



Battle Abbey School Extra Curricular Activities Programme September 2026

Introduction to the **Extra** Curricular Programme

We encourage pupils to participate fully and to achieve their best, not only in the classroom but in all areas of school life. This booklet outlines some of the options available in our rich and varied Extra Curricular programme.

In addition to the Extra Curricular programme, Battle Abbey School also runs a Supra Curriculum, designed to extend and stretch pupil learning in standard curriculum subjects. These are ordinarily run as part of the Societies programme - which is allied to particular academic faculties - but in some cases, Extra Curricular provision may support or contribute to the Supra Curricular, so some of these clubs may fall under Supra rather than Extra Curricular. For more information on Societies, how they fit in with the school and what role they serve, please contact admissions.

Our Extra Curricular programme helps to develop confidence and self-assurance, essential soft skills highly valued in today's job market and indeed more broadly in society.

Both Music and Drama exist as curriculum subjects and in the Extra Curricular schedule. There are productions and concerts on a regular basis, and most pupils will have the chance to be in a play and all will be given the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. The school also regularly trains teams for public speaking and debating competitions. Performing before an audience and the preparation that lies behind it are life skills we consider to be very important.

We offer high level and committed coaching in many sports too. We have a first-class indoor swimming pool, which we use extensively for both competitive and recreational swimming. Pupils in the Senior School are coached by qualified specialists in their chosen sport each term, so that all pupils, not just the talented, receive the benefit of top-quality instruction.

A wide variety of other options are available too, ranging from textiles to word games, from current affairs discussion groups to Chinese and Greek.

Please note: The Extra Curricular Activity schedule will be subject to change from term to term, particularly with regard to seasonal sports. This booklet is intended to give a flavour of what is on offer at Battle Abbey School but the Extra Curricular schedule will depend on demand and current staff skill sets, and not all clubs listed here will run every term.



SING YOUR OWN SONG

Chamber Choir

The Chamber Choir is a specialist group consisting of twenty members that performs regularly outside the School, including trips abroad. The Chamber Choir has sung in Salzburg Cathedral, Wells Cathedral and Bath Abbey and gave a Centenary Recital in Canterbury Cathedral. It also performs more locally at churches, hospitals, and charity events.

School Choir/ Junior Choir

The School Choir currently has more than sixty members, including students from Year 7 through to Year 13, as well as some staff. A senior section of the School Choir combines with Battle Choral Society for performances of major works - most recently the Verdi Requiem and Beethoven's Choral Symphony.

School Orchestra

The Orchestra has around twenty members and meets weekly. The Orchestra includes stringed instruments, brass instruments, and, at one point or another, has included a wide range of other diverse instruments. The Orchestra performs at the end of term and Scholars' concerts.

String Ensemble

The string ensemble plays more challenging music than the orchestra and is open to any string players of Grade 3 and above.

Brass Group

A wonderful and fun group that meets once a week to play a wide and diverse range of music from Christmas Carols and fanfares to Jazz numbers.

Woodwind Group

Open to all woodwind players (flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone, bassoon), this ensemble offers pupils the chance to rehearse and perform a varied repertoire in a relaxed and supportive setting. The group helps develop ensemble skills, confidence, and musicality, with opportunities to perform in school concerts and events. Whether you're a seasoned player or just finding your feet, Woodwind Group is a fantastic way to make music, meet other pupils, enhance your playing, and have fun!

Flute

Flute Group is a friendly and inclusive ensemble open to all flautists from Grade 2 level and above. Pupils will enjoy playing a wide variety of music—from classical favourites to film themes and pop arrangements—while developing key ensemble skills such as blending, listening, and timing. The group rehearses weekly and performs at school concerts and special events throughout the year. A fantastic opportunity to grow musically, gain confidence, and enjoy making music with fellow flute players in a relaxed and supportive setting.



Peripatetic music lessons (paid extra)

150 individual instrument lessons are taught each week at the Abbey, including: Piano, Voice, Violin, Cello, Flute, Recorder, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, Keyboard, Organ, Guitar and Drums (others available on request).

BROADENING HORIZONS

Ecology Club

The school is in possession of an Eco-School Award, a FairAware Award, and have also been involved in various COP26 initiatives. Our Ecology Club takes on a number of exciting challenges and topics that are agreed upon annually by the members. This year, the focus has been on Global Citizenship and Biodiversity. This has seen them take on Litter with their 'Loud on Litter' campaign, secure funding for a Bio-Diverse habitat at the school, and raise funds for other Ecology projects through candy cane sales at the Abbey. A recent project saw the Club's flag designs feature at an actual research station in Antarctica!

