.

The Hockey Club has enjoyed a great deal of success in recent years with many teams winning the ISHL and reaching the latter stages of the National Cup. Many players have gained county, regional and even national honours, being helped through the single system with specific programmes.

Regular trips and tours are offered for every age group and the season culminates with an end of season dinner and awards evening for all players.

sports

KARATE

Shotokan Karate is an excellent way to improve fitness, co-ordination, stability and suppleness – skills useful in other sports. It also has the added benefits of teaching self-defence and discipline and thus increases self-confidence. No experience is necessary. Gradings are four times a year; you could achieve a black belt in 3 to 4 years.

REAL TENNIS

Real Tennis is a famous, fascinating and fun sport. Once played by King Henry VIII, it gave rise to the modern game of Lawn Tennis. Played on an indoor court, the ball is hit over a sagging net either onto the court or a wall – straight or sloping – or into another net! We play on the new court at Radley College. No previous experience is expected. However, an aptitude for racquet sports, particularly tennis, is an advantage. Professional tuition is provided. (Also see 'Tennis'.)

RUGBY

Teams are run for all age groups from Under 12s to Under 18s. We pride ourselves on producing four teams per age group, playing competitively each weekend in the Michaelmas term, against likeminded senior independent schools. The Rugby Club itself provides the opportunity for pupils to develop a whole range of rugby related skills from handling to scrummaging. It also gives pupils the chance to represent the School and perform their skills in a competitive environment. The School currently enters teams in the National Nat West Cup competition; the prestigious St Joseph's Ipswich 1st XV Invitational Festival; the Esher, RGS Guildford and Blundells preseason tournaments; several Schoolboy Sevens competitions, including the national sevens at Rosslyn Park, whilst promoting both a senior tour every two years and a junior tour annually. Schools on our circuit include Radley, St Paul's, Eton, Cheltenham, KCS Wimbledon and Marlborough.







SAILING

We sail at Farmoor, using boats from the Oxford and District Schools' Sailing Association. Our aim is to improve boat handling skills in a range of both single and double handers – and to encourage racing. Absolute beginners can learn

with the School, and for those with more experience there is a chance to enter regattas and to sail against other schools, as well as to race in keelboats. It is also possible to do DofE expeditions. Some boys will progress to take

their instructor's qualification before they leave the School. We also practice and take examinations for the RYA Day, Coastal Skipper and Yachtmaster exams and small groups of middle and upper school pupils have cruised in the Greek Islands.

SHOOTING

Pupils may sign up for shooting at the start of the year and are expected to commit themselves to one afternoon weekly. No experience is necessary since training is provided. Those who wear glasses are at no disadvantage (some of our best shots do). There is a trophy for the best beginner. Once at a reasonable standard, pupils are formed into teams and entered for postal competitions against other schools. We now have the opportunity to shoot in international matches against European schools. There is also an opportunity to participate in our annual exchange with the Stade team in Germany during the Easter holidays.

Lower school boys may sign up for the eight-week Air Rifle Youth Proficiency Scheme. Successful completion of this course allows lower school boys to move on to .22 rifle shooting. There is a charge for coaching and ammunition. Recently, members of the Rifle Club have won county titles, and some have taken part in GB development training.



SQUASH

The superb courts in the sports centre provide a focus for home matches and training. We have a highly promising squad of talented players throughout the school, trained by a Squash England coach. Squash is available as a sports option to selected squad players in the 3rd Year and above, but other boys will have opportunities to play at various times as an activity. Senior boys and boarders are also able to play in their free time when the courts are not being used.



SWIMMING

Our 8 lane 25m swimming pool provides the ideal environment to develop swimming technique throughout the year. The squad train at allocated times within these sessions and cover up to 10,000m a week, with the option of dry land training on a Wednesday afternoon. The majority of the galas are held in the Lent term, but we also enter swimmers for the English Schools National Championships in both the individual and relay events, and the prestigious Bath and Otter Cup Relays. It is recommended that the serious swimmers join the local club, which uses the Abingdon School pool. For those that wish to swim recreationally there is space to swim within the allocated sessions and a program to improve fitness will be provided. (Also see 'Water Polo'.)



