ABBEY COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE

Pre-Course Reading List
September 2025

Pre-Sessional Programme

- Essential Grammar in Use (4th Edition) by Raymond Murphy ISBN 9781107480551
- English Vocabulary in Use (3rd Edition) by Michael McCarthy & Felicity O'Dell ISBN 9781316631539
- Cambridge English Exam Booster for Key (KET) & Key for Schools (KET4S) ISBN 9781316641804

GCSE Subjects

Art & Design

AQA

See 'Pre-course tasks' (at end of document).

Biology

Edexcel

Pre-Curriculum:

- Activate: 11-14 (Key stage 3): Biology Student Book ISBN-13: 978-0198307150
- KS3 Biology Study & Question book ISBN-13: 978-1782941101
- Ng Wild Animal Atlas: Earth's Astonishing Animals and where they live ISBN-13: 9781426306990
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z4882hv

Core-Curriculum:

- Edexcel International GCSE Biology Student Book Second Edition ISBN-13: 978-1510405196
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z9ddmp3

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Will we ever speak dolphin? ISBN-13: 978-1781250266
- Gulp: adventures of the alimentary canal ISBN-13: 978-1851689934
- Scientia (Books IV and V)
- Published by Wooden Books
- ISBN-10 : 1907155120
- ISBN-13 : 978-1907155123

Business Studies

Edexcel Pre-Curriculum:

- Leaders Eat Last by Simon Sinek ISBN-13: 978-0670923175)
- Black Box Thinking by Matthew Syed ISBN-13: 978-1473613805)
- Drive by Daniel H. Pink ISBN-13: 978-1847677693)

Also, please read a selection of articles, ideally once per day minimum over Summer from:

- www.businessinsider.com or follow @businessinsider
- www.theguardian.com/uk/business or follow @BusinessDesk
- The Times (UK) by following @TimesBusiness
- https://tim.blog/ or follow @tferriss – One of Forbes' "40 under 40", Ferriss offers fascinating approaches to business, effectiveness and productivity
- https://www.microsoft.com/en-gb/enterprise?rtc=1 Microsoft small business blog – webinars and articles that will open your mind

Core-Curriculum: • Core-Curriculum: Edexcel International GCSE (9-1) Business Student Book by Rob Jones ISBN: 9780435188634

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Turn the Ship Around by David Marquet ISBN-13: 978-0241250945
- First Man In by Ant Middleton ISBN-13: 978-0008245733
- Thinking, Fast and Slow by Daniel Kahneman ISBN-13: 978-0141033570
- Crushing It!: How Great Entrepreneurs Build Their Business and Influence-and How You Can,

Too by Gary Vaynerchuk ISBN-13: 978-0062674678

Chemistry

Edexcel

Pre-Curriculum:

- Activate: 11-14 (Key stage 3): Chemistry Student Book ISBN-13: 978-0198307167
- KS3 Chemistry Study & Question book ISBN-13: 978-1782941118
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/znxtyrd

Core-Curriculum:

- Collins Edexcel International GCSE Chemistry ISBN-13: 978-0-00-823621-2
- Edexcel IGCSE Chemistry revision guide ISBN-13: 978-0435046729
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zs6hvcw

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Periodic Tales: The Curious Lives of the Elements ISBN-13: 978-0141041452
- The Cartoon Guide to Chemistry ISBN-13: 978-0060936778

Economics

Edexcel

Pre-Curriculum:

- Revision Guide: Edexcel International GCSE Economics Revision Guide
- 'Market Leader' by Cotton, Falvey and Kent ISBN: 9781408237076

Core-Curriculum:

- Textbook: Edexcel International GCSE Economics Student Book ISBN: 978-0435188641

Beyond the Curriculum:

- 'Economic Review' Hodder education publications
- 'Economics Today' Anforme publications

Geography

AQA

Pre-Curriculum:

- KS3 Geography Complete Revision & Practice by CGP Books ISBN: 9781841463926
- Core-Curriculum:
- GCSE Geography AQA Student Book by Simon Ross and Nick Rowles ISBN: 978-0-19-836661-4
- Beyond the Curriculum:

- Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About The World - And Why Things Are Better Than You Think by Hans Rosling ISBN: 978-1473637467
- Earthshattering Events!: The Science Behind Natural Disasters by Sophie Williams and Robin Jacobs ISBN: ISBN: 978-1908714701
- We are the Weather: Saving the Planet Begins at Breakfast by Jonathan Safran Foer ISBN: 9780241363331
- No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference by Greta Thunberg ISBN: 978-0141992716
- How Bad Are Bananas?: The carbon footprint of everything by Mike Berners-Lee ISBN: 9781788163811
- https://www.nationalgeographic.com/

History

Edexcel

Pre-Curriculum:

- Aaron Wilkes, *Technology, War and Identities: A world study after 1900*
- Anne Frank, *The Diary of a Young Girl*

Core-Curriculum:

- Victoria Payne, *Germany: Development of Dictatorship, 1918 – 45*
- Ben Walsh, *Modern World History*

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Steve Waugh, *Superpower relations and the Cold War, 1941-91*
- Aaron Wilkes, *Medicine and Health through Time*
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zhphvcw

Mathematics

Edexcel

Pre-Curriculum:

- Help yourself to algebra by Hugh Neill (Longman)
- Illustrated Dictionary of Maths (Usborne)
- http://www.mathsisfun.com/

Core-Curriculum:

- GCSE Maths Practice Bank by S. Cavill and G. Gibb (Oxford)

Beyond the Curriculum:

- The Number Devil: A Mathematical Adventure by Hans Magnus Enzensberger
- Murderous Maths books (series) by Poskitt Kjartan
- http://www.murderousmaths.co.uk/

