

Open the Educational Doors on What Dorchester Abbey can offer you!

Each of the areas below can be used either as the focus of a full day's study or form part of an overall theme. Each theme can be pared down or combined together, to create a cross-curricular programme that suits your particular educational needs. We also offer a bespoke service (for no additional cost), where you supply a theme and we create a study of the Abbey focused around it, including worksheets tailored to suit! Other themes are available; please enquire for further details and see how we can create the study you want!

Heraldry and Brass Rubbing

Heraldry: Students can examine the meaning of the colours and shapes used on coats of arms and shields through a study of the many colourful shields in the Abbey. They will have the opportunity to design their own coat of arms.

Brass Rubbing: Students have the opportunity to discover the history behind brass rubbing and try their hand at creating their own brass rubbing.

Knights and Normans

Knights: Students will enjoy studying our superb examples of monumental knights from the 13th and 14th C. They can engage in a comparative study of the differences in 'dress' and appearance.

Normans: Students can study how the Abbey was begun during the Norman period and identify how it retains many architectural links to this time, seen in our font and the Cloister Gallery display.

Pilgrims, Pilgrimages and Architectural History

Students have the opportunity to understand the role of the pilgrim and the focus of pilgrimage, through an investigation of our St. Birinus Shrine. Associated craft activities can be undertaken, including making Pilgrim badges. Students can study the changing architectural styles of Dorchester Abbey from Norman Romanesque and Decorated Gothic through to Victorian Gothic Revival. The Cloister Gallery enables a timeline of change to be understood.

Medieval life and Monasticism

Dorchester provides students with an excellent insight into monastic life, including our 14th C Monks Corbel. Students will be able to consider the establishment of the monastic Abbey and its relation with the people of the village.

Maths trails

There are a varied range of trails linked to maths throughout the Abbey are available for students from Key Stages 1-2 to explore.

Stained Glass

Students will be able to study the magnificent range of medieval stained glass Dorchester is fortunate to have, including our famous Jesse Window, a 'multi-media' fusion of sculpture and stained glass. Students will be able to design their own stained glass window.

Heroes and Villains

Students can explore this theme by investigating a range of heroic 'types', from the saints to our medieval knights. They can also consider what makes a villain and see if they can find any evidence of villains in the Abbey (e.g. such as Judas).

Tudor Times

Students will discover the history of the Abbey during the Tudor period. They will be able to examine the effect of the Reformation on the Abbey both in terms of its fabric and its religious impact. Looking at local architecture enables pupils to identify Tudor features and buildings.

Signs, Symbols and Spirituality

These themes offer a fantastic opportunity for exploring the broad and varied range of religious iconography and celebrations, from Baptism through to the celebration of the service itself. Students can explore how signs and symbols were used throughout the Abbey in its art and architecture to aid the illiterate in 'reading' the images of saints and the meaning of the Christian liturgy.

Local History Links and Dorchester Museum

Dorchester has a wealth of architecture dating from Tudor through to Victorian times. A walk through the village will bring them past a wide range of these buildings, including 3 coaching inns! We have also had the benefit of a local archaeological dig exploring the Roman past of Dorchester from which students can benefit.

Visits can be linked with the museum, exploring a range of historical themes.

Dorchester Education

Open the doors
Dorchester
Abbey
can offer you!

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High Street
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OXON OX10 7JH*

www.dorchester-abbey.org.uk/education.htm

You can contact the Education Officer on 01865 343164 or via email on education@dorchester-abbey.org.uk. Further information on the Abbey, its history and educational downloads can be found at:

All visits must be booked through the Education Officer. Please contact the Education Officer in order to discuss the requirements of your visit and arrange a pre-visit meeting, if desired.

Further Information and How to Book a Visit:

Abbey Programme



Heraldry & Brass Rubbing



Knights and Normans - Maths Trails



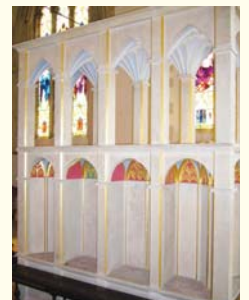
Stained Glass



Heroes & Villains

What can Dorchester Abbey offer you?

Our Education Department provides a wide range of cross-curricular themed tours, study days and visits specifically focused on your precise requirements. Our materials and tours are aimed at Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 4, but we can additionally offer bespoke tours for 'A' level students and adults. We have a number of themes listed here, but more are available and we are very happy to add and/or adapt our themes to suit your specific curriculum requirements. The Abbey welcomes and encourages everyone to share and experience its wealth of spiritual, religious, historical, artistic and architectural heritage.



Pilgrims, Pilgrimages & Architectural History



*Local History Links
Dorchester Museum*



Signs, Symbols & Spirituality - Tudor Times



Medieval Life & Monasticism