TABLE TENNIS

An opportunity for players of all abilities, but numbers are limited to about 20, so places are based on a first-come-first-served basis. At the top end the standard is very high. To qualify for this sport you must be prepared to play every week. Tournaments are held for Lower School and Middle/Upper School.

TENNIS

The Tennis Club runs 20 teams across the age groups. Each age group has three coaching sessions per week with the professional coaching staff and all teams compete in inter school matches on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The Tennis Club takes part in the Independent Schools League, Oxfordshire Independent Schools Competition, the Aegon Cup and the Independent Schools Tennis Association Tournaments held at Eton at the end of the summer term. There have been a number of unbeaten teams over the last few years and many players go on to gain county and even national honours. The Tennis Club runs internal box leagues and ladder competitions, with every match being played as a British Tennis rating match. All players in the

club are eligible to sign up for a free British Tennis Membership, offering them a rating, free entry to the Wimbledon ticket ballot and other LTA membership offers. (Also see 'Real Tennis'.)

TRIATHLON CLUB

Triathlon is one of the fastest growing sports in the UK. The combination of swimming, cycling and running produces a high level of cardiovascular fitness and whole-body muscular development. The programme of training is highly varied, including sessions on each of the three disciplines, 'brick' sessions (cycling then running), circuits, spinning and discussions on nutrition, kit and useful resources. We make full use of the sports centre and athletes can be monitored closely using heart rate monitors and turbo trainers. We enter external events, suitable for all age groups, affiliated to the British Triathlon Federation.

WATER POLO

Water Polo is a fast-paced and physically demanding hybrid of swimming, basketball and rugby. The boys train together on Fridays. The teams compete against Eton and Stowe (for example) and often as part of a 'double-bill' with swimming competitions. Matches and training with the Oxford University Men's team will take place on an ad hoc basis. New players are always welcome to come along for a trial. No previous experience is necessary but being a confident swimmer is essential. (Also see 'Swimming'.)





clubs and societies

ABINGDON FILM UNIT

The Abingdon Film Unit was formed in 2003. Since then its members have produced over 100 short films, a number of which have won awards and been screened at the National Film Theatre in London, and at festivals in France, Sweden, Hong Kong and throughout the UK. The Unit enables students to make their own films under the guidance of industry professionals. Please note: membership is offered to boys in third year and above after a process of applications and interviews that takes place during the summer term for entry in September. Once accepted, students become members of the Film Unit for the whole year. Films are researched and planned in the first part of the Michaelmas term; shooting usually begins around October; editing occupies much of the Lent term. The finished films are screened in May. Members of the Unit can also be invited to make films for others, whether within the school or the wider community. They can also undertake special film projects abroad. AFU members have made films in Cambodia, Moldova, China and Hong Kong, for example. Trips may also be organized to cinemas, exhibitions or film studios.

BELL RINGING

The traditional English art of bell-ringing requires a combination of skill, musicianship and strength. The club is open to complete beginners and those with prior experience.

BIOLOGY SOCIETY AND GOLGI BODY

Lectures are organised to support work being done in the Biology specification, to extend knowledge of the specification and to give boys

an up to date account of current advances in modern biology. Some lectures may also have a more general "Natural History" theme and be open to Middle School Pupils as well. The Society will also hold an Annual Guest Night and/or an Annual Dinner. The Golgi Body is an offshoot of the Biology Society, which encourages A-level biologists to give a presentation on a subject of interest to their peers, and then field questions on it.

