



ABINGDON
 PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Curriculum Overview
Year 8R Summer Term
April - July 2026

Form/ Year Group / Section Events		Computing
Term begins: Wednesday 21st April Pupils will sit the UKMT <i>Junior Maths Challenge</i> on Wed 29th April. Half-term begins: Friday 22nd May (4.05pm) Half-term ends: Sunday 30th of May. 8R enrichment trip to Culham and Oxford: Thursday 4th June. Senior Section drama performance: Tuesday 16th June (7pm) at Amey Theatre Sports Day: Saturday 20th June Year 8 Residential Trip to Rockley: Monday 22nd - Friday 26th June Term ends: Friday 3rd July (12.00pm).		Mobile app development: Pupils will learn how to create their own mobile app. Introduction to Python programming: In the final half of term, pupils will be introduced to text-based programming with Python.
English	Maths	Science
<p>Reading: Pupils will continue to study 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. They will develop their skills in analysing text, devices and themes. They will also read articles or other appropriate examples of journalistic writing, for example from newspapers, magazines, websites, etc. They will study the language and devices of this genre of writing. Pupils will also be encouraged to take out books from the library or bring in their own reading books to develop their love and aptitude for reading.</p> <p>Writing: Pupils will continue to develop their analytical writing skills, mostly in connection with their analysis of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. They will have the opportunity to write articles for an audience employing their newly learned skills of journalistic writing.</p> <p>Spelling, punctuation & grammar: Pupils will receive further revision and practice in targeted activities involving spelling, punctuation or grammar.</p> <p>Assessment: Later in the term they will complete the Year 8 Progress Test in English (PTE) which tests them on their knowledge and understanding of these key components of the English Language. As part of this assessment, they will also complete two comprehension tasks one involving a fiction text, the other a non-fiction text.</p>	<p>This term the pupils in 8R will be studying a variety of topics. Some of the topics are those in the AP+ curriculum and some an extension of the Scholarship syllabus. Pupils will be encouraged to develop written and oral communication / reporting of mathematical investigation/ thinking.</p> <p>Graphing/ Algebra Investigating more complex nth term relationships. Investigate more complex functions graphically: quadratics, the equation of a circle, reciprocals.</p> <p>Shape/ Space Transformations, Loci and Constructions. In-depth exploration of circle geometry, including investigating 'Buffon's needle'.</p> <p>Number and Calculation Solve Fermi problems. Investigate recurring decimals.</p> <p>Other Preparation for UKMT Junior Maths Challenge (Wed 29th April) Research an area of personal mathematical interest - topic or mathematician-focused; present findings to a wider audience. Assessment: Sit 'PT Maths' assessment.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will continue to develop their scientific enquiry skills by completing their Bronze Crest award projects. They will prepare a presentation of their work and their findings and show it to an audience, which will include their parents where possible.</p> <p>Depending on their projects there will be opportunities to extend themselves in areas not on the Scholarship curriculum in depth, like Space.</p> <p>After this they will have the opportunity to study some aspects of engineering, building some circuit boards, time permitting.</p> <p>Trips: We will have a trip to Culham Science Labs.</p>
Geography	History	Religious Education (RE)
<p>Pupils will also continue to practise their locational knowledge and map skills, including how to produce maps on ArcGIS.</p> <p>Pupils will study a new topic on Fast Fashion looking into sustainability in the production, manufacture and distribution of clothing.</p>	<p>This term the pupils will study the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, examining the slave triangle, transportation of enslaved people and the factors that led to the eventual abolition of trafficking. Ahead of the Summer Exams, Pupils will also engage with sessions and take part in activities to help their analysis of source questions and their essay writing techniques.</p>	<p>This term pupils will be conducted guided enquiries into a chosen world religion. They will work in pairs to explore their chosen faith, record their findings and present them to other pupils. They will then go on to look at a range of smaller world religions.</p>
Spanish/French	Latin	Personal, Social, Health & Citizenship Education (PSHCE)
<p>Pupils will continue with the novel 'Le petit Nicolas' and write a short book review. This is in order to keep practising the French which they studied prior to the scholarship exams.</p> <p>Pupils will then start to learn Spanish by following an <i>ab initio</i> programme. They will study a number of topics to include greetings, numbers, dates, family members, colours, animals, and expressing opinions. They will also be investigating the cultural aspects of Spain, including festivals, sports, film, art, music and food. There</p>	<p>Pupils will continue their study of Latin language and Roman culture. New areas of linguistic study will include the passive voice, the ablative case and ablative absolutes. They will be introduced to more complicated texts that contain these constructions, with pupils being encouraged to undertake more challenging English to Latin translation work.</p>	<p>The pupils will consider what is meant by the term local government and understand the difference between this and central government. They will gain an understanding of our parliamentary system before contrasting it with other nations.</p> <p>They will take part in a careers fair and will think about employability skills such as communication and teamwork.</p>

<p>will not be an exam at the end of this term, although an assessment will be held after each topic.</p>		
<p>Art</p> <p>Year 8 pupils will begin a Personalised 4 week Project.</p> <p>Activism in Art The pupils will utilise the skills workshops from last term to research, design and make a project of their own.</p> <p>Next steps preparation: To prepare the pupils for more independent learning they will be using National Curriculum assessment objectives to guide them in creating their project.</p> <p>Presentation: They will have the opportunity to present their protest banners during an assembly.</p>	<p>Design & Technology (DT)</p> <p>This term those pupils in the Year 8 DT set will study the following topics:</p> <p>Sling puck games: Students will be making sling shot puck games using their workshop skills. They will be working independently given only working diagrams to go by.</p>	<p>Music/Performing Arts</p> <p>MUSIC - Songwriting: In this creative composition project, pupils will explore the conventions of contemporary pop song writing through practical group work.</p> <p>DRAMA - This term, pupils will be focusing on learning songs and developing performance skills in preparation for their musical production of 'The Lion King' at the end of term.</p>
<p>Games</p> <p>This term's major team sport will be cricket. The pupils will consolidate and develop the following skills:</p> <p>Batting: They will learn to play leg and offside shots, forward and back foot attacking and defensive shots. They will learn to run between the wickets. They will learn to make appropriate shot selections and read the game.</p> <p>Bowling: They will be taught how to bowl spin and seam bowling. They will learn to bowl with line and length, and at different speeds. They will be taught to disguise and refine their bowling action.</p> <p>Fielding skills: They will develop their knowledge and understanding of the roles of different fielding positions and the principles of good fielding. They will develop their throwing, both high and low, and practise their catching in the deep and close-in. They will improve their ground fielding and practise run-outs, as well as improve their wicket-keeping.</p> <p>Pupils will be given the opportunity to participate in House and inter-school matches. Coaches will refer to the ECB Coaching Initiative.</p> <p>Tennis: Some pupils will be selected for inter-school matches.</p>	<p>Physical Education (PE)</p> <p>Year 8 pupils will develop their knowledge and skills in the following areas this term:</p> <p>Athletics: The pupils will be coached and have the opportunity to practise a variety of track and field disciplines. Times and distances will be recorded for evaluation purposes.</p> <p>Some pupils will be selected for inter-school competitions.</p>	<p>Swimming</p> <p>This term the pupils will develop and be assessed in the following skills:</p> <p>Water polo: They will develop their passing and shooting techniques.</p> <p>Race swimming: They will practise relays and different strokes in preparation for internal and external galas.</p>