Physics

Physics

Pre-Curriculum:

- KS3 Physics Study & Question Book by CGP Books ISBN 978-1782941125

Core-Curriculum:

- Edexcel IGCSE physics Student Book. ISBN 978-0435966904
- Essential GCSE Physics A.C. Machacek and K.O. Dalby https://isaacphysics.org/books/phys_book_gcse

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Essential Pre-University Physics A.C. Machacek and J.J. Crowter https://isaacphysics.org/books/physics_skills_19
- Time and Space of Uncle Albert ISBN 978-0571226153
- Black holes and uncle albert ISBN 978-0571226146
- Uncle Albert and the Quantum Quest ISBN 978-0571226801
- Georges Secret key to the universe ISBN 978-0552559584

A Level Subjects

Accounting

AQA

Pre-Curriculum:

- Leaders Eat Last by Simon Sinek ISBN-13: 978-0670923175)
- Black Box Thinking by Matthew Syed ISBN-13: 978-1473613805)
- Drive by Daniel H. Pink ISBN-13: 978-1847677693)

Core-Curriculum:

Accounting for AQA: AS and A Level Year 1 by David Cox ISBN-13: 978-1911198123

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Turn the Ship Around by David Marquet ISBN-13: 978-0241250945
- First Man In by Ant Middleton ISBN-13: 978-0008245733
- Thinking, Fast and Slow by Daniel Kahneman ISBN-13: 978-0141033570
- Crushing It!: How Great Entrepreneurs Build Their Business and Influence-and How You Can, Too by Gary Vaynerchuk ISBN-13: 978-0062674678
- Choose a book written about Warren Buffet - a very famous financier and his views on accounting and finance some find inspirational.
- A Random Walk Down Wall Street by BG Malkiel - a guide to value investment
- The Way of the Weasel (a Dilbert novel) by Scott Adams - an entertaining read which tells a lot of home truths about the reality of working in a big business.
- Win Biggly by Scott Adams -, which states that we should focus on systems not goals to be successful - good ideas for a accountancy students
- Applied Economics by Thomas Sowell
- Defending the Indefensible by Walter E Block
- Big Business: A love letter to American Business by Tyler Cowen
- Economic History of the World since 1400 by Donald Harreld (this is an audio book)
- Daylight Robbery by Dominic Frisbee - a libertarian / free market history of how taxation has shaped the world's events.
- Shoe Dog by Phil Knight – a memoir by the creator of Nike

Art & Design

AQA

See ‘Pre-course tasks’ (at end of document)

Biology A

OCR

Pre-Curriculum:

- Collins Edexcel International GCSE Biology ISBN-13: 978-0007450008
- International GCSE Biology Revision Guide ISBN-13: 978-1847626899
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z9ddmp3

Core-Curriculum:

- A Level Biology A for OCR Year 1 and AS ISBN-13: 978-0198351917
- Head Start A-level Biology ISBN: 978-1-78294-279-5
- http://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Biology/2015/teaching-and-learning-materials/transition-guide.pdf

Beyond the Curriculum:

- The Selfish Gene ISBN-13: 978-0199291151
- The Origin of Species ISBN-13: 978-1853267802
- Bad Science ISBN-13: 978-0007284870
- The Language of Genes ISBN-13: 978-0006552437

Business Studies

AQA

Pre-Curriculum:

- Leaders Eat Last by Simon Sinek ISBN-13: 978-0670923175)
- Black Box Thinking by Matthew Syed ISBN-13: 978-1473613805)
- Drive by Daniel H. Pink ISBN-13: 978-1847677693)

Core-Curriculum:

- Year 1: AQA Business for A Level 1 by Surridge & Gillespie ISBN: 9781471836138
- Year 2: AQA Business for A Level 2 by Surridge & Gillespie ISBN: 9781471835780

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Turn the Ship Around by David Marquet ISBN-13: 978-0241250945
- First Man In by Ant Middleton ISBN-13: 978-0008245733
- Thinking, Fast and Slow by Daniel Kahneman ISBN-13: 978-0141033570
- Crushing It!: How Great Entrepreneurs Build Their Business and Influence-and How You Can, Too by Gary Vaynerchuk ISBN-13: 978-0062674678
- Shoe Dog by Phil Knight – a memoir by the creator of Nike
- 'Start with Why' by Simon Sinek ISBN; 978-0-241-95822-3

Chemistry A

OCR

Pre-Curriculum:

- KS3 Chemistry Study & Question book ISBN-13: 978-1782941118
- Collins Edexcel International GCSE Chemistry ISBN-13: 978-0007450015
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zs6hvcw

Core-Curriculum: • A Level Chemistry A for OCR Student Book by Rob Ritchie and Dave Gent ISBN: 9780198351979

- A-Level Chemistry: OCR A Year 1 & 2 Complete Revision & Practice ISBN-13 : 978-1789080384
- https://www.docbrown.info/page13/page13.htm
- https://www.chemguide.co.uk/

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Uncle Tungsten: Memories of a Chemical Boyhood ISBN-13: 978-1509813698
- The Disappearing Spoon ISBN-13: 978-0552777506
- Oxygen – the molecule that made the world ISBN-13: 978-0198607830
- The Cartoon Guide to Chemistry ISBN-13: 978-0060936778
- Bad Science ISBN-13: 978-0007284870

Computer Science A level

AQA

Pre-Curriculum

Website:

Isaac Computer Science - free online learning platform for A-level Computer Science

Beyond the Curriculum

- Computational Fairy Tales by Jeremy Kubica; CreateSpace, 2012. A romp through the principles of computational thinking, illustrating high-level computer science concepts, the motivation behind them, and their application via the medium of a fairy tale. Aimed at secondary school students.