BOARDGAMING

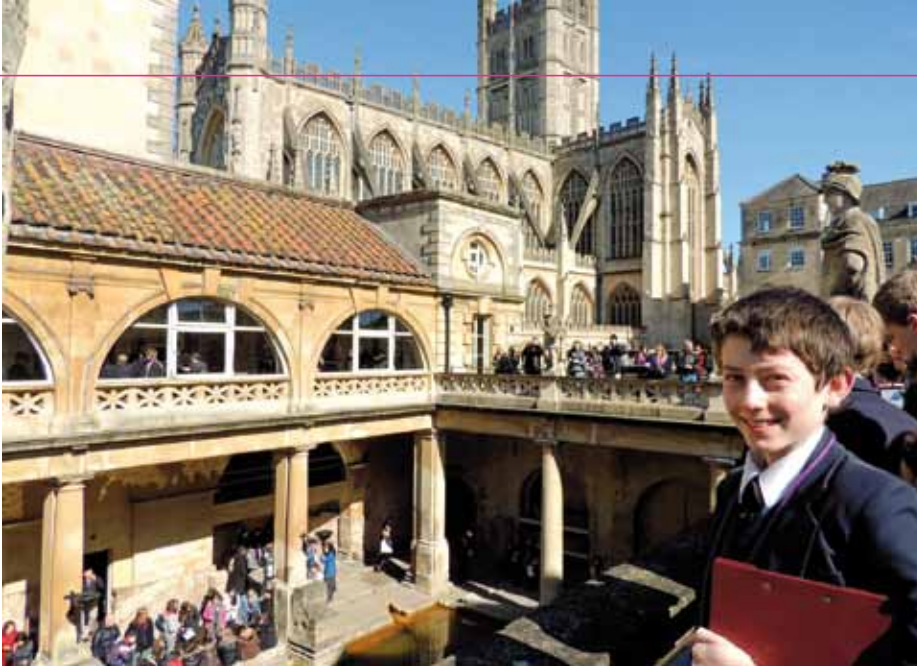
A chance for lower school boys to play a wide range of fantasy role play games, strategic wargames and boardgames.

BRIDGE CLUB

The game of Bridge is one of the world's most popular card games. This trick-taking game is played by four people in two competing partnerships. Bridge is an excellent way to stretch your brain, sharpen your maths skills and make new friends. Beginners are welcome and will be taught the basics of contract bridge. Experienced players will be able to enjoy opportunities to play with other players of a similar level.

CHESS CLUB

Come along, practise and improve. Players of all standards attend, from novice to England squad player. We will be happy to teach you to play from scratch and help you to develop your game. We enter county and national tournaments, and we run knockout tournaments for individuals and for House teams. Grandmaster Peter Wells coaches on Wednesday afternoons.



CLASSICS CLUB

The Classics Club for Lower School offers the opportunity to learn everything you have ever wanted to know about gladiators, chariot-racing, Greek myths and other aspects of life in the Ancient World. Activities include watching films and documentaries, making models and posters, using CD Roms, playing classical boardgames – and visiting Roman sites nearby.

CLASSICAL SOCIETY

The Classical Society offers a range of events throughout the year to enable boys to pursue their interest in the Ancient World beyond the confines of the various syllabi. Speakers are invited from universities and other schools on a variety of historical and literary topics, but there are also trips to plays, various museums and classical sites in Britain, as well as further afield. Those not studying classical subjects are welcome to attend.

CROQUET

Following the success of its re-introduction in 2012, the interest in croquet continues to grow. Boys tackle the physics of snooker with the tactics of chess to win as a team whilst enjoying the weather and surroundings.



clubs and societies

CHRISTIAN GROUPS AT ABINGDON

These groups provide an opportunity for anyone who would like to consider the relevance of Jesus Christ today and what it means to have a living relationship with God. Each week we do this by meeting together and looking at God's teaching in the Bible, often with the help of an outside speaker. Anyone is welcome.