Historical Modelling

All pupils are invited to recreate a historical vehicle in Airfix kit form. Kits provided! This term we will be building a model of the famous Supermarine Spitfire Mk.1a! Next term, something equally exciting! Places are strictly limited.

Christian Club

Christian Club offers a welcoming space for pupils of all ages and backgrounds to explore faith, ask big questions, and enjoy fellowship in a relaxed and supportive environment. Each week includes discussion, reflection, prayer, and fun activities inspired by Christian values. Pupils can share ideas, explore the relevance of faith in daily life, and engage with themes such as kindness, justice, and community. Open to everyone—whether you're a committed Christian, exploring your beliefs, or simply curious—this club encourages respectful conversation, personal growth, and shared purpose. No pressure, just a warm place to belong.

Ancient Greek

Perfect for budding archaeologists, lovers of classical mythology, and those who love a mentally stimulating challenge. Decipher the Greek alphabet, and learn to write like someone from the 5th Century BC.

Discover that you already know loads of Greek words without realising it, and find out how many 'English' words (like telephone and philosophy) are actually Greek. Read simple sentences from Homer's Odyssey in the original language, and find out whether a man can step in the same river twice. Learn about the ancient city of Athens (its marketplace, temples, and government buildings) and meet some famous Greek writers and philosophers. If you want, you can prepare for the EMACT Certificate in Classical Greek.

Poetry

This creative and supportive club invites pupils to express themselves through the power of poetry. Each week, we explore different styles, themes, and poets—classic and contemporary—while encouraging students to write from the heart. Whether you're new to poetry or already filling notebooks, this is a space to share ideas, build confidence, and find your voice. Expect thoughtful discussion, fun writing prompts, and the chance to perform your work if you wish.

Chess Club

Pupils meet on the chequered board for high octane, and often very competitive, games of this most intellectual of pastimes. Speed chess enthusiasts are also welcome!



A CHANCE TO PERFORM

Production Rehearsals

There are usually three productions a year - two senior and one junior. Commitment and reliability are the most important qualities required. Rehearsals are after school, and pupils may also need to commit to some weekend rehearsals. We work hard, have fun, and always produce exciting performances!

Tech Club

A chance to learn about how the school's stage lighting and sound equipment work and gain experience on how to operate it for productions and events. The club meets weekly and all year groups are welcome. Rise to the top, and you will be the next Head of Tech!

Independent Drama Rehearsals

Drama enthusiasts meet to extend their drama skills through drama games, physical theatre, and improvisation. Drama club gives us an opportunity to be a little more adventurous and challenging: One session was devoted entirely to bubbles! Later in the year, we look at scripts and how to bring them to life through improvisation, different performance styles, and theatrical conventions. Anyone is welcome to join.

Music Pods

Four purpose-built, soundproof music pods have been added to the music department to allow our students to practice before and after school, as well as during any free periods. They are equipped with two acoustic upright pianos, a keyboard, and a full drum kit. Music pods need to be booked in advance via the Head of Music to avoid disappointment!

Drama Club

Drama Club is a lively and inclusive space where pupils can explore performance, build confidence, and have fun! Students develop their acting skills while learning to collaborate and express themselves creatively. Open to all experience levels, the club is a great way to make new friends, prepare for school productions, and discover the joy of theatre.



OUTWARD BOUND

Duke of Edinburgh (paid extra)

The Duke of Edinburgh programme is a real adventure from beginning to end. It doesn't matter who you are or where you're from, you just need to be aged between 14 and 24 and realise there's more to life than sitting on a sofa watching life pass you by! Pupils achieve their Awards by completing a personal programme of activities in four sections (five if going for Gold) – Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition, and, for Gold, a Residential.

Candidates will find themselves helping people or the community, getting fitter, and developing new skills. The programme can be flexible enough to cover a variety of interests and ability levels, and along the way, pupils will pick up experiences, friends, and talents that will stay with them for the rest of their lives.

Mr Beach is on hand at the club sessions to facilitate 'e-D of E' online prep, including correct submission of documents and support for all sections of the D of E Award.



EXPRESS YOURSELF

KS3, KS4 and KS5 Art Club

The Art Club aims to create a vibrant community of pupil artists who are engaged in, and appreciate, the visual arts. The Art Club hopes to enrich pupils' lives, enhance their school experience, and complement school-based art education. Students will be encouraged to be experimental, to be challenged, and to take risks with their work. They will be able to try out new projects and extend classroom activities. Above all, they will enjoy the activities and have fun! The club is also designed to support those who require extra help.