"Bonkers, but very enjoyable."

- Artificial Intelligence: A Ladybird Expert Book by Michael Wooldridge; Michael Joseph Books, 2018. Written by our Head of Department, this book "…chronicles the development of intelligent machines, from Turing's dream of machines that think, to today's digital assistants like Siri and Alexa."
- Once Upon an Algorithm: How Stories Explain Computing by Martin Erwig; MIT Press, 2017. Concepts in Computer Science explained through familiar stories such as Hansel and Gretel, Sherlock Holmes, the movie Groundhog Day, and Harry Potter.
- Computer Science: An Overview by J. Glenn Brookshear; Pearson, 2014. Overview of what computer science is all about: each topic is presented with its historical perspective, current state, and future potential, as well as ethical issues.
- Code: The Hidden Language of Computer Hardware and Software by Charles Petzold. Microsoft Press, 2000. "What do flashlights, the British invasion, black cats, and seesaws have to do with computers? ...see how ingenuity and our very human compulsion to communicate have driven the technological innovations of the past two centuries."
- The Pattern on the Stone: The Simple Ideas That Make Computers Work by Daniel Hillis; Basic Books, 1999. Explains the basic concepts of the computer in everyday language.
- The Information: A History, a Theory, a Flood by James Gleick; Fourth Estate, 2012. A chronicle that shows how information has become "the modern era's defining quality - the blood, the fuel, the vital principle of our world."
- Outnumbered: From Facebook and Google to fake news and filter-bubbles – the algorithms that control our lives by David Sumpter; Bloomsbury Sigma, 2018. An applied mathematician takes a look at what algorithms are doing with our data and how they are changing our lives.
- AI: Its Nature and Future by Margaret A Boden; Oxford University Press, 2016. "…reviews the philosophical and technological challenges raised by Artificial Intelligence, considering whether programs could ever be really intelligent, creative or even conscious, and shows how the pursuit of Artificial Intelligence has helped us to appreciate how human and animal minds are possible."
- The Code Book by Simon Singh; Fourth Estate, 2002. Not strictly about Computer Science, but an interesting introduction to code-breaking and cryptography, fields that have a strong connection to Computer Science.
- Algorithmic Puzzles by Anany Levitin and Maria Levitin; Oxford University Press, 2011. "...The emphasis lies in training the reader to think algorithmically and develop new puzzle-solving skills: the majority of puzzles are problems where we are asked to find the shortest distance or the fewest moves to get from A to B, or construct a proof that a puzzle has no solution ..."
- The New Turing Omnibus by A Kee Dewdney; Palgrave Macmillan, 2003. Mini articles on Computer Science topics.

- Hello World: How to be Human in the Age of the Machine by Hannah Fry; Black Swan, 2019. "...a tour of the good, the bad and the downright ugly of the algorithms that surround us."
- The Road to Conscious Machines: The Story of AI by Michael Wooldridge; Pelican, 2021. "...elucidates the discoveries of its greatest pioneers from Alan Turing to Demis Hassabis, and shows us what today's AI researchers actually think and do. AI appeals to fundamental questions about what it means to be human; so too do the failures and limitations of its past."
- Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Who Helped Win the Space Race by Margot Lee Shetterly; HarperCollins, 2016. The story of NASA's AfricanAmerican female 'Human Computers'.
- Computing with Quantum Cats: From Alan Turing to Teleportation: From Colossus to Qubits by John Gribbin; MIT Press, 2015. Pioneering study of the science behind quantum computing and what the new quantum reality will mean for mankind.

Economics

Edexcel

Pre-Curriculum:

- Economics: A Complete Introduction: Teach Yourself by Coskeran ISBN: 9781444144420
- 'Market Leader' by Cotton, Falvey and Kent ISBN: 9781408237076
- Economics: The User's Guide by Ha-Joon Chang ISBN: 9780718197032

Core-Curriculum:

Edexcel AS/A Level Economics 6th Edition by Alain Anderton ISBN: 978-1405892285

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Nudge by Richard H. Thaler Cass R. Sunstein ISBN 978-0-14-311526-7
- 23 Things They Don't Tell You About Capitalism by Ha-Joon Chang ISBN 0141957867, 9780141957869

English Literature

AQA

See reading list (at rear of document)

Geography

AQA

Pre-Curriculum:

- Need to Know: AQA A-level Geography by David Redfern ISBN: 9781510428485

Core-Curriculum:

- AQA A-level Geography Fifth Edition by Ian Whittaker et al ISBN: 9781398312548

Beyond the Curriculum:

- There Is No Planet B: A Handbook for the Make or Break Years by Mike Berners-Lee ISBN: 978-1108439589
- How to Avoid a Climate Disaster: The Solutions We Have and the Breakthroughs We Need by Bill Gates ISBN: 978-0241448304

- The Power of Geography: Ten Maps That Reveal the Future of Our World by Tim Marshall ISBN: 978-1783966028
- Origins: How the Earth Shaped Human History by Lewis Dartnell ISBN: 978-1784705435
- The Earth Transformed: An Untold History by Professor Peter Frankopan ISBN: 978-1526622563
- https://geographical.co.uk
- BBC - Human Planet (2011) - eight-part documentary series looking at human interaction with thenatural world.

