

innovation



determination



integrity



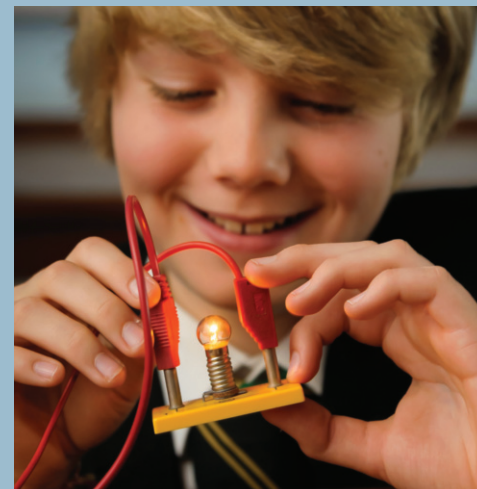
drive



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“Working with you and your child, is a privilege for all of us here at Abbeyfield”

A message from our Headteacher



Abbeyfield School is proud of its principles of *innovation*, *determination*, *integrity* and *drive*. These are the standards, chosen by the pupils here. They demonstrate the values by which we want everyone associated with our school to stand for and to be known by. As you work your way through this prospectus, we hope you will catch a glimpse of a school that seeks to deliver the very best education for our students.

The happiness, wellbeing and confidence of our students is paramount to us. We work hard to ensure that all are supported and cared for so that, as they grow, they are given the very best foundations to go out into the world and build upon. We have a duty to set them up for successful lives and careers and we understand that to do that, they need to be academically, socially and creatively able to reach their full potential. Giving our students the opportunity to go beyond what they think is possible is key in what we plan for them, how we teach them and how we give feedback so they move on and make progress quickly.

To do well in life, young people need to be able to be self-assured and confident in who they are. It is an increasingly demanding world beyond school and the intention of this prospectus is to show you how we will help prepare your child for the challenges ahead.

To be truly successful, we want to work closely with you to make certain we get things right; to that end, if there is anything we haven't answered, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Working with you and your child is a privilege for all of us here at Abbeyfield. We are delighted that you are considering our school and we look forward to meeting you in person to share our school and the aspirations we have for our students.

Kind Regards,
Ian Tucker
Headteacher

OFSTED 2012:

“Teachers typically have high expectations of their students and manage classes well. Classes are planned in line with the new school policy to ensure that the pace of learning accelerates as students are given challenging individual or group tasks to complete”.

Our aspirations for
every student

Every day is an
important step in
the preparation
for life

We aim to serve our community by pursuing excellence in everything we do in order to provide an education of the highest quality. Happiness, independence, self-motivation and honesty will be promoted through the experience we offer to all our pupils.

Principles such as these influence behaviour and action. They also have the capacity to inspire and encourage. We see each student having a unique blend of gifts and abilities and we aim to give each one the confidence to feel positive about their particular strengths and to explore individual interests. They will engage with their peers, think for themselves and have a sense of responsibility and self-belief.

Respecting one another and our environment is taken very seriously which in turn leads to a safe and inviting school.

Our role is to ensure students leave Abbeyfield fulfilled, inspired and confident to move onto their next challenge in life.



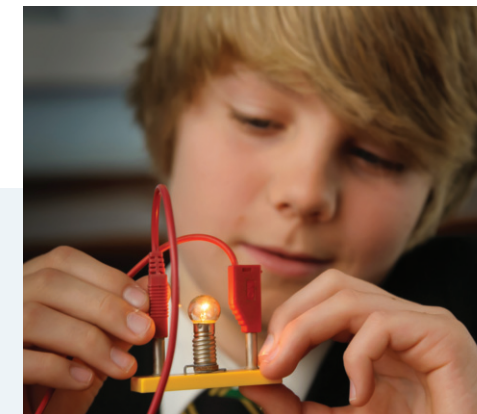
Learning for All
Progress is
the result



Rigorous academic, creative and sport programmes led by high quality teaching help to instil a passion and love for learning. Our primary to secondary Transition Team is led by a dedicated Raising Standards Leader for year 7 and Primary Transition. It comprises of an SEN co-ordinator, and teachers of Maths, English and STEM. (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths).

To ensure a smooth move into year 7, our curriculum encourages students to think for themselves and provides them with both discrete subject learning and cross-curricular themes.

We believe that a curriculum which helps students to make connections that are relevant to their own lives will encourage them to have a real sense of their learning.



Challenging targets are set for all students; these are reviewed regularly and parents receive progress reports throughout the year and have a number of consultation meetings with all of their child's teachers. We want all students to make better than expected progress and we have that aim for each of them. All teachers are challenged to be consistently 'outstanding' and our teaching is rigorously reviewed.

Students are guided through an options programme and spend three years, 9 to 11, studying for their GCSEs. Throughout Year 11, students are constantly mentored for success.

We have a fantastic 6th form learning environment offering a diverse selection of 'A' level qualifications. The vast majority of our young adults go onto university at a variety of institutions from medical school to art colleges. Our Oxbridge applicants benefit from our preparation programme run in partnership with St Mary's School in Calne and Merton College Oxford.

Our well established links with institutions such as the Universities of Oxford, Bath, Bristol and Exeter all help in making vital choices. Information, advice and guidance is given regularly to students of all ages as they prepare for the next steps in their education and employment journeys.

OFSTED 2012:

"Teachers' highly developed questioning skills were a feature of most of the outstanding lessons seen. They elicit detailed and thoughtful responses from students".

OFSTED 2012:

"There is an emphasis on securing high quality teaching and learning across the school".