KS4 and KS5 Textiles

A chance for pupils in Years 10 to 13 to work on their in-class projects, ask for advice on Textiles work, or just put a bit of extra time into a private project. Here to meet all your Textiles needs!

Craft Club

Join our cosy lunchtime craft club, where creativity and calm go hand in hand. Open to all pupils, the club offers a relaxing space to learn new skills, enjoy conversation, and create handmade items— our much-loved teddy bears! Whether you're an experienced crafter or a complete beginner, you'll be warmly welcomed. Materials are provided, and all projects contribute to a fun, supportive, and mindful break in the school day.



LET OFF SOME STEAM

KS3 and KS4 BAS Engineering

Our new crop of young engineers has started the year with gusto! Previously, the club had operated only as an extra-curricular activity, but this year, we have been able to launch the Science Society, and Engineering has formed an integral part of its establishment. With the School's F1 in Schools project already well established, the pupils have also been working on Drones, Remote Control Cars, and Go Karts. Small groups have set up the projects and planned them, including materials and costs, and their completion dates vary from six weeks to a couple of years.

F1 In Schools

A small group of Key Stage 4 students have taken on the F1 in Schools project, designing and building their car to rigorous specifications. They are also carrying out many of the tasks of the proper F1 teams - designing logos, collecting sponsorship, and even producing their own clothing! Here they are with their F1 in Schools awards for Marketing and Sponsorship and Fastest Car in Class!

LEGO Robotics

Combine creativity, coding, and construction in our exciting LEGO Robotics Club! Pupils work in teams to design, build, and program LEGO robots using intuitive software and real-world problem-solving skills. From navigating obstacle courses to completing fun challenges, this club is perfect for budding engineers and tech enthusiasts. No prior experience needed—just curiosity and imagination! A great way to explore STEM in a hands-on, engaging, and collaborative environment after school.



LIFES A GAME

Warhammer Club

In the Warhammer Club, students have the opportunity to paint models from the various Warhammer settings. The first few models are provided by the school, but eventually, students should bring their own models in and battle each other's armies across the table from one another in a friendly environment.

Dungeons and Dragons Club

Spurred on by the rejuvenating effect on the popularity of Dungeons and Dragons by the hit TV show Stranger Things, the newly minted Battle Abbey School Dungeons and Dragons Club sees pupils of all ages gather to progress through a variety of hazardous scenarios, staged by our very own Sixth Form Dungeon master, Samuel H. Expect the unexpected!