Keep up-to-date with current global issues by regularly reading the news and other online geographical resources. Some useful links:

- https://geographical.co.uk
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science_and_environment
- https://www.theguardian.com/science/geography

Politics

Edexcel

Pre-Curriculum:

- Neil McNaughton, *UK Government and Politics (Fifth Edition)*
- Andrew Heywood, *Essentials of UK Politics*
- https://www.parliament.uk/education/

Core-Curriculum:

- Philip Lynch, *UK Government and Politics for A Level (Fifth Edition)*
- Neil McNaughton, *Political ideas for A Level: Liberalism, Conservatism, Socialism, Feminism, Anarchism*

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Neil McNaughton, *US Government and Politics for A Level (Fifth Edition)*
- Sarra Jenkins, *UK Politics Annual Update*

History

Edexcel

Pre-Curriculum:

- F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zthf6yc
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z3bkrwx

Core-Curriculum:

- Stuart Clayton, *Democracies in change*

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Michael Lynch, *Britain 1945-2007*
- Lucy Moore, *Anything Goes: A biography of the Roaring Twenties*
- Documentary series, *American Voices (available on YouTube)*

Mathematics and Further Mathematics

Edexcel

Pre-Curriculum:

- Head Start to AS Maths (CGP) – This is a key book to read
- Collins Maths - Bridging GCSE and A Level: Student Book by M. Rowland
- http://www.mathsisfun.com/

Core-Curriculum:

- Starting Advanced Mathematics by H. Neill and S. Payne (CUP)
- http://www.hegartymaths.com/

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Professor Stewart's Cabinet of Mathematical Curiosities by Ian Stewart
- "Further Pure Mathematics" by L. Bostock, S. Chandler and C. Rourke. ISBN 978-08595-0103-3. Chapter 3 and chapter 14.
- Why Do Buses Come in Threes? By Rob Eastaway and Jeremy Wyndham
- How to Think about Analysis Lara Alcock
- Street fighting mathematics Sanjoy Mahajan and Carver A Mead
- How to think like a mathematician Kevin Houston
- Mathematics: a Very Short Introduction Timothy Gowers
- The Pleasures of Counting Korner
- A concise introduction to pure mathematics Martin Liebeck
- Amazing Mathematicians Trewin and MacKenzie

Physics

Pre-Curriculum:

- Head Start to A-level Physics ISBN 978-1782942818 – bridge the gap between GCSE and A level

Core-Curriculum:

- Edexcel AS/ A - Level Physics Student Book 1 ISBN:9781447991182

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Isaac Physics Skills – transitioning from GCSE to Pre University level ISBN 978-0957287327
- A Level Physics: Roger Muncaster. A classic A Level text. Covers all exam boards but is very thorough in its approach to the subject (978-0748715848)

Psychology

OCR

Pre-Curriculum:

- Bad Science ISBN-13: 978-0007284870
- Pavlov's Dog by Adam Hart-David ISBN-10 : 1911130323
- Opening Skinner's Box by Lauren Slater ISBN-10 : 074756860X

Core-Curriculum:

- OCR A Level Psychology: AS and Year 1 ISBN-13: 978-0198332756

Beyond the Curriculum:

- The Selfish Gene ISBN-13: 978-0199291151
- The Marshmallow Test ISBN-13: 978-0552168861
- Psychopath Test by John Ronson ISBN-10 : 9780330492270
- Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat by Oliver Sacks ISBN-10 : 152907729X

International Foundation Programme

Mathematics (applies to all pathways)

Pre-Curriculum:

- Starting Advanced Mathematics by H. Neill and S. Payne (CUP)

Core-Curriculum:

Our foundation course is a bespoke course written for our students. We provide all the materials necessary for the foundation curriculum.

Beyond the Curriculum:

- 50 Mathematical Ideas by Tony Crilly(Quercus)

Business Pathway

Pre-Curriculum:

- Maths Skills for A-Level Economics, Jim Lawarence, ISBN: 978-1408527085
- AQA AS Business Studies By Foden, Maskell,Simpson ISBN 978-1-4085-2319-3
- AS Accounting for AQA By David Cox and Michael Fardon ISBN 978-1-905777-14-3
- AQA Accounting Student Book By Nelson Thorne ISBN 978-1-40851577-0
- AQA A Level Business for A Level Year 1 and AS By Malcolm Surridge and Andrew Gillespie ISBN 978-0-1471836169

Core-Curriculum:

Our foundation course is a bespoke course written for our students. We provide all the materials necessary for the foundation curriculum.

Beyond the Curriculum:

- ICAEW 'Economia' digital magazine
- The Economist magazine
- 'Prospect' magazine
- 'Economic Review' Hodder education publications
- 'Economics Today' Anforme publications
- Business Studies 4th Edition Dave Hall, Rob Jones, Carlo Raffo, Alain Anderton, Ian Chambers, Dave Gray ISBN: 9781405892315
- A2 Accounting for AQA By David Cox and Michael Fardon ISBN 978-1-905777-14-3
- AQA Accounting A2 Student Book ISBN 978-07487-9870-0
- http://beta.tutor2u.net/business?gclid=CJHO8Oi7vMUCFcoJwwodawQAQQ
- Business Accounting by Rob Jones ISBN: 9-781902-796413 • Choose a book written about Warren Buffet - a very famous financier and his views on accounting and finance some find inspirational.
- A Random Walk Down Wall Street by BG Malkiel - a guide to value investment

- The Way of the Weasel (a Dilbert novel) by Scott Adams - an entertaining read which tells a lot of home truths about the reality of working in a big business.
- Win Biggly by Scott Adams -, which states that we should focus on systems not goals to be successful - good ideas for a accountancy students
- Applied Economics by Thomas Sowell
- Defending the Indefensible by Walter E Block
- Big Business: A love letter to American Business by Tyler Cowen
- Economic History of the World since 1400 by Donald Harreld (this is an audio book)
- Daylight Robbery by Dominic Frisbee - a libertarian / free market history of how taxation has shaped the world's events.
- Shoe Dog by Phil Knight – a memoir by the creator of Nike

Engineering Pathway

Pre-Curriculum: Having a good understanding of the AS Physics course is a good preparation

for the foundation.