"THE WAY" – LOWER SCHOOL

The Lower School group meets to consider what it means to follow Jesus. Each week we seek to do this together as a group by playing a game and looking at the teaching of the Bible, often with the help of an outside speaker. Anyone in the Lower School is welcome. Post sports snacks are provided.

"Y" – MIDDLE SCHOOL

"Y" is a fun way of exploring the Christian faith by discussing tough questions, watching video clips and by looking at the Bible. Anyone from the Middle School is most welcome – whatever your beliefs. All accompanied by good food!

ALPHA COURSE – SIXTH FORM

The Alpha Course, attended by millions worldwide, is an opportunity for Fifth and Sixth Formers to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed café-style setting. The Alpha Course is designed primarily for those who are not church goers and is open to anyone who wants to understand more about Christianity, whatever their beliefs. There will be ten thought-provoking sessions, where there will be a short presentation and opportunity for discussion.

Pupils get to discuss what they really think and to ask any questions they may have. This could also be of particular interest to pupils studying Philosophy and Ethics to help formulate their own opinions and arguments. For more information check out: www.alpha.org

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

For most people, becoming a Christian is like a journey. The journey involves faith but also doubt, lots of questions and some surprising and wonderful answers. The journey is unique to each one of us and yet it works best when we share it with others. The confirmation class is an important part of the journey of faith. It is designed for those considering the possibility of becoming an adult member of the Anglican Church and leads to a memorable confirmation service. The course will consist of three components: What Christians believe, How Christians grow and Living the Christian Life. Food will be provided.





BLOGGING CLUB

Blogs these days can be about literally anything: news, sport, music, film, food, opinions, reviews, thoughts, philosophy... This club gives you the opportunity to learn all about the wonderful world of blogging (or 'web-logging' to give it its full title) and to run your own blog. We'll start with the basics of how to set up and create a blog, and then go on to ways to make it interesting, well-written, and up-to-date. We'll show you how to create and upload films, as well as how to craft thought-provoking, funny, or reflective writing to put on it. What will your blog be about? Well, that's up to you.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

Various opportunities for Computer Programming are available, driven by student interest. These activities are intended to provide hands-on experience of the nitty-gritty of computer programming. Applications are likely to be web and network based, with the

ability to show off the results from any Internet-connected computer. Students have in the past begun to develop programs to help with Code-breaking, and to build their own web-based applications to perform simple operations. There will be opportunities to take part in the British Informatics Olympiad. No previous experience is necessary, but an aptitude for logical and analytical thought will be essential. (Also see 'ICT workshop'.)

COMPUTER PROJECT

We are undertaking a small project combining computer programming with some electronics and model making. The idea is to construct small models and then control them using sensors and Raspberry Pi and/or Arduino computers.

LOWER SCHOOL COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

A fun introduction to computer programming. Hands on sessions, writing your own programs; using different programming languages and packages. Making graphical pictures, games and animations.

ROBOTICS CLUB

Working with Lego Mindstorms robots, Robotics Club combines programming and engineering techniques. Building different models and machines using technical Lego, they are brought to life by using a programmable brick which takes control of its movements. A variety of tasks are set through the year, to stretch and challenge builders to develop their ability to program, within the Lego Mindstorms environment.

clubs and societies

ICT WORKSHOP

An open workshop in which pupils are encouraged to use a wide range of software and hardware, for both study and project purposes. Facilities include: Internet Web browsing and email, blogging, music notation, scanning, programming, graphics, web page design, video applications, etc. The computers used are all Apple iMac models. Individual and group projects at any level are particularly encouraged. You do not need to be an expert to join in. (Also see 'Computer Programming'.)

DEBATING SOCIETY

Allegedly Abingdon's oldest non-sporting society, the Debating Society is the place to argue and form opinions about a variety of topics and motions. If you love an argument, or generally thrive on controversy, this is the society for you. Debates include everything from the serious politics of the Falklands and the National Health Service to rather more abstract ideas such as whether we should follow our dreams in life, via the thorny issues of organ donation and torturing terrorists. In the open debates, volunteer speakers put their



views across in speeches before the debate gets opened up to the floor, when all the other people who have opinions get their say, and lively disagreement inevitably ensues. The Senior Debating Society debates current topics of interest in a more informal, high-brow setting. We also enter teams into a number of national competitions in debating and public speaking and run workshops to help you improve your debating skills. Throughout the year, we also arrange popular dinner debates with girls' schools for the senior members of the society. All are welcome. (Also see 'Model United Nations'.)

LOWER SCHOOL DEBATING SOCIETY

A chance for Lower school boys to hone their public speaking skills while debating topical issues. Joint debates with St Helen's can be arranged over the course of the year.

ECONOMICS SOCIETY

The Economics Society gathers, together with pupils from Larkmead and St Helen's, to listen to a talk from an individual either from the world of business or academia. This gives pupils a chance to understand the practical application of some of the ideas they have learnt about in class. The talks are normally 40 minutes long and there is a chance for pupils to pose questions at the end of the lecture.

EDMUND SOCIETY

Eminent visiting speakers give a lecture on a topic of philosophy or theology, followed by questions. Topics include: God, evil, miracles, life after death, the mind, free-will, art, ethics and science.



ELECTRONICS CLUB

Electronics Club provides an opportunity to learn how to design and build simple electronic devices. The emphasis is on experimenting and learning rather than copying existing designs. Past projects range from reaction games, to light sensitive musical instruments. Programmable microcontrollers are also available for more adventurous tasks such as robotics. No experience is necessary but eagerness to learn is essential.

SIXTH FORM HISTORY SOCIETY

An opportunity to listen to talks from distinguished visiting historians – and to discuss historical topics, informally. A range of topics will be addressed, often tied to the A-level syllabus – but also designed to broaden historical perspectives. The society also stages a Christmas Quiz and end of term social gatherings.

MIDDLE AND UPPER SCHOOL HISTORY FILM CLUB

History meets Hollywood. This is an opportunity to watch some of your favourite historical films on the big screen in a relaxed and informal setting. Films (based on real-life events) are chosen by vote. School packed lunches are provided – supplemented by the famous history chocolate biscuits!



LOWER SCHOOL HISTORY CLUB

This club is designed for those interested in fun activities related to history. Past activities have included the making of helmets and swords, constructing models of castles and battlefield scenes and big screen viewing of history-based movies and favourites such as 'Blackadder'.

clubs and societies



SENIOR LITERARY SOCIETY

Want to broaden your mind, read more widely, become more interesting, cultured, imaginative, and generally well-versed in intellectual discussion? Senior Literary Society is a chance to read and discuss literature from around, above, beyond, below, and indeed nowhere near the syllabus. Here you can encounter writing and ideas from the most classic to the most contemporary of writers and become a literary critic and connoisseur in the company of Abingdon's and St Helen's finest minds. Rumour has it that the eating of cake may also be a central feature of this society.

BOOKS AND BEYOND

Books and Beyond are half-termly events that are organised jointly with St Helen's. Each event will take an area of English, media, or culture (the kind of juicy bits that don't make it onto the syllabus) and will give you a chance to go beyond what you thought were the limits to discover new creative and imaginative possibilities. This might be through watching and discussing a cutting edge arthouse film, discovering an experimental genre of books, or taking part in a workshop on journalistic or creative writing. Each event will be publicised separately.

'WORDS AND THAT'

'Words and That' is a collaborative student led literary publication. It combines the best of Abingdon's talent and showcases all forms of art, music, cultural debate and creative writing. Boys work together to produce an innovative and dynamic publication each term. A great opportunity for those of you with imaginative flair, an interest in design, art, fiction writing and current affairs.

'THE POSTMEN'

Take a trip to the unknown; as a wise man once said, 'writing is exploration; and most of the time,



I'm surprised where the journey takes me.' Visit aspects of character, genre, setting, mystery and metafiction as we create our own pieces and publish our work. In the steps of Brin's postman we walk through the harsh landscapes of reality and deliver the impossible.

'THE BLAZER'

'The Blazer', launched in 2011, is a magazine designed by Lower School boys for Lower School boys. Members of the editorial team write articles and conduct interviews with the aim of producing four issues a year.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Through the Model United Nations Society we will take delegations along to conferences throughout the year at other schools. At these we will represent a country's interest in debates. It's an excellent way of building legal, political and debating experience as well as broadening knowledge of current and international affairs and socialising with other schools. (Also see 'Debating'.)

clubs and societies

MODERN LANGUAGES CLUBS

Come and have fun in different languages – and maybe you will pick up something new! Different languages are on offer every week, there is a programme of culture-related events and presentations based on significant dates throughout the year (German Unity Day, Spanish National Day, Mardi Gras, Chinese New Year, Eurovision etc) and we also run occasional cookery sessions. There is a club for Lower School boys run in conjunction with St. Helen's and a second club run by our language assistants.

JOINT MODERN LANGUAGES SOCIETY

The Modern Languages Department runs a series of events throughout the year in conjunction with St Helen's. The Society is co-organised by a committee of sixth form linguists at both schools. The Society is not only for boys studying modern languages (French, German, Spanish, Chinese, Italian, Russian...) but any Sixth Formers interested in languages, language learning and other cultures. Events

include social evenings, dinners, film showings, visits to the theatre/cinema and talks by visiting speakers. Details published on an ad hoc basis.

PSYCHOLOGY CLUB

Psychology is the study of the mind and tries to understand and explain our behaviour. Psychology Club offers a chance to discuss and research some interesting psychological ideas such as memory, body language, perception and illusions.



SCHOOLS CHALLENGE

A general knowledge competition, run along similar lines to 'University Challenge'. We take part in the annual national competition, with a team of two senior boys and two Middle School boys. We also run an annual L6 Challenge competition in the Lent term.



A young man with blonde hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue school blazer, light blue shirt, and striped tie, is leaning over a laboratory bench. He is smiling and looking down at a piece of scientific equipment. The equipment includes a vertical metal rod, a test tube held in a clamp containing a yellow liquid, and two red electrodes inserted into the liquid. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people and posters on a wall.

SCIENCE ACTIVITIES

An opportunity for students to experience hands-on science outside of the syllabus. There are separate sessions for Middle and Lower School weekly.

GAP (GREEN ABINGDON PROJECTS)

This is an exciting competition that will enable AS Chemistry students to explore green chemistry challenges facing our local environment. Through teamwork, interviews and data-gathering, participants will undertake a novel research program investigating a green chemistry issue of their choosing. Part investigative journalism, part scientific analysis, this unusual opportunity will teach participants new skills, engage them with cutting-edge scientific solutions and encourage personal development. An essay and presentation to peers will allow participants to share findings and compete for the prize of best project. The projects are timed to avoid exam disruption whilst providing excellent opportunities for UCAS-related activities, and should be considered by all AS Chemistry students as an opportunity to broaden their horizons and discover more of this important area of science.

'YOUNG ENTERPRISE'

Young Enterprise (for Fourth Years only) provides the opportunity to set up and run your own company. You will sell shares to raise capital and elect directors to manage the day-to-day running of your business. You will be part of a national competition and you will need to sell your goods or service in the real world to customers who demand quality and competitive prices. This is an activity for highly motivated individuals with entrepreneurial instincts.

expeditions : home and abroad



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a nationally recognised scheme and is the single most sought-after non-academic qualification with UK employers. It consists of three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold, and within each level there are four component parts: Skill, Volunteering, Physical recreation and Expeditions. At Gold there is a fifth section, Residential.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD – BRONZE

There are four Sections in the Award: Service, Physical, Skills and Expedition. Participants will need to show commitment and determination

to organise their activities, and will need to do two of the first three Sections for at least three months and one for at least six months. However, with the wealth of Other Half activities on offer it is usually possible to complete these requirements in school.

For the Expedition section, initial training takes place in the fourth year during the Michaelmas term. Planning sessions and the expeditions themselves follow in the Lent and Summer terms. It is vital that participants attend all these commitments, which are advertised well in advance. The skills covered on expeditions will be learned in real situations and should remain of use throughout life.

Boys may also complete their expedition phase by canoe. Numbers for this activity are limited.

The Bronze level of the award usually takes about a year, but is not time-bound and can extend for longer if needed.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD – SILVER AND GOLD

The Silver and Gold levels of the award allow participants to build on the skills and abilities they have gained from the Bronze level and apply them in more challenging situations. At Gold we offer boys who can sail the opportunity to complete their Expedition



as a sailing venture as well as walking and canoeing. Numbers for both of these are very limited. As for the Bronze level, participants will also commit to skill, physical, volunteering and expedition sections but are involved for a greater period of time. Boys who have not been registered previously in eDofE need to complete a longer period in one of the sections to qualify for the award. These boys are classed as direct entry. Please be aware that there is no direct entry at silver level in school. Boys who have been registered previously in eDofE will not be able to record time at the higher level until they have completed at least one section at the lower level.



Boys can complete the expedition component of all the awards by open canoe. At each level the expedition increases in difficulty:

- Bronze** 2 days (1 night) with
6 hours activity per day
- Silver** 3 days (2 nights) with
7 hours activity per day
- Gold** 4 days (3 nights) with
8 hours activity per day

Places are limited for canoeing expeditions and boys are expected to commit to both a practice expedition and qualifying expedition.

Dates will be communicated to parents and boys.



expeditions : home and abroad



WORLDWIDE EXPEDITIONS

This is for anyone interested in exploring and experiencing new cultures found in different parts of the world. Recent trips have included: 10 day expeditions to Egypt and Morocco, 3 to 4 week expeditions to Peru and the Himalayas, 24 days in Turkey and an 8 day ascent of Kilimanjaro as well as dog sledging and cross-country skiing in the Arctic. The trips are designed to be challenging, both mentally and physically, with boys taking responsibility for much of the organisation themselves (both before and during the trip). It is hoped the boys will develop their leadership skills and ability to work as a team during the expeditions. With these types of trip the boys are asked to raise a substantial portion of the cost of the trip themselves.



CCF SKI CAMP

Abingdon School Combined Cadet Force (CCF) runs an alpine ski development camp every winter as part of the programme of adventurous training. This takes place in December for a week in the Wengen area of Switzerland, under the magnificent Eiger. The aim is to give cadets experience of alpine skiing and to help develop their independence and high altitude mountain awareness.

The trip is open to all levels of skier but, to ensure we have the correct staff to student ratios, we must make sure that the composition of boys attending allows workable ski groups.