Yu-Gi-Oh Club

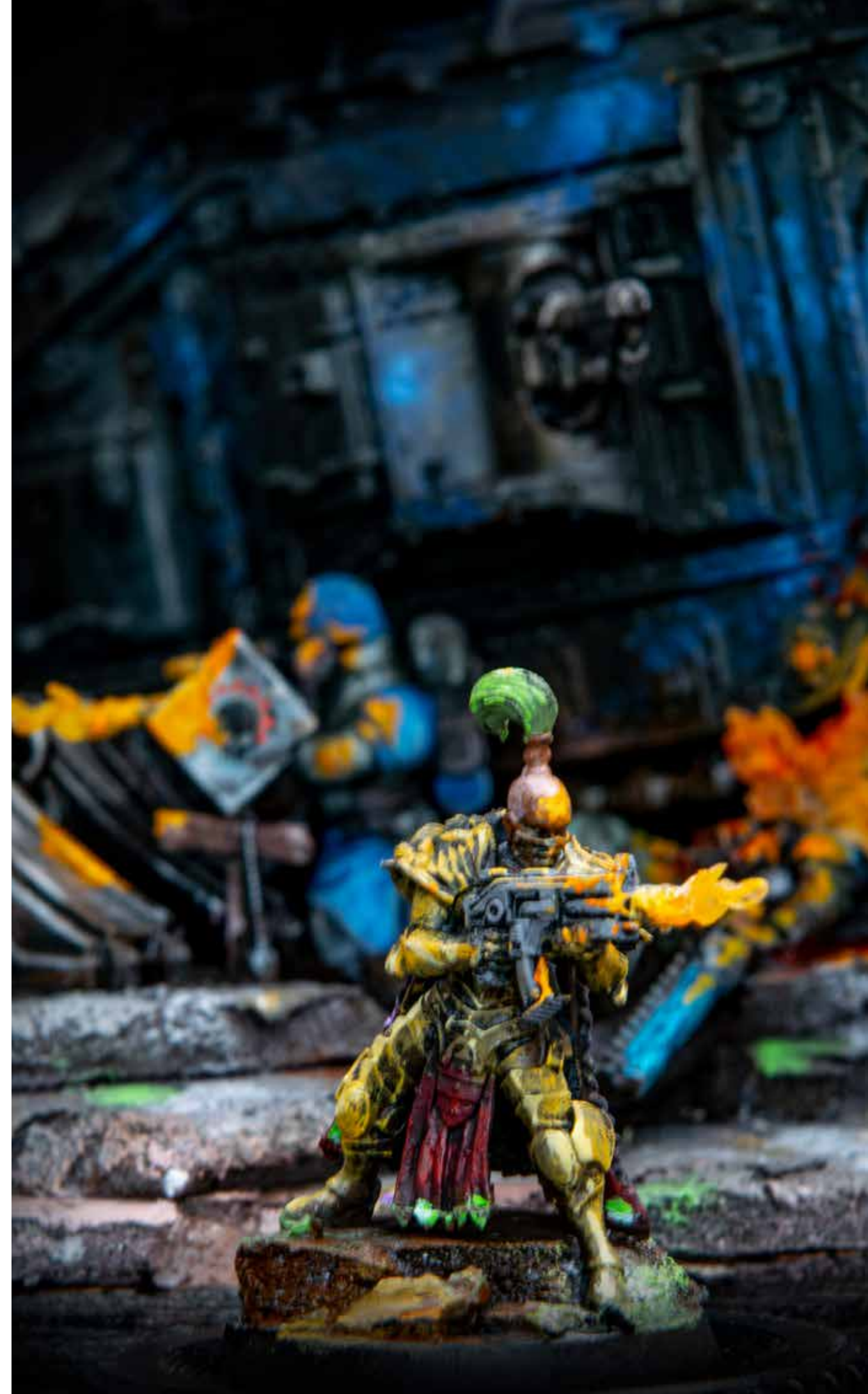
Join fellow duelists to play, trade, and talk all things Yu-Gi-Oh! Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned player, this club offers a fun, friendly space to build decks, learn strategies, and enjoy the game together. Bring your cards and get ready to duel after school!

Tabletop gaming club

Unplug, unwind, and get competitive at Tabletop Game Club! Open to all year groups, this after-school club offers a fun and relaxed space to play a wide variety of classic and modern games— both strategy games like Warhammer and Lord of the Rings (using armies and working through scenarios) to historical-based armies pitching battle with each other. Also expect games like Exploding Kittens and Settlers of Catan. Whether you're a tactical thinker or just in it for the laughs, there's something for everyone. A great way to make new friends, build teamwork skills, and enjoy some screen-free fun!

Trading Card Games

Calling all collectors, strategists, and fans! This after-school club is the perfect place to play, trade, and talk about all things trading card games. Whether you're into Pokémon, Magic: The Gathering, or others, you'll find like-minded players ready to battle and share tips. The club encourages fair play, skill-building, and friendly competition in a welcoming environment. Bring your favourite decks, sharpen your strategy, and enjoy weekly duels and discussions with fellow enthusiasts.



HEALTHY COMPETITION

Equestrian club / Horse Riding Society (paid extra)

The Equestrian Team represents Battle Abbey at NSEA Inter-school competitions in disciplines including: Show Jumping, Dressage, and Arena Eventing. Pupils compete on their own horses at a variety of different levels, and pupils from both the Prep and Senior schools are welcome. Competitions for teams and individuals start at grassroots level and build up to National Schools qualifiers and championships. Several famous riders, including Olympic Event rider Pippa Funnell, competed at NSEA events whilst they were at school. Most of the competitions BAS riders attend are at venues in Sussex and Kent, but all members are eligible to attend NSEA events around the country.

Battle Abbey students have the opportunity to attend horse riding lessons at Beauport Park Riding School. The lessons either take place in the fantastic indoor riding school facilities or in the 340 acres of beautiful woodland at Beauport Park. The students are transported to/from the riding school via our school minibus for the lessons, which take place on Mondays after school. There are two groups, catering to different levels of ability, from beginner to intermediate. It is great to see the progress that the students make - many have started as complete beginners and are now confidently cantering round a course of jumps in the higher group. Taster sessions are available before committing to a whole term of lessons, so this is an excellent opportunity to learn a new skill and experience this fun and unique sport.

