



Curriculum Overview
Year 8R (Scholarship) Spring Term
January - March 2022

Form/ Year Group / Section Events	Academic Scholarship information Key Dates	
<p>Term begins: Wednesday 5th January</p> <p>Mock exam week: Monday 10th to Friday 14th January. Parents' Evening: Thursday 20th January RSE Information Evening webinar: Tuesday 25th January (18:30) Staying safe online workshop for parents: Thursday 3rd February (18:00) Inter-house cross-country competition (Parents invited): Friday 18th February (14:00)</p> <p>Half-term begins: Friday 18th February (16.10) Half-term ends: Sunday 27th February.</p> <p>Abingdon School academic scholarship assessment week: Monday 7th to Wednesday 9th March at Abingdon School. Senior Section Drama Production (Dress rehearsal): Wednesday 30th and Thursday 24th March (16:10) Senior Section Drama Production (Final production: Wednesday 30th and Thursday 31st March (19:00)</p> <p>Term ends: Friday 1st April (12.00).</p>	<p>Abingdon School Mock exams (at APS): Monday 10th to Friday 14th January. Academic Scholarship assessment week: Written exams - Monday 7th March to Wednesday 9th March 2022.* Interviews - Wednesday 9th March.</p> <p>MCS Mock exams: Monday 10th to Friday 14th January. Academic Scholarship assessment: Monday 28th February and Tuesday 1st March, 2022.</p>	
English	Maths	Science
<p>The main focus of this term is to revise the following topics in preparation for the Scholarship examinations. They will be revisiting important areas covered in Year 8 so far and have practised at completing past papers under timed conditions:</p> <p>Reading: Pupils will revise how to understand, analyse and evaluate meaning from a range of poetry, prose, and non-fiction. They will recap key skills 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. Pupils will continue to recognise and comment on the effectiveness of key literary features, such as: metaphor, simile, personification, symbol, irony, alliteration, assonance, rhyme, rhythm and metre.</p> <p>Writing: Pupils will consolidate how to write both creative and discursive compositions. They will also write revise how to bring out the poetic features of a piece of prose by arranging it as a poem. Pupils will explain their choices in a piece of continuous writing.</p> <p>Studied literature: Pupils will continue to study a number of challenging texts, across genre and period, to acquire the skill of discriminating reading and develop their own imaginative and personal responses to literature. The main literary focus will be on Shakespeare's play, Romeo and Juliet.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will revise and practise skills and questions in a variety of topics in preparation for the upcoming scholarship examinations. Particular emphasis will be on the detail and logic of working.</p> <p>Algebra: They will reinforce their knowledge of all algebra techniques that have been covered. Extend the work on simplifying to include fractions and indices. Use simultaneous equations to solve word problems.</p> <p>Graphs: They will investigate straight lines, quadratics, cubics and reciprocals. (Post exams)</p> <p>Number work: They will recap calculating with decimals, fractions and negative numbers. They will use standard index form to write large and small numbers and look at the rules for indices. They will solve equations by trial and improvement. They will explore sequences and find the nth term. They will recap finding percentage amounts and use the multiplying factor to find percentage increase and decreases.</p> <p>Shape and space: They will recap volume and surface area of cuboids and cylinders. They will practice problems involving circles. They will calculate speed, distance and time on single and multiple journeys. Calculate the areas of triangles, trapeziums and parallelograms. They will recap rotating, reflecting and translating shape and learn to accurately enlarge shapes.(Post exams)</p> <p>Following the examinations they will hone their mental arithmetic skills and prepare for the UKMT team and Individual Mathematics challenges.</p>	<p>Once we have finished learning about acids and alkalis, we will learn the following:</p> <p>Physics</p> <p>Waves: Boys will continue to learn about waves at the start of term, moving on from light to sound.</p> <p>Energy: They will then study energy, identifying the types of energy, considering the law of conservation of energy when looking at examples of energy changes. They will then consider renewable and non-renewable energy resources and how they can be used to generate electricity.</p> <p>Electricity and magnetism: The boys will review these topics, which will include a look at static electricity.</p> <p>Revision: They will then have finished the syllabus and we will revise any areas that the boys feel less confident about. The pupils will continue to practise scholarship questions.</p> <p>After the scholarship exams the pupils will work towards their Bronze Crest Awards. Here they will do an investigation into a topic of their choice. The aim is to develop their independent scientific enquiry skills.</p>
Geography	History	Religious Education (RE)
<p>This term the pupils in 8R will continue to study rivers and river features, including flooding. Pupils will continue to practise their OS map skills and other skills in readiness for the upcoming scholarship assessments. They will expand their locational knowledge of world and UK places.</p>	<p>This term the pupils in 8R will receive further practice in tackling evidence questions, in readiness for the mock examinations and the upcoming scholarship assessments. Topics will include The Vietnam War and the civil war in Syria.</p>	<p>The pupils will continue preparatory work for their scholarship examinations. The topics covered this term will include how the Bible is interpreted by different Christian traditions, Christian approaches to ethical</p>

<p>Later in the term they will move on to studying earthquakes and volcanoes, including examining plate tectonics, continental drift theory, causes and effects of earthquakes and volcanoes, including tsunamis, and how people in contrasting societies manage living in areas affected by these natural hazards.</p>	<p>Similarly the mock examinations will give them another opportunity for refining their exam essay technique. They will also be studying the major events of the 14th Century, including: famine; causes of injury; death and warfare; The Black Death and The Peasants' Revolt, and assessing its legacy as arguably the worst century to have been alive in England. Following the scholarship examinations pupils will complete a case study on Richard III and the princes in the Tower. They will examine sources and answer evidence based questions.</p>	<p>issues, comparative religion and the relationship between religion and politics.</p>
<p>French</p>	<p>Latin</p>	<p>Core Skills</p>
<p>The pupils will receive regular grammar lessons in which they will revise the grammar they have covered thus far and will continue to develop their ability to read longer passages in french. They will continue to practise writing and recognise the key tenses, including the conditional and pluperfect. After their mock examinations, there will be further practice of reading, writing and listening papers, as well as preparing for the speaking exams which will be based on the topics they have covered last term (School, Family and Free-time).</p> <p>Post scholarship exams pupils will begin to learn some Spanish using the following topics: greetings, numbers and birthdays.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will continue their preparation for the scholarship examinations. Particular focus this term will be on participles, the formation of the subjunctive mood, vocabulary building and translation skills. In the latter part of the term, pupils are introduced to the passive voice and how this is constructed and translated.</p>	<p>No pupils in 8R follow the Core Skills programme.</p>
<p>Computing</p>	<p>Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSHCE)/Relationship and Sex Education</p>	<p>General Studies</p>
<p>Building on work undertaken in lessons at the end of Spring Term, pupils will work in pairs to use the programming language JavaScript to create a quiz on a topic of their choosing. Pupils will then evaluate, and where appropriate, debug and suggest improvements to, their fellow pupils' work. Pupils will also be introduced to the Applied Digital Skills series of activities provided by Google, which will help pupils to consolidate their ICT learning at Abingdon Prep.</p>	<p>8R will continue to develop their study skills; learning different revision techniques and gain plenty of exam writing practice.</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 effectively.</p> <p>They will also cover male body image, including the influence of the media.</p>	<p>In 8R General Studies will be taught discretely to PSHCE. As part of their preparations for the General Studies Scholarship exam, the pupils will focus on likely topics of essay writing and interview discussion which intentionally cover aspects of the PSHCE programme, including themes of citizenship, social diversity and Fundamental British Values. The pupils will continue to develop the skills required to answer questions on the General Paper in Abingdon School's and Magdalen College School's series of scholarship examinations.</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. The Art students will explore Architecture . They will experiment with a variety of media ranging from acrylic painting, collage and clay. 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 gargoye.</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>Film Music: Over the lockdown period last year, pupils were introduced to film music, and learned to recognise different features of film music. This term, pupils will put their knowledge into action, and use instruments to compose their own film music of various genres to real film scenes.</p> <p>Performing Arts: The pupils will be learning the songs for the school production of 'Aladdin'.</p>

Games	Physical Education (PE)	Swimming
<p>This term's major team sport will be football. They will train for and play 11-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 the opportunity to participate in inter-school and house matches. Pupils will follow the ISFA and FA Junior Football Guidelines.</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>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.</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.</p> <p>Butterfly: They will be taught and given opportunities to develop how they kick, use their arms, start races and improve their turns.</p> <p>Assessment: Pupils will be assessed in their ability to swim both strokes.</p>