- Edexcel physics for AS. ISBN 978-0340888025

The foundation course will not include anything on waves or nature of light. Concentrate on Electric circuits and mechanics

- A Level Chemistry for OCR A: Year 1 and AS ISBN-13 : 978-0198351962
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zs6hvcw

Core-Curriculum:

Our foundation course is a bespoke course written for our students. We provide all the materials necessary for the foundation curriculum.

- Advanced Chemistry For You ISBN-13 : 978-1408527368
- https://www.docbrown.info/page13/page13.htm
- https://www.chemguide.co.uk/

Beyond the Curriculum:

Get a good understanding of recent development in engineering.
Use the institute of mechanical engineers blog:

- http://www.imeche.org/news/blog/all
- The Disappearing Spoon ISBN-13: 978-0552777506
- Oxygen – the molecule that made the world ISBN-13: 978-0198607830
- The Cartoon Guide to Chemistry ISBN-13: 978-0060936778
- Bad Science ISBN-13: 978-0007284870 Uncle Tungsten: Memories of a Chemical Boyhood ISBN-13: 978-1509813698

Humanities Pathway

Pre-Curriculum:

- Economics for beginners, Andrew Prentice, 978-1474950688
- Life in 1920s America https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zthf6yc
- https://www.parliament.uk/education/
- Physical and human geography https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/ztb42nb
- Earth: The Definitive Visual Guide published by DK Books

Core-Curriculum:

- Stuart Clayton, *Democracies in change*
- Philip Lynch, *UK Government and Politics for A Level (Fifth Edition)*

Beyond the Curriculum

- The undercover economist, Tim Harford, 978-0349119854
- Economics: The User's Guide, Ha-Joon Chang, 978-0718197032
- A Little History of Economics, Niall Kishtainy, 978-0300206364
- GDP a brief and affectionate history, Diana Coyle, ISBN 978-0691156798
- Michael Lynch, *Britain 1945-2007*
- Geography: A Very Short Introduction by John A. Matthews and David T. Herbert
- There Is No Planet B: A Handbook for the Make or Break Years by Mike Berners-Lee

Science / Medicine Pathway

Pre-Curriculum:

- Collins Excel International GCSE Biology. ISBN: 978-0007450008.
- International GCSE Biology Revision Guide By CGP. ISBN: 978-1847626899.
- Ng Wild Animal Atlas: Earth's Astonishing Animals and Where They Live, by National Geographic. ISBN: 1426306997.
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/z3ykjxs
- http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/subjects/
- Edexcel International GCSE and Certificate Chemistry Revision Guide (Cliff Curtis), Pearson
- A Level Chemistry for OCR A: Year 1 and AS ISBN-13 : 978-0198351962
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zs6hvcw

Core-Curriculum:

Our foundation course is a bespoke course written for our students. We provide all the materials necessary for the foundation curriculum.

- Advanced Chemistry For You ISBN-13 : 978-1408527368
- https://www.docbrown.info/page13/page13.htm
- https://www.chemguide.co.uk/

Beyond the Curriculum:

- Campbell Biology by Jane B. Reece, Lisa A. Urry, Michael L. Cain and Steven A. Wasserman ISBN: 978-1408277379.
- A short history of nearly everything by Bill Bryson. ISBN: 978-0552997041.
- Bad Science By Ben Goldacre. ISBN: 978-0007284870.
- Acid Tongues and Tranquil Dreamers: Eight Scientific Rivalries That Changed the World (Michael White), Harper
- Uncle Tungsten: Memories of a Chemical Boyhood ISBN-13: 978-1509813698
- The Disappearing Spoon ISBN-13: 978-0552777506
- Oxygen – the molecule that made the world ISBN-13: 978-0198607830
- The Cartoon Guide to Chemistry ISBN-13: 978-0060936778

GCSE/A Level Art & Design Pre-Course Tasks

For GCSE Students

Choose as many as you want from the following (you don't have to complete all of them):

- Draw your greatest fear.
- Draw things that float.
- Draw things with wheels.
- Draw things that roll.
- Draw things that close.
- Draw things that come from eggs.
- Be an ant. Draw what you would see.
- If you had a chocolate bar names after you, what would it look like and what would it be called? Draw the chocolate bar.
- If you were a flower, what kind would you be? Draw a picture of yourself as this flower.
- Express in your drawing, your happiest time that you've had in the past year.
- Draw something that you are good at doing or playing.
- Draw a picture of something you'd like to become better at doing.
- Using any type of line or shape, create a picture with only the 3 primary colours.
- An alien spaceship has landed at your friends'. Draw a picture of it.
- High in the Himalayan Mountains lives an abominable snowman. Draw what the snowman looks like.
- You have made a startling discovery while scuba diving. Draw what it is.
- Draw a picture of one of your family members at work.
- Draw a picture of your shoe. Draw it again from another view.
- Draw a picture of your pet, or the pet you would LOVE to have.
- Fill your page with drawings of bugs, seashells, or something that you collect.
- Draw a family member or friend.
- Draw a picture of yourself as you think you might look in 10 years.
- Have you ever had a daydream instead of doing your work? Draw a picture of your daydream.
- What is the best story your grandmother or grandfather tells about the olden days? Draw a picture of this story.
- Draw a picture of your favourite part about school.
- Draw a picture of your dream car.
- What does the boogeyman like?
- If you cast a magic spell, what would it be? Draw a picture of it.
- The famous American pop artist Andy Warhol said, 'Everyone will have at least fifteen minutes of fame in a lifetime.' Illustrate your 15 minutes of fame.
- A new musical group has asked you to design a CD cover for them that illustrates their music. Be sure that your design is original and does not use any other group's design. Draw this new CD cover.
- Draw a picture of your dream house.
- Think of 3 different animals. Draw the head of one, the body of the second, and the legs of the third one. Give it a name and write the name under the picture.
- Draw yourself screaming because you are scared.