Leadership Abbeyfield House System

Every student entering Abbeyfield becomes a member of one of our four Houses. We believe strongly that good academic progress is linked closely with effective pastoral care. Each House is led by its own Raising Standards Leader and students quickly form loyalties to their House and develop a true sense of pride, belonging and a spirit of healthy competition. The House system also acts as a link between the different age groups in the school, providing them with opportunities for working and playing together. Students remain in the same House throughout their time at

Abbeyfield with siblings joining the same House. We believe that the House system is central to the culture and success of each student.

The tutor is a person of great importance for each student, overseeing their academic, social and emotional wellbeing. The tutor takes overall academic and pastoral responsibility for the students in their guidance and stewardship.

Success is celebrated through individual house points, inter house competitions, including sports day and prize giving evening.

Our houses are named after historically prominent local people:

Brunel

Isambard Kingdom Brunel, the great English mechanical and civil engineer.



Alfred

Alfred, King of Wessex and dominant ruler of England from 871 to 899.



Talbot

Edward Talbot, a British inventor and photography pioneer who invented the calotype process.



Neeld

Joseph Neeld, a Member of Parliament for Chippenham from 1830 to 1856.



"This is my first time experiencing a House System and it's great; I really feel as though I am part of a team. Even the year 11's want to be involved!"

Quote from year 9 student.

Students will be taught many individual activities and competitive games along with developing tactics, skills, techniques, rules or laws of games.

"Sport is one of my favourite subjects. It gets me fit and I love playing for the football and cricket teams. The teachers always praise and motivate my sporting ability"

Quote from year 8 student

Holistic Education Something for everyone



At Abbeyfield we strongly believe that students grow and develop so much from experiences gained outside the classroom. We offer a variety of enrichment opportunities including science, sports and languages.

- Year 7 team building for every child
- Sports clubs using our indoor and outdoor facilities
- Leadership opportunities via our Combined Cadet Force and the Chippenham Army Cadet Force
- Joining the Rocket Club
- Flying as a member of the Abbeyfield Gliding Club
- Historical and cultural visits
- Overseas cultural experiences
- European language exchanges
- Duke of Edinburgh Award projects
- Work experience
- University visits
- Youth Parliament
- Charity and community events

Students are encouraged to play an active part as citizens of the world. The school has a number of strong links with schools in Europe, Asia and Africa. Students take part in residential trips on a regular basis.

We have a high reputation in this field of international education and as a result Abbeyfield has achieved the International Schools Award, the Global Schools Award, UNESCO Associated Schools Status and South West Links into Language Training Centre.

We aim to provide students with the opportunity to develop new interests, and benefit from doing something away from their usual studies.

At Abbeyfield we believe in awarding and praising achievements. Our Annual Awards and Prize Giving evening is always eagerly looked forward to. Many of the prizes are sponsored by local businesses and the Chippenham Twinning Association and Rotary Club. Recognising the amazing sporting achievements at Abbeyfield, our students celebrate at our Sports Award evening in the summer term.



The Abbeyfield School 6th Form Challenge yourself to be better than you thought possible

Students entering the school in year 7 will soon see that the 6th form is very integral to life at Abbeyfield. We are all immensely proud of our 6th form which produces excellent results each year. The Headteacher meets with parents and students in year 11 to ensure all the options are known.

The Head of 6th Form is responsible overall for leadership of this area of the school. Students receive mentors, a dedicated member of staff to co-ordinate UCAS applications and a member of staff to co-ordinate extended projects.



"All three of my children attended Abbeyfield School and have successfully gone on to attend University. I would like to thank you for the excellent teaching, care and support given to pupils and their parents".

Parent of three Abbeyfield Students 2003 – 2014.

OFSTED 2012:

"The use of assessment to support students' learning is a key strength. Teachers in most subjects are adept at monitoring students' progress through lesson activities and intervening when necessary to offer more challenge or support. This is a key feature, for example, of teaching in mathematics".



School Uniform

Abbeyfield Students take a great sense of pride in their uniform which in turn promotes an atmosphere of calm and dedication to the school and students’ studies.

In summary the uniform for students starting in Year 7 consists of:

Common to all:

- White plain long or short sleeved shirt with a proper collar suitable for wearing with a tie (not a blouse).
- Black school blazer with the school logo.
- School tie: black with thin double gold stripe and relevant House colour.
- Plain, preferably lightweight and waterproof coat. No denim, leather, jackets, fleeces, hoodies and no other tops as substitutes for coats.
- Jewellery and make-up: one small stud per ear (worn in the ear lobe). One wristwatch. No make-up, nail enhancements or nail varnish.
- Extreme hairstyles, nose studs and other forms of body piercing are not permitted (students will be asked to remove these).

Female students:

- Black Skirts, no shorter than two inches above the knee.
- Black trousers – these must be plain and straight legged.
- Black socks, plain black or neutral tights (not patterned).
- Black sensible strongly made shoes, with a maximum heel height of two inches.
- No kitten heels, stilettos, boots or daps are allowed.
- Only plain, black hairbands or clips.

Male students:

- Black school trousers.
- Black sensible shoes.

For PE lessons:

- Black football style shorts (or skirts can be worn by girls).
- Training shoes with non-marking soles.
- Black and gold school outdoor PE shirt.
- Black and gold school indoor PE shirt.
- School sport socks with Abbeyfield logo.
- Football/hockey/rugby boots.
- Mouthguard and shin pads.

6th Form dress code:

We expect all students to wear clothing appropriate for studying in a professional atmosphere.



“Abbeyfield is a school with a tradition and a future to be extremely proud of”