

ABBOT'S LEA SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs Ania Hildrey, M.Ed, B.Ed(Hons), NPQH



17 January 2022

Dear Families

Ref: Review and expansion of our accredited learning opportunities

I am writing to inform you of the planned expansion of our accredited learning offer at Abbot's Lea School.

Our initial aim was to diversify our accreditation starting next academic year 2022-23, but we have exceeded our plan and are in a position to pilot further accredited learning to all current Key Stage 4 and 5 students after the Easter Holidays (in Term 5 and 6 of the school year.)

We will evaluate the pilot and adjust our systems and processes during Term 6, in readiness for the next year, however, no learning or qualifications would be affected by any changes; therefore, if you hear us use the term "pilot", please be assured that your child will never lose out.

All students in KS4 and 5 will continue to be assigned to their class. Your child's main class will not change and they will spend the majority of the time in their class, with their Class Team and the familiar peers.

From Term 5 (after Easter), the students will continue to study the following subjects:

- Functional Skills English (accredited)
- Functional Skills Maths (accredited)
- Functional Skills ICT (accredited)
- Science Open Awards (accredited)
- Life and Living skills OCR (accredited)
- Core Religious Education (non-accredited)
- Core Physical Education (non-accredited)
- Core Food Technology (non-accredited)

We will also introduce for all students:

- Employability ASDAN (accredited)

Options

To supplement these core curriculum areas, we will offer all students the opportunity to diversify their qualifications by studying a minimum of two and a maximum of three additional subjects. These will be referred to as your child's "option choices."

As is the system in most schools, we aim to give students as many preferences as possible, however we cannot guarantee that your child will be able to study their favourite three subjects, as we need to ensure that the running of all additional courses is feasible.

To select their options, students (supported by the staff) will complete a survey ranking, in order of preference the additional learning they wish to pursue. The additional learning pathways on offer will be:

Subject	Board	Level
RE	AQA	Entry Level 1,2,3 Level 1,2 (for each unit passed)
Food (Hospitality)	Open Awards	Entry Level 1,2,3 Level 1
History	AQA	Entry Level 1,2,3 Level 1,2 (for each unit passed)
Geography	AQA	Entry Level 1,2,3 Level 1,2 (for each unit passed)
Art	AQA	Entry Level 1,2,3 Level 1,2 (for each unit passed)
DT	AQA	Entry Level 1,2,3 Level 1,2 (for each unit passed)
PE	AQA	Entry Level 1,2,3 Level 1,2 (for each unit passed)
Languages	AQA	Entry Level 1,2,3 Level 1,2 (for each unit passed)

Once the students have all indicated their preferences, they will be grouped into “option classes” where students from Key Stage 4 and 5 of similar interests and talents will learn together to further their knowledge and skills.

There are some students who may not yet be ready to pursue additional qualifications via the above options and so they will continue to learn in their usual classes with their Class Team, as is the case now.

We will be explaining all of the above information to the students in the coming days, and so we wanted to share it with you, should you wish to discuss it with them at home, as well.

Should you have any questions, please contact me on: deputy@abbotsleaschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Mrs E Tobin
Deputy Headteacher