- Draw the silliest thing you ever saw.
- Draw a monster truck.
- Draw a spider that nobody has ever seen before.
- Draw what you would look like if you received a medal at the 2020 Olympics.

A Level students

Welcome to Abbey College Cambridge Art Department!

Below you will find five drawings, all of which demonstrate very different techniques and approaches.

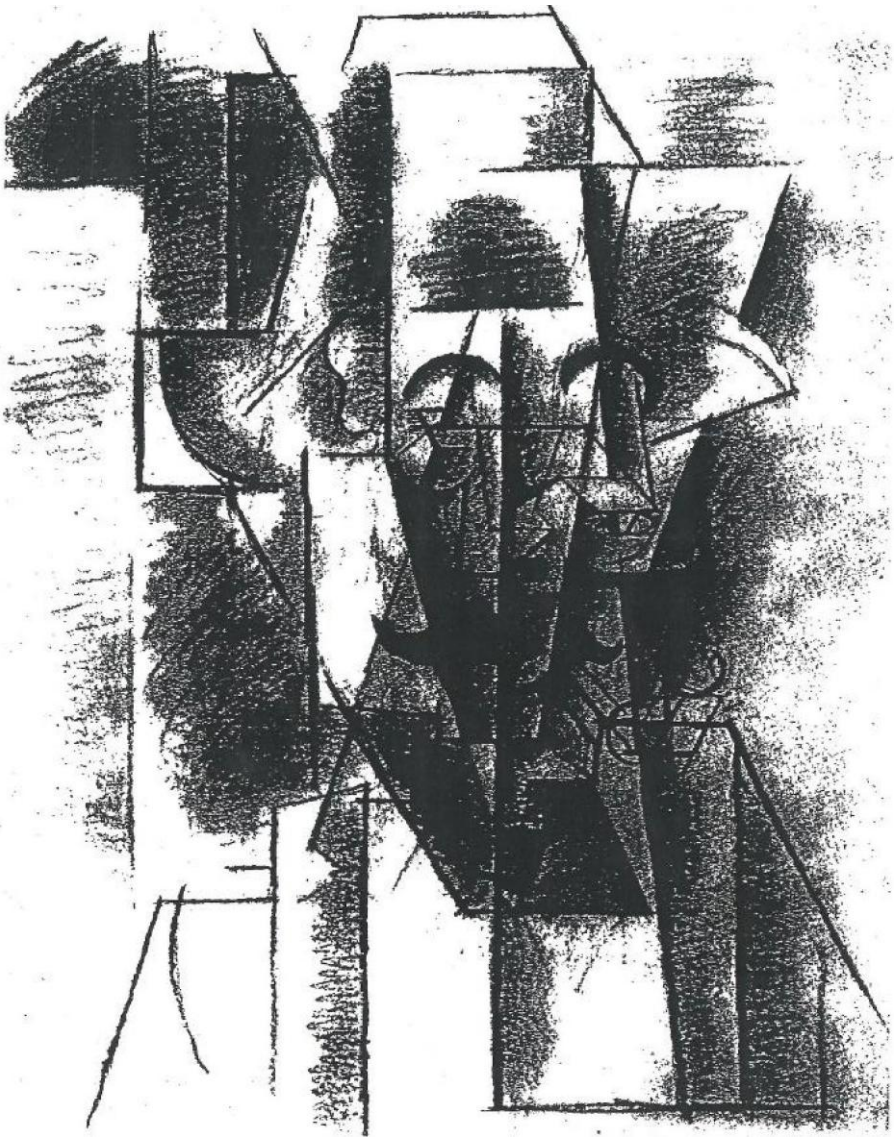
Read through the comments at the bottom of each page.

Which drawing do you admire the most?

Yours task is to select three of them and copy them. The drawings should be done on A4 paper of your choice. I have suggested which medium you should use but if you prefer to use another one that is also fine!

I look forward to seeing them next term.

