

ABINGDON
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Curriculum Overview
Year 3 Autumn Term
September - December 2026

Form/ Year Group / Section Significant Events (See the calendar on the school website for latest events, including sports fixtures).		Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship Education (PSE)
Parents and Staff Drinks and Information Evening: Friday 11 th September (6pm) Thursday 24 th September: Year 3 Earth Trust trip Thursday 8 th October: Year 3 Parents Evening (from 5.30pm) Half-term begins: Friday 16 th October (4.10pm) Half-term ends: Sunday 1 st November Year 3-5 Christmas Carol Service: Thursday 3 rd December (6.00pm) Year 3-5 Oxford Playhouse pantomime trip: Tuesday 8 th December Term ends: Friday 11 th December (12.00pm) PLEASE CONSULT THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR ALL SCHOOL EVENTS APS school calendar		The Abingdon Prep School Code of Conduct will be explored through discussion, drama and role play. They will also learn to improve their thinking, listening, concentrating and speaking skills. The pupils will be discovering how to help create a positive atmosphere through respectful and caring relationships. They will also be developing skills to build resilience and emotional health. They will discuss the topic of happiness and the UN Rights of the Child, exploring what makes up happy. They will explore how generosity can contribute to happiness.
English	Mathematics	Science
The pupils will be studying the following topics this term: They will follow the Read Write Inc. Comprehension scheme which covers a range of texts both fiction and non-fiction. Fiction - <i>Stories in familiar settings</i>: They will read and discuss a range of fiction texts, focusing on settings and imaginative descriptions. Non Fiction - <i>Instructions</i>: Using the book <i>Beware of Boys</i> the pupils will look at a range of recipes discussing layout, imperative verbs and adverbs before writing their own recipes. Poetry: They will study a variety of rhyming and non-rhyming poetry, and read and write shape poetry.	The pupils will be studying the following topics this term: Number: The pupils will understand place value and partition numbers into Hundreds, Tens and Units; count in various steps forwards and backwards from 2 and 3 digit numbers; and learn their number bonds to 20 and 100. They will learn addition and subtraction strategies and investigate real life word problems. They will practise the rapid recall of multiplication and division facts and recognise the relationship between them. They will learn to recognise and find fractions of shapes and numbers. Shape and Space: They will name and describe the properties of 2D and 3D shapes, also recognising regular and irregular polygons. Measure: They will estimate and measure lengths in m, cm and mm; recognise the relationship between cm and m, km and m, mm and cm; and add and find the difference between two or more lengths. They will learn to tell the time to the nearest 5 minutes on digital and analogue clocks.	The pupils will study two main themes: Light and Shadow: The pupils will study keywords and concepts associated with light by undertaking a number of investigative activities in order to understand terms such as, reflective, luminous, transparent, opaque, translucent, scatter and absorb. Pupils will investigate how shadows are made, as well as understanding how shadows can change. They will learn that light travels in straight lines and from an object to the eye. They will apply their knowledge when using mirror mazes, periscopes and pinhole cameras. Animals including humans: The pupils will learn to describe and name the basic parts of the skeletal system. They will learn why the skeleton is important and investigate different skeletons, joints and muscle systems. The pupils will observe other animals' skeletons and make comparisons to human skeletons. They will identify vertebrate and invertebrate animals. Pupils will go on to learn about the functions of some of the main organs in the human body, before focusing on teeth and nutrition. They will revise the main food groups and how animals must find food as they cannot make their own. Teeth will be investigated including types, purpose and actual design. The pupils will also touch on features that help animals obtain food (introducing them to the area of adaptation). Pupils will complete a short assessment at the end of each unit.
Geography	History	Religious Education (RE)
The pupils will study the following: Investigating our Local Area: They will learn to locate their local area on a map, give directions and learn a range of OS map symbols. They will identify physical and human features and the range of services available in different settlement types. Countries of the World: They will locate countries and capital cities on a world map. They will find out about some of the key geographical features of each continent.	In History the pupils will study: WW2: They will learn about when, where and why the war took place; the various defences taken against bombing; the evacuation of children; what it was like to be an evacuee; The Blitz; Remembrance Day; and rationing.	Signs and Symbols: pupils will look at different religious signs and symbols and how they are used to express ideas about God, beliefs and traditions. Food and Fasting: pupils will explore how food is used in the main world religions, including fasting, feasts and symbolic importance.
French	Computing	Drama
The focus this term is on understanding what the pupils hear and read as well as speaking and developing French accents. Topics will include greetings,	In ICT in Year 3 the pupils will study:	The Secret Spy Academy - pupils become new recruits at a top-secret spy training academy and each lesson is framed as a

numbers, colours, family, pets and food which will be developed through a range of games, activities and drama. Pupils will extend their understanding of French culture by exploring where French is spoken globally and find out about French Christmas celebrations and customs.	Computer systems and networks: The pupils will learn about connecting computers Identifying that digital devices have inputs, processes, and outputs, and how devices can be connected to make networks e-Safety: They will learn how to protect personal information, use safety features of websites and know how to report problems. Creating Media: In this unit they will learn about stop-frame animation. This will include capturing and editing digital still images to produce a stop-frame animation that tells a story.	different “mission” designed to teach them the essential foundations of Drama: focus, stillness, safe movement, teamwork, body language, voice, mime, improvisation and performance. The Toyshop After Midnight - In this magical and imaginative Drama unit, pupils explore what happens when a toyshop closes and the toys come to life after midnight.
Art In Art in Year 3 the pupils will explore: Colour and Texture. Artists: They will draw inspiration from seasonal colours by looking at works by Mark Rothko. They will understand how to create and replicate texture and mark making by exploring our natural landscape, and the work of Andy Goldsworthy. Colour Mixing: They will experiment making their own natural pigments. Weaving: They will develop their knowledge of weaving and key words to describe the practical processes. Clay Relief: They will explore Insects by drawing, painting and clay sculpting to understand the colours and textures in our natural world.	Design and Technology (DT) Moving monsters: The pupils will be exploring different materials and the effect of pneumatics by creating moving monsters. They will go through the design process from being given a design brief, to research, design, testing ideas, making and evaluating. Seaside Mirrors: The pupils will be designing and making mirrors with a seaside theme. Exploring a range of materials and textures, they will look at how to design with a theme in mind and for an intended use and customer. Christmas creations: Pupils will create a range of Christmas creations using different materials and tools, from nightlights to felt tree decorations.	Music Music Explorer’s Academy - In this introductory unit, pupils become <i>Music Explorers</i>, investigating the building blocks of music through games, body percussion, voice work, listening challenges and classroom percussion. The unit is designed to be fast-paced, practical and enjoyable, helping pupils settle into music routines while developing confidence as performers, listeners and creators. In the second half of term, pupils become <i>Rhythm and Pitch Detectives</i>, using their growing musical knowledge to investigate how music can be written, read, performed and created. Choir: Pupils will concentrate on the foundations of good choral singing: posture, breathing, clear diction, matching pitch and singing confidently together, while working towards their first performance at Christmas
Games Football and rugby: Pupils will develop their skills and play mini-games; run with / without the ball; tackling, develop their positional play; and learn the rules and basic principles of football. All of the pupils will participate in inter-house matches and/or inter-school matches. They will follow the Under 8 FA Continuum and U8 RFU continuum.	Physical Education (PE) The pupils in Year 3 will develop their knowledge, understanding and ability to perform fundamental movement skills such as acceleration, deceleration, agility, balance and coordination. Topics covered include; Physical literacy, gymnastics and handball.	Swimming Year 3 pupils will learn how to improve their safe entry and exit techniques; develop their front crawl and backstroke, by focusing on breathing, arms and legs, and develop their breaststroke, particularly their kick. They will also improve their water skills by practising sitting and standing dives, pencil jumps, underwater swimming and floating techniques.