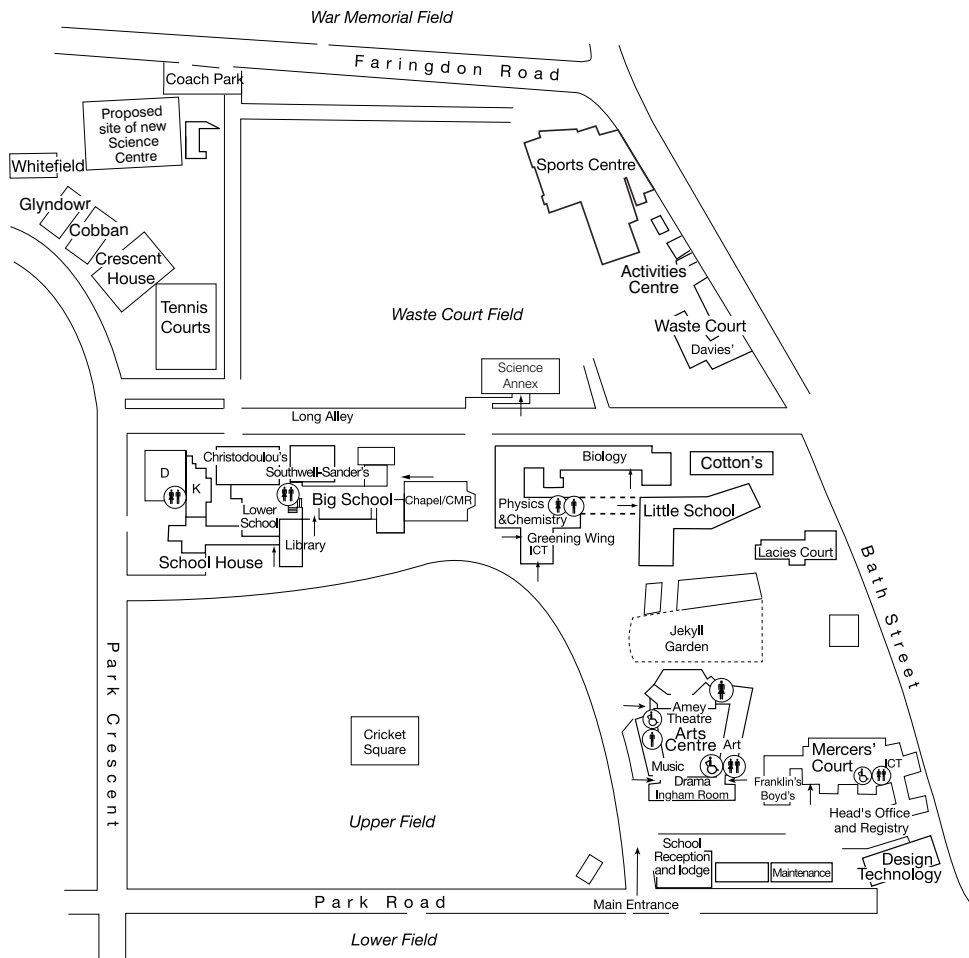
The cadets stay in youth hostel type accommodation and take responsibility for cooking their own meals and cleaning their rooms. The camp is competitively priced and includes all meals, transport, equipment hire and ski passes. Boys with their own kit are of course welcome to use it.

expeditions : home and abroad

LOWER SCHOOL ADVENTURE TRIPS

The aim of the first year trip is to allow the boys the opportunity to experience a wide range of outdoor activities and team building exercises within a purpose-built centre. The activities include abseiling, archery, climbing, a high ropes course and quad-biking. The second year trip provides the opportunity to take things a stage further and includes similar activities to the first year trip, plus canoeing, gorge-walking and hill-walking – all in their natural environment within the Brecon Beacons. Both trips are residential and are organised with fully-qualified instruction.





Key to Department and other rooms		
Big School		Mercers' Court
English B7-15		Careers Library
Modern languages B1-6, B9		Economics M106-108
Laboratories		History M100-104
Biology S26-29		ICT M109
Chemistry S18-21		Mathematics M110-117
Physics S22-25		Arts Centre
Junior Science S17		Art A203-204, A216-219
Greening Wing		Drama A221-222
ICT S16		Music A202, A210-215
Little School		Design Technology T72 - T71
Classics L30-33		Sports Hall
Geography L37-39		Sport S80
Religious Studies L34-36		
		Other Rooms
		CMR Charles Maude Room
		D Dining Hall
		K Kitchens
		ICT Information and Communication Technology; Computer suites
		Toilets
		Directions and maps to Abingdon School, Abingdon Preparatory School, Cox's Field and Tilsley Park can be found on the school website at www.abingdon.org.uk/maps



ABINGDON

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