Serena O'Connor
Head of Art

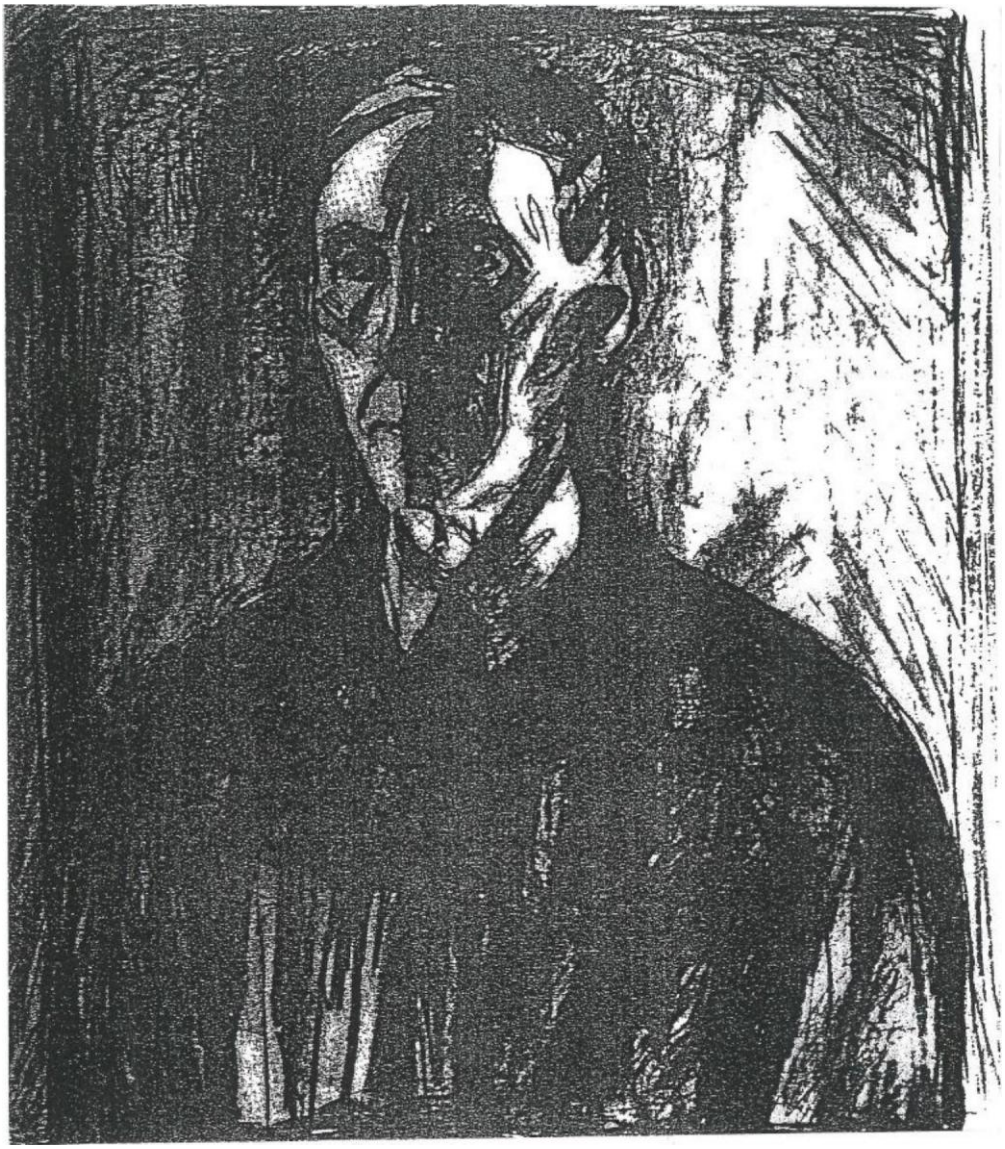


*Pablo**Pi:**casso*

Cubist Head

This drawing by Pablo Picasso, is from his Analytical Cubist period. The face has been abstracted into geometric forms, almost giving the effect of a shattered mirror.