Hockey (various)

Hockey clubs cater for all age ranges and abilities and give pupils the opportunity to further develop their skills and drill practices among other hockey enthusiasts. The sessions consist of around thirty minutes working on skills and set plays, before selecting and applying them to conditioned game scenarios and situations.

Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Football Club

Open to Key Stage 3, 4, and 5 pupils this club aims to nurture the future of the game within Battle Abbey. The club reinforces and develops the skills and drills that are taught in the lessons that week and aims to develop our young performers.

Rounders (Spring/Summer)

The Rounders club is for both girls and boys of any age or ability interested in improving their skills and understanding of the game. It is also a chance to enjoy this sport in the sunshine! Separate dedicated team practice takes place in games afternoons and at lunchtime. The club gives players from different teams and age groups the chance to play together weekly.

Swimming

There are a number of early morning and after-school swim sessions available. Competitive swimmers may bring their own club training schedule or be coached by our experienced staff. However, there is always a provision for recreational swimmers who just want to swim lengths. The Senior Swim Squad represents the school in friendly and championship galas. We also occasionally combine with the Prep Swim Squad for events.



Tennis (Spring/Summer)

Social tennis is one of the most popular clubs at Battle Abbey. Students really enjoy the opportunity to play against their friends in the sun after school. Formal tennis coaching is also available to those who wish to improve their competitive game.

Level 2 Sports Leadership Qualification

Runs both as a society and after school and includes the opportunity to coach younger students. Gives pupils the chance to improve, and/or gain leadership skills.

Sports Scholars

The Sports Scholars Programme runs annually and offers many opportunities to our students. The programme encompasses elements of fitness, an essential part of our Sports Scholars journey, fitness testing to measure their progress including personal bests, and the top performer overall.

We also offer opportunities for scholars to take part in and learn sports not available on the PE curriculum. This has covered areas such as Rugby, Lacrosse & Dodgeball.

To complement the programme, a variety of learning takes place to gain certification and qualifications. Recent content covered by our Scholars includes the England Hockey 'In2Hockey' Leadership Award (which enables qualified students to plan, lead, and deliver sessions to young children) and the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Certificate. A programme is produced termly, and scholars are given an e-gradebook summary which highlights performance termly and half-termly. As a reward for the Scholars who excel during the programme, they are awarded 'Sports Scholar of the Term', and at the end of the year, the student who has contributed and progressed the most will receive the 'Sports Scholar of the Year Award'.

Table Tennis

What better backdrop could there be to a few rounds of competitive Table Tennis than the magnificent Abbot's Hall? Ever popular as a break and lunchtime activity, the Extra Curricular club is similarly popular and takes place on Mondays and Fridays (and unofficially whenever pupils get a spare moment!)

Tag Rugby

Touch rugby has a number of differences from the traditional game, including its simplicity (it requires very little equipment or goalposts), its ease of learning, and the decreased likelihood of injury! As a result, it is a popular game at the Abbey. Open to pupils of any gender from Year 9 - 13 and hosted by our Director of Studies, Mr Woodward, it's a great way to blow off some steam at the end of a hard week of studies.

Cricket (Spring/Summer)

Open to both boys and girls, our Summer Cricket Club offers pupils the chance to enjoy one of England's most traditional sports in a fun, relaxed after-school setting. Open to all skill levels, the club focuses on developing batting, bowling, fielding, and teamwork through friendly matches and drills. Set against the backdrop of the school's beautiful grounds, it's a great way to build confidence and embrace the spirit of the game. Equipment provided—just bring enthusiasm.



Gym Sessions

The school's new fitness suite is available for use after school for Key Stage 3, 4 and 5 pupils (once an induction is completed). We currently have a range of cardio machines and some free weights. We also have a Smith machine available (age 14+).

Whole School Netball (Junior / Senior) (Spring / Summer)

Whole school Junior and Senior Netball clubs are opportunities to develop skills and confidence on the court. Each week, there is a focus on a specific area of the game, and attendees have plenty of game play time to put these into practice. The netball club also gives those students who are interested in umpiring and coaching an opportunity to build their confidence and lead aspects of the session. Key Stage 4 Sports Leaders often use the Netball club as evidence towards their junior umpiring awards. Elite Key Stage 3 players benefit from the opportunity to play with more experienced players. The current team is very successful against local schools.



READY TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP?

We warmly invite you to visit our school and discover what makes it truly exceptional.

Whether you're exploring new interests or continuing a passion, we're here to support your journey at every stage. Whatever your age, you'll find a welcoming community, endless opportunities, and the space to grow, achieve, and feel at home.

Get in touch today. Your future start here.





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