



ABINGDON
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Curriculum Overview
Year 8A & 8M Spring Term
January - March 2021

Form/ Year Group / Section Events	Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE)	Computing
<p>Term begins: Tuesday 5th January</p> <p>Half-term begins: Friday 12th February (16.10) Half-term ends: Sunday 21st February.</p> <p>World Book Day: Thursday 4th March. Parents' Evening: 8A - Tuesday 9th March; 8M - Thursday 11th March Year 8 Production: Thursday 25th March (14:00)</p> <p>Term ends: Friday 26th March (12.00). * PLEASE NOTE. ALL TEACHING WILL BE ONLINE THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD OF ONLINE LEARNING. THEREFORE SOME TEACHING WILL BE ADAPTED ACCORDINGLY. * ALL KEY DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BUT DETAILS WILL BE COMMUNICATED VIA SCHOOL MAILING OR OTHER MEANS.</p>	<p>The first unit will explore the theme of body image and self-esteem, considering the influence of the media.</p> <p>Boys will look at different types of relationships; covering issues such as healthy and unhealthy relationships, consent, gender and how to negotiate social media well..</p> <p>During the second half of the term boys will develop their study skills; learning and practising different revision techniques.</p>	<p>Pupils will learn about the digital photograph editing software PhotoShop. They will gain a working knowledge of this package and develop their skills in editing and altering photos through a basic understanding of the tool bar, layers, and the adjustments panel. Pupils will then undertake their own project whereby they create their own digital images using the skills learnt in lessons.</p>
English	Mathematics	Science
<p>This term the pupils in Year 8 will study the following topics:</p> <p>Reading: Pupils will revise how to understand, analyse and evaluate meaning from a range of prose. Pupils will recap key areas including: understanding and vocabulary; use of text to illustrate answers; drawing of inferences; evaluation of style, language and purpose; delivery of arguments based on material; awareness of how grammar, syntax and punctuation affect meaning and capacity to make comparisons and evaluate contrast. They will continue to recognise and comment on the effectiveness of key literary features.</p> <p>Writing: Pupils will revise the important skills needed to write for a practical purpose: to argue, persuade, explain, advise, and inform. They will also have opportunities to complete creative tasks which provoke imaginative, descriptive or narrative responses. In addition, pupils will have opportunities to write essays about the text which they have studied in class.</p> <p>Studied literature: The main literary focus this term is 'Of Mice and Men' by John Steinbeck. Pupils will analyse the characters, settings, themes and historical context of this book. Pupils will also develop and express their own personal responses to the text both in their writing and discussions in class.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will be covering the following topics. (Topics are extended for Set 1 and further reinforcement is given in Set 2).</p> <p>Number: The pupils will recap the four rules of number for integers, decimals, fractions and negatives and apply BIDMAS. They will write numbers in standard index form and learn the rules of indices.</p> <p>Algebra: The pupils will solve equations and inequalities involving brackets and fractions. They will simplify and factorise expressions. They will substitute positive and negative numbers into expressions.</p> <p>Shape and Space: The pupils will plot straight line graphs and investigate parallel and perpendicular lines. They will learn how to plot conversion and scatter graphs and interpret the data. They will investigate drawing quadratic curves.</p> <p>Measurement: The pupils will investigate area and perimeter of compound shapes, trapeziums and parallelograms. They will learn to find the area and circumference of circles and sectors of circles. They will explore Pythagoras' Theorem. They will calculate the volume and surface area of cuboids and cylinders. They will practise their scale drawing and develop their understanding of bearings and use this knowledge to calculate distances and bearings on plotted journeys. They will learn to calculate the angles in regular polygons.</p>	<p>Acids and alkalis: We will finish our learning about this chemistry topic and review some content from Year 7 which will be included in the AP+ exam.</p> <p>Light and Sound: We will learn about these two types of waves, consider how they travel and their different speeds.</p> <p>We will have a visit from Oxford University who will carry out a workshop about biotechnology.</p> <p>Energy: Then we will look at the types of energy and how they can be transferred from one type to another. They will consider the different types of energy resources, renewable and non-renewable and how these can be used to generate electricity.</p> <p>This will be followed by a review of the electricity and magnetism topic with some additional electricity content then moments, pressure and speed.</p> <p>Chemistry: After this they will revise a number of chemistry and biology topics that will be included in the AP+ exam.</p>
Geography	History	Religious Education (RE)
<p>This term the pupils in Year 8 will continue to study population and migration. They will learn to describe and explain population change,</p>	<p>This term the pupils will be investigating, through role play, discussion and reading contemporary sources, the major causes of illness and death in</p>	<p>Pupils will continue and complete their study of the Buddhist religion, which culminates in a study of its holy books and</p>

<p>population distribution, the Demographic Transition Model, population pyramids, population control, migration types, migration model, world population movements, urbanisation, impact of urbanisation on a city, land use model. Pupils will use a wide range of geographical data to investigate these concepts The use of internet-based data is integrated into this unit.</p> <p>Pupils will read, interpret and compare modern-day and historical OS maps, as well as maps at different scales, to practise their OS map skills.</p> <p>They will also expand their locational knowledge of world and UK places.</p> <p>Later in the term they will move on to studying coastal geomorphology, including examining the major features caused by erosion, transportation and deposition using different case studies around the British coast to illustrate them. They will also consider how the sea impacts on coastal communities, and how people can try to manage change along coasts.</p>	<p>medieval England, and the remedies which were employed to improve survival. The pupils will undertake a detailed study of sources relating to the spread of the Black Death in England. They will then examine the causes of the Peasants' Revolt and consider which of these major 14th Century events was the most significant. Following this pupils will undertake a short study of the Reformation.</p>	<p>festivals .Pupils will then undertake an in-depth study of the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus and in the latter part of the term consider the evidence for life after death. This will include a comparative study of what different world religions believe about this issue.</p>
<p>French</p>	<p>Latin</p>	<p>Core Skills</p>
<p>This term pupils will continue to build on the grammar they have learned from last term; looking at the passé composé and the imperfect and how these tenses are used concurrently and a number of different negative formations. These will be tested by asking pupils to translate sentences from English into French.</p> <p>We will predominantly focus on preparing dialogues and practising answering and asking questions. The topics are based on camping, eating out and buying clothes. These dialogues that will be used in the AP+ mock exam. Family, School, rules and chores at home will be added later in the term to form the topics on which the oral and written questions will be based.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will continue their study of Latin grammar and vocabulary and of Roman civilisation. A particular emphasis this term will be on participles, the subjunctive mood, neuter nouns, adjective agreement and relative clauses. Pupils will also learn about Roman religion and the excavation of the Roman town of Bath.</p>	<p>This term the pupils start by looking at creative writing techniques used by established writers (Neil Gaiman; Rudyard Kipling) and will practise developing these techniques in their own writing. They will look at techniques used in creating effective story openings, character description through the senses, mood and atmosphere. They will develop the use of figurative language and revisit grammar and punctuation rules in speech.</p>
<p>Art</p>	<p>Craft, Design Technology (CDT)</p>	<p>Music</p>
<p>Pupils in Year 8 are divided into Art or CDT sets for the first half of the year.</p> <p>The Art students will explore Architecture. They will experiment with a variety of media ranging from acrylic painting, collage and clay.</p> <p>The main topics this term will be:</p> <p>Recording from observation: The pupils will complete large observational drawings of architecture looking to international and local established artists for inspiration.</p> <p>Clay: They will complete the architecture project exploring structural embellishments, and create a 3d clay gargoyle.</p>	<p>With the COVID restrictions in schools, the sharing of tools in the CDT room is not permissible until further notice and hence a changed CDT curriculum is in place..</p> <p>Art/CDT groups will switch for the Lent term.</p> <p>Pupils will undergo a series of STEM projects, being challenged to make structures such as bridges, catapults, and tall towers. A chair design project will be a highlight with work displayed in a collaborative way. Textile work will include weaving dream catchers and creating some optical illusions in negative form.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will study the following topics:</p> <p>The Blues: Pupils will learn to identify the features of Blues music. They will learn how to perform the 12-bar blues chord sequence on keyboards, and learn to improvise using the blues scale. Pupils will then create and perform their own blues song.</p> <p>Performing Arts: The pupils will be learning the songs for their drama productions</p>
<p>Games</p>	<p>Physical Education (PE)</p>	<p>Swimming</p>
<p>This term's major team sport will be football. They will train for and play 11-a-side or 9-a-side games. They will practise the following skills: kicking, passing, dribbling, shooting, throw-ins, free-kicks, penalties, tackling, positional play,tactics, and reading the game. They will have</p>	<p>Year 8 pupils will develop their knowledge and skills in the following areas this term:</p> <p>Hockey: They will develop their skills in dribbling, passing and shooting, and taking short corners.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will develop and be assessed in the following skills:</p> <p>Breaststroke: Pupils will further develop their arm action, leg action, breathing and timing of the stroke.</p>

the opportunity to participate in inter-school and house matches. Pupils will follow the ISFA and FA Junior Football Guidelines.

Basketball: The pupils will practise their passing in small groups using the pivot. They will improve their shooting and be introduced to the lay-up.

Butterfly: They will be taught and given opportunities to develop how they kick, use their arms, start races and improve their turns.

Assessment: Pupils will be assessed in their ability to use both strokes.