Copy this drawing - use pencil or charcoal

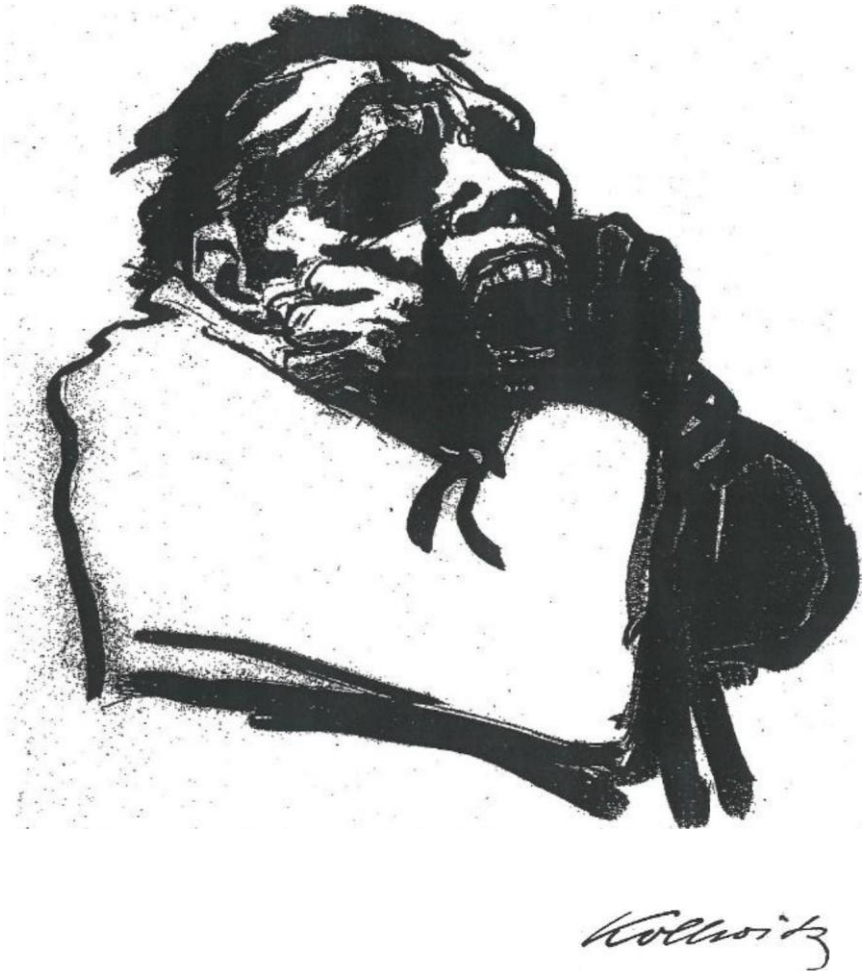


Portrait sketch

Edward Munch

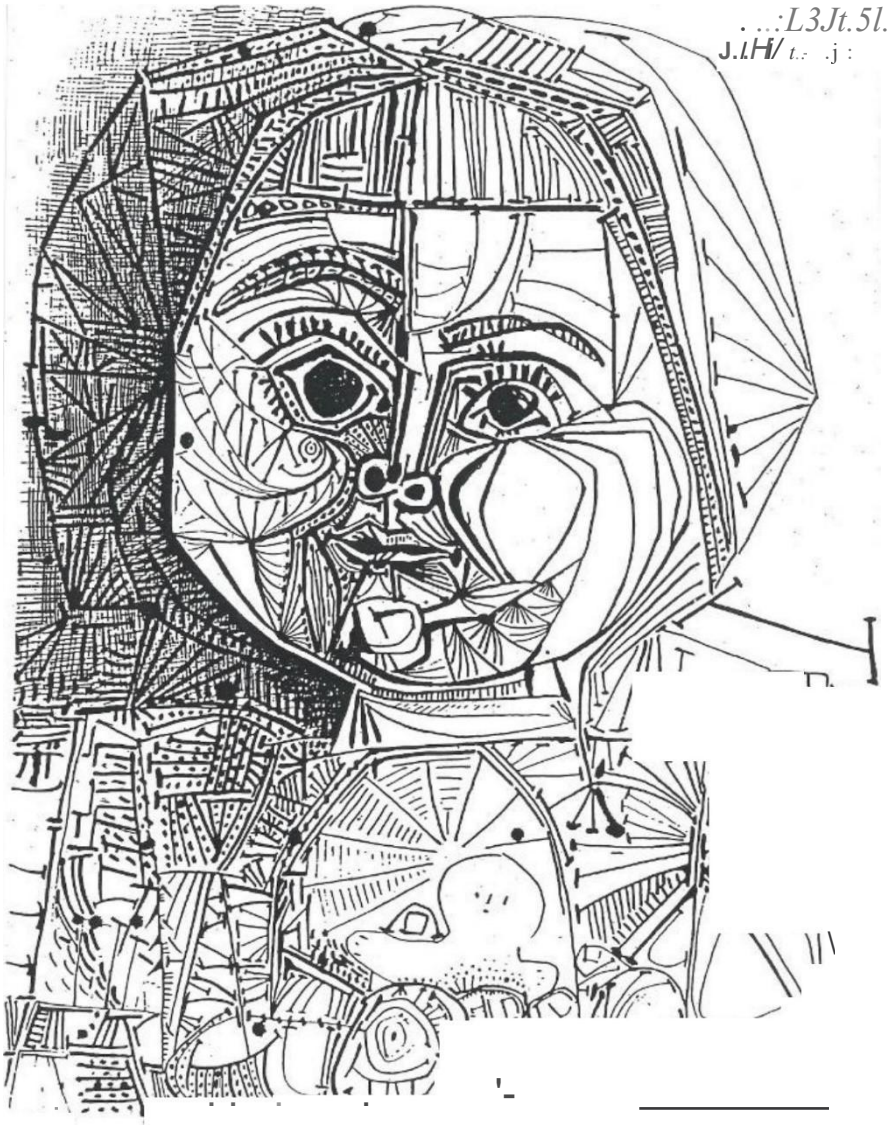
This dark and brooding drawing by Munch is very atmospheric. He has isolated the areas of light end produced strong contrast - also known as 'chiaro scuro '. The marks are very rough and expressive.

Copy using with charcoal or a 48 pencil



Grief - Kathe Kollwitz This poignant drawing by Kothe Kollwitz is highly emotional and expressive, She has used a thick line and blocked in the shaded area s. I expect she worked quickly and economically

Copy - is a marker pen or a paintbrush.



Picasso - after Velasquez

The use of mark-making and pattern in this dra wing makes this image very compelling. The closer together the patterns and shapes, the darker and therefore more shaded the features.

Copy a section - use black biro.



Head of a woman by Pablo Picasso

Picasso has blocked in the background leaving the white of the page to define and highlight the forehead and nose. He has hatched and cross-hatched the areas of dark on the face and neck.

Copy this drawing using either black biro, or fine-linel" pen.

English Literature Pre-Course Reading List

- *1984* by George Orwell
- *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee
- *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
- *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
- *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
- The Harry Potter Series by JK Rowling
- *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens
- *The Catcher in the Rye* by JD Salinger
- *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens
- *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
- *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon
- *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* by John Boyne
- *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte
- *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte
- *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
- *Birdsong* by Sebastian Faulks
- *A Kestrel for a Knave* by Barry Hines
- The Lord of the Rings trilogy by JRR Tolkien
- *Danny, Champion of the World* by Roald Dahl
- *The Great Gatsby* by F Scott Fitzgerald
- *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
- *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini
- *A Clockwork Orange* by Anthony Burgess
- *A Passage to India* by EM Forster
- *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo
- *The Hobbit* by JRR Tolkien
- *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness
- *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- *Holes* by Louis Sachar
- *Catch-22* by Joseph Heller
- The Noughts and Crosses trilogy by Malorie Blackman
- *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- *War Horse* by Michael Morpurgo
- *Atonement* by Ian McEwan
- The Hunger Games trilogy by Suzanne Collins
- *His Dark Materials* by Philip Pullman
- *Dracula* by Bram Stoker
- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury
- =40. *A Room With a View* by EM Forster

- =40. *Beloved* by Toni Morrison
- *Wonder* by RJ Palacio
- *Emma* by Jane Austen
- *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift