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# A-Z Co-curricular Directory

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# We believe that the best possible education is not only academically rigorous but one that also provides a broad range of opportunities and experiences.

This ensures that everyone, whatever their individual aspirations, is able to embrace the challenges they may face life. We are proud not just of the superb examination results our students achieve, but of the many ways they contribute, whether it is performing on stage, on the sports pitch, in service of others, or elsewhere- there is no typical AKS student.

One of the ways we deliver on our commitment to supporting our students' **individual pathways** is through our co-curricular programme which runs **before school, at lunchtime and after school** and varies each term.

This A-Z Directory is a comprehensive list of all the clubs and activities we have run over the past 3 years across both the Preparatory School and the Senior School. Some clubs change depending on the term, whilst others run all year round.

"I have loved being involved in the rehearsals for this year's school musical. I am in the ensemble and have the opportunity to sing and perform with my friends." **Emma, Year 7** 

"The wide range of interests available at AKS gives pupils life-enhancing social skills in a competitive world."

#### Parent Comment



# Preparatory SchoolA-Z



#### **Art Club**

Years 5-6

Explore different art movements, techniques and subjects.

#### Athletics

#### Years 5-6

An inclusive club, which focuses on development as well as encompassing Athletics Team Squad practice.

# **Boys' Choir**

#### Years 3-6

Covers a range of genres, from rock n' roll numbers, to football chants, to African rounds and modern pop songs. Boys are encouraged to collaborate to produce a powerful, unified and distinctive sound.

# **Badminton**

#### Years 3-6

Open to all levels of experience. Basic skills are taught, followed by matches which improve understanding of the game.

#### Brass Ensemble Invitation only

Our Brass Group is our newest ensemble, led by our trumpet teacher Mrs Grieg. It will continue to grow as more students begin to take the opportunity to learn to play brass instruments. Recent engagements have included playing a fanfare-like opening piece in one of our concerts.

#### Chess Club Years 3-6

Every Wednesday after school enthusiastic Prep children meet to play chess. Chess is a game of tactics and strategy and the children enjoy the challenge of competing against each other.

#### Choir Years 3-6

Our Choir is one of the Prep School's flagship ensembles, catering from students beginning their musical journey to those who are more experienced singers.



## Climbing Club Years 4-6

If you are in Year 4 to Year 6 and interested in learning to rock climb on our indoor wall, learn rope techniques and work as a team then this is the club for you.

#### Coding Club Year 6

Apart from being one of the most downloaded games ever, Minecraft can really help with imagination and can be used to retell famous stories. We have adapted this using Raspberry Pi computers. Raspberry Pi is an extremely small computers that allow children to have a lot of fun!

## Cookery Club Years 1-2

A new opportunity to develop your cookery ability in Year 1 and 2. Each week we will be creating delicious snacks to take home and share with your family. Using teamwork we will support each other to learn new skills and techniques.





# **Creative Creations**

All

Developing creative tenacity through collaborative teamwork and design.

# Cricket

#### Years 3-6

AKS Prep School is delighted to announce a new partnership with St Annes Cricket Club. They will be looking to support our school this year in the delivery of the Boys'/ Girls' and Mixed Kwik Cricket programmes for Years 1 to 6.

#### Cross Country Club Years 3-6

The children attending this club have the opportunity to develop their endurance by running around the school premises. Taking part in this club will help children improve physically, which should benefit them in most other sports. Coming to this club may also lead to children representing the school at cross country.

#### Cycling and Scooter Club Reception - Year2

Pupils will have the opportunity to learn how to ride – from starting off on balance bikes through to being able to ride unaided on 2 wheels. It is a great way to get the children started and ready for the summer holidays as well as being outdoor and active.

#### Dance Club Reception - Year 2

Dance helps children improve their coordination, self-control, balance, musicality and posture. It also encourages the development of gross motor skills, rhythm and confidence.

# Eco Club

#### All year groups

In our school we are looking at how to reduce, reuse and recycle, so by joining the Eco Club you will investigate different ways to become more eco-friendly. In the Eco Club we will work on different activities which include using the outdoors and the school garden, various recycling projects and also sharing ideas with others in school. The children will explore the need to positively manage energy sources, such as water and food, and look at various ways to care for the environment. The Eco Club will actively promote eco ideas by encouraging pupils to be more aware of the environment both in and out of school. Attending this club will help to equip pupils with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to understand that small changes to the way we use resources can make a big difference.



## Film and Comic Club Years 3 -6

The children will have the opportunity to explore the fantastic world of films and comics and also create their own comic or film. They will develop an understanding between themselves and others by listening to one another's ideas and sharing their own views about their favourite comics and films. The club will provide the opportunity to review and discuss various films and comics and explore the world of adventure, mystery and also their own imagination.

#### Football Club (Boys and Girls) Years 3-6

Football Club is an opportunity for the children to expand and develop their own personal skills whilst working towards a team game environment with their friends. All sessions are delivered with the individual child's ability level in mind so that learning is done at the required level for their own personal development and enjoyment of the session.

## Football Development Squad Years 3-6

Football Development Squad is an opportunity for boys to further develop their footballing skills and play football in a fun and inter-active learning environment where they can grow in confidence on the football field.







## Gardening Club All year groups

This is an activity to encourage students to develop their enthusiasm for and understanding of gardening by working on the new AKS community garden. We will be planting and growing fruit, salads, vegetables and wild flowers. The club will help to look after our chickens, introduce a bee hive and develop the pond area. Parents and/ or grandparents with any experience or enthusiasm are welcome to join us.

# Golf

#### All year groups

We are pleased to announce a new and exciting opportunity for our pupils to play in two golf programmes with At.Golf in St Annes.

## Handwriting Clinic All year groups

This club aims to give guidance, practice and support to invited pupils in order to improve their handwriting skills. It will be mainly individual work but will develop a team spirit and peer encouragement. The aim is to develop better presentation as well as greater fluency and speed. Children will work at a range of levels across the junior school, as is appropriate to their needs.

#### Hockey Club (Boys) Years 3-6

Playing hockey gives the boys the opportunity to appreciate the diversity of different team sports and build upon their teamwork skills and tenacity. Hockey is a wonderful sport that enables boys and girls to play together and it is a skill that they can take into adulthood.

#### Hockey Club (Girls) Years 3-6

Hockey Club gives our girls the opportunity to enhance their hockey skills on the school astroturf. We aim to develop a passion for the game and help children to become more active. We also encourage them to enjoy working as a team and this will often lead to them representing school.

## Indoor Athletics Years 3-6

The children attending this club have the opportunity to develop their athletic ability through taking part in a number of activities. Taking part in this club will help children improve physically, which should benefit them in most other sports. Coming to this club may also lead to children representing the school at Indoor athletics.

## Indoor Tennis Club Years 3-6

As well as developing general fitness and hand/eye coordination the children learn to enjoy a game which can benefit them socially in later life. When a tennis beginner starts learning to play tennis, they first need to learn basic forehand and backhand technique as these will allow them to play, enjoy the game and rally cooperatively with their partner. Since ball judgment is not developed yet with beginners, mini tennis is played at a shorter distance and at a lower speed on a badminton court. Playing at this short distance and low speed allows beginners to still have time to judge the ball fairly well and not feel rushed as it reaches them. They will become familiar with the rules and scoring of this game, experiencing both success and failure when playing small matches against their peers. Decision making, fairness and teamwork will also be encouraged not only when playing but also when umpiring.

# Judo

#### **Reception - Year 6**

This club teaches self defence and it can help to increase confidence, concentration, self-discipline and respect. It can also help to increase health and fitness.

#### LAMDA

#### Years 1-6

Through speech and drama students benefit enormously, improving their knowledge of literature and theatre, rapidly improving their communication skills, whilst developing in confidence. In so many aspects of life where individuals are required to present themselves confidently in public, speech and drama tuition allows the foundations to be laid very firmly indeed.

## Language and Culture Club Years 1-6

Come along to Language and Culture Club and learn a little about different cultures of the world through their food, art, music and language. We will focus on a different part of the world each session, exploring customs, celebrations and costume in diverse locations around the globe from Aboriginal Australia to Darkest Peru.

# Lego Club

#### Reception - Year 2

Lego Club is a great way to be creative and inventive using different bricks to make models. As we use our imaginations we also role play and chat to each other. Lego develops and improves our co-ordination, communication, inventiveness and problem solving skills. We think it is great to see a real world made small.



## Maths Challenge Years 3-6

Come along and challenge your mathematical skills in this exciting new club for our older pupils.

# Mindfulness Colouring Club Reception - Year 6

Focusing on how we choose and apply colour to a design in order to bring our awareness to the present moment. Similar to meditation, we let go of any thoughts about tomorrow or yesterday, or what we are going to do when we finish. Within a calm and centered environment we will be focusing on the here and now.

## Mindfulness Yoga Years 2-6

Mindfulness Yoga is a fantastic way to gently stretch your body and clear your mind after a busy day. At Mindfulness Yoga Club we learn lots of yoga poses and tie them together to make a routine. We improve our flexibility, breathing, practice our concentration skills and end the lesson feeling relaxed and ready for anything.

## Netball Years 3-6

This active and widely enjoyed game encourages collaborative teamwork. The children will be able to take pride in and responsibility for their personal effort and performance in the team in addition to developing sportsmanlike behaviour. They will learn to persevere and identify mistakes, setting goals to push themselves beyond their perceived limits. As individuals and team members, the children will learn to bounce back from setbacks and improve confidence within their own abilities.

#### Playground Games Reception - Year 2

This club aims to teach traditional games to some of our youngest children.

#### Puzzles and Games Reception - Year 2

Learn to play new games and challenge yourself to solve puzzles.

# Rounders

#### Years 3-6

Our Rounders Club will promote fitness and team spirit; combined with transferrable skills: throwing, catching and spatial awareness. All of which will culminate in producing an excellent and enjoyable sports ethic.



#### RSDF

#### Years 5-6

Within Year 6, the children are encouraged to show independence and maturity to lead on an area of the Round Square Discovery Framework. These involve adventure, democracy, environmentalism, service, internationalism and leadership. The children will promote these values across the Prep School, recruit others and begin to implement their ideas to have a richer understanding of their school and the world around them.

#### Rugby (including Tag Rugby) Years 3-6

The children who attend Rugby Club are given the opportunity to enhance key rugby skills, such as passing, catching and tackling in order to become better rugby players. They are also given the opportunity to develop their game understanding, through problem solving, teamwork and individual inventiveness. As well as skill development and game understanding in rugby, personal attributes such as courage and tenacity are key and we try to instill the importance of these features within our children.

## School Council Years 1-6

Members of the School Council are voted through a democratic ballot each year. The children who are elected are encouraged to assume the role of responsibility as the representative for their year group and the school community. They must use teamwork and communication skills to work on projects related to the wellbeing of the school and their peers. Children will be encouraged to use inventive thinking to plan fundraising ideas and to act with compassion and an appreciation of diversity, when gathering and sharing the opinions of other children.

# Sewing Club

#### Year 2

This club involves learning a range of different stitches. The children will learn how to thread the needle, how to tie simple knots and also how to undo them. A lot of patience and resilience will be required.

#### STEM Club Years 5-6

STEM Club is all about asking questions and working together to solve problems. We explore science, maths and technology concepts and apply these to practical projects. Sometimes our projects fail and we have to start again so we need to be tenacious!

#### String Ensemble Invitation only

Our String Group is an exciting ensemble, led by our enthusiastic violin teacher Ms Harrison, including experienced string players as well as students who have just started learning their instrument. Meeting weekly, the group plays a range of repertoire from familiar classical numbers to descriptive programme music and jazzy pieces. This group offers an outstanding opportunity for students to consolidate and extend their bowing techniques in addition to their understanding of playing in a string section.



#### Table Tennis Club Years 3-6

This club will give pupils the opportunity to improve their skills and understanding of the game. They will be taught the basic skills and then have opportunities to play matches during this time.

# Senior School A-Z

# 8Fifteen

#### Invite only

An independently formed band of students formed in Year 7 who rehearse weekly in preparation for regular performances across the school calendar.

## **AKS Action**

#### All

The school's main charity network, choosing different local and international charities to support.

## **AKS Stories**

#### All

A club for budding video makers and future film directors that aims to capture school events and produce short films to put on social media and the website.

# Amnesty International

Bringing awareness into school of international issues and campaigns linked to human rights advocacy, in support of the world-renowned NGO Amnesty International.

# **Archives Club**

#### All

Working on the combined heritage and legacy of all of the schools that make up AKS, collating and collecting memorabilia and stories of the past.

## Art Club

#### Years 7-9

An opportunity to experience new crafts, media and techniques with support and guidance to extend work projects from art lessons.

# Athletics

Open to all abilities, including team practices. Individual events catered for.

#### Athletics (Coaching) Invite Only

Specialist athletics coaching from an external coach. These sessions are for invitation only as they are to stretch and challenge those students looking to pursue athletics as a pathway.

# Badminton

#### All

An opportunity for students to play recreational badminton and develop their enjoyment of the game. Open to all students.

# Basketball

#### All

A chance to learn and play basketball by training and playing fixtures against other schools.

# Big Questions of Life

An opportunity to question our lives and discuss major moral issues.

# **Book Club**

#### Years 10-11

A relaxed chat about the YA book of the month and other digressed topics over a hot drink and a cookie.



# Brass Ensemble

A chance for the brass ensemble to play together to develop their skills for small scale performances.

# Bring Me Sunshine

Join the award-winning student-led group that plans projects to support our older community and to bridge the inter-generational divide.

# CCF

#### Years 9-13

Opportunities to understand and to train in military ways, to visit sites and go on camps and travel internationally on expeditions.

## Chamber Choir Years 10-13

Our Chamber Choir is open to students in Year 10 and above and provides the opportunity for students to sing more challenging repertoire with only a few voices per part.

# Chess and Board Games

Learn to play or take the chance to improve your game.

# Choir

Open to all, the choir allows you to sing music of many different types and styles. We prepare for a number of large scale concerts across the year.



# Climbing Club

Open to all abilities and ages to provide students with access and support to improve their climbing skills on the indoor climbing wall.

# **Code Breaking**

#### Years 7-9

An opportunity for students to learn about encoding and decoding secret messages. From the Caesar cipher all the way to Vigenere cipher. Each week we will learn a new cipher and put it into practice within the group.

# **Coding Club**

#### All

Programming and projects built around the use of Minecraft and Raspberry Pi computers.

# **Concert Band**

#### All

Concert Band is our newest ensemble at AKS. Open to all string, woodwind and brass players we play well known music of an appropriate level in preparation for a number of large scale concerts across the year.

# **Conditioning Club**

#### All

Getting fit under expert tuition in the school's gym.

# **Cookery Club**

#### All

An opportunity to learn culinary skills and more including etiquette and more, including international dishes.



## Creative Technology Years 7-8

A chance to work together whilst being inventive, trying new challenges & experimenting with new techniques.

# Cricket

All

Open to all abilities, including team practices.

# Cricket Nets

All

These sessions are designed to prepare our cricketers for the upcoming season through specialist coaching.

# Dance

#### All

An opportunity to express yourself in dance in group or individual dancing.

# Debating and Public Speaking

"A chance to develop your debating and discussion skills, improve your confidence and preparing yourself to speak in front of other people."

#### Duke of Edinburgh (All Levels) Years 10-13

The nationally acclaimed award for volunteer, skills improvement and expeditions.



# Eco Club

Eco club promotes the participation of students in learning about, and improving their environment. A means by which a student led group can organise themselves to learn more about environmental issues, and also take action to improve their immediate environment.

# Flute Ensemble

A chance for all flute plays to play together to develop their ensemble skills.

# Football

#### All

Training sessions open to all students who wish to be part of their respective year group football team.

# Gardening Club

This is an activity to encourage students to develop their enthusiasm and understanding of gardening by working on our AKS community garden.

## German Conversation Years 10-11

An opportunity for GCSE pupils to practise their spoken German in small groups.

# German Film Club

#### All

Pupils will watch a variety of both German films and dubbed Englishlanguage films & programmes with subtitles, to practise their listening and reading skills.

## **Guardians**

# of Drama

#### Years 7-9

A project based, student-led group that prepares and performs for events throughout the year.

# Handball

#### All

Introduction of a new sport; learning how to play, train and prepare for school fixtures with an emphasis on inclusion and personal skills.

# **History Club**

#### Years 7-9

An opportunity for keen historians to investigate aspects of the past beyond those studied in lessons.

# Hockey

#### All

Learning how to play, train and prepare for school fixtures with an emphasis on inclusion and personal skills.

# Hockey Goalkeeping Club

A position specific club for hockey goalkeepers. The club is aimed at giving pupils the specialised skill sets they require to be an effective and agile goalkeeper.

#### Holdgate Society Years 12-13

A Sixth Form science club, a forum to discuss major scientific issues and breakthroughs.

## LAMDA

#### **By Appointment**

An opportunity to take examinations with LAMDA, building confidence, presentation skills in speech and drama.

# Library Assistants

Opportunities available for students to learn some valuable library skills whilst having an impact on one of the busiest learning resources in the school. Experienced library assistants may also work in small leadership roles.

# Low Key

#### Invite only

An independently formed band of students form the middle school and sixth form who rehearse weekly in preparation for regular performances across the school calendar.

## Lower School Singing Years 7-9

A singing group for students in the lower school, to continue their singing work from lessons.

## Model United Nations Year 10

An activity in which students roleplay delegates to the United Nations and simulate UN committees. Students will be given the opportunity to join online and live conferences whilst representing the views and priorities of an assigned country.

# Musical Rehearsals

After auditioning for the annual school musical, students rehearse the music, dance and drama over a number of weeks in the run up to our performances at the Lowther Pavilion.

# Netball

Years 10-11

Learning how to play, train and prepare for school fixtures with an emphasis on inclusion and personal skills.

# News Group

#### Years 11-13

A club for older students in which items of news will be explored and discussed.

# Percussion Ensemble

The percussion ensemble is open to all percussionists and rehearses in preparation for concerts, often collaborating with another ensemble.

#### Photography Club Years 7-9

An opportunity to discover the fun and creative possibilities of photography. This will be a both a practical and theoretical experience. Students will learn to take photographs, edit their work and apply their interest and skills in their own time. Students will take part in discussions and look at the work of historic and contemporary photographers.



# Psychology Society

#### All

A chance to extend discussions on matters to do with Psychology.

## **Quiz Club**

#### Years 7-11

Weekly knowledge testing using buzzers to prepare for the Schools' Challenge.

#### Rounders

Years 7-10 Open to all abilities, including team practices.

## Rugby

#### All

Open to all abilities, including team practices.

## **Running Club**

#### All

For any student who wishes to develop their distance running, involving a variety of practice types and routes.

## **Science Club**

#### Year 7

Work collaboratively on projects involving a wide range of scientific skills and interests.

# Soul Band

#### Invite Only

Soul Band performs repertoire from the soul genre, exploring the improvisatory side of music and creating its own versions of songs.

# Squash Club

#### All

Open to any students who wish to learn/play the game of squash. Hosted by St. Annes Tennis and Squash Club and run by an external coach, there is an additional charge of £4 per session for this activity.

# String Ensemble

Our String Group is an exciting ensemble, including experienced string players as well as students who have just started learning their instrument. The group plays a range of repertoire from familiar classical numbers to descriptive programme music and jazzy pieces. This group offers an outstanding opportunity for students to consolidate and extend their bowing techniques in addition to their understanding of playing in a string section.

# **Swing Band**

#### All

A big band for more advanced musicians, preparing for large school concerts as well as external engagements.

# **Table Tennis**

All

The chance to play a friendly game of table tennis.

## Tennis

Years 7-10

Open to all abilities, including team practices.

# Tennis (Coaching)

Invite Only

Open to students who wish to develop their tennis by working with an external, tennis specialist. There is an additional charge for this activity.

## The World Around Us Years 7 – 9

Many interesting activities which investigate the human and physical geography of the world, including building models and geographical investigations.

# Tycoon in Schools Year 12

Form your own business enterprise and trade for 8 weeks. Apply for a start up loan to the Peter Jones Foundation, learn how to market effectively and pursuade the public to buy your product or service whilst keeping a close eye on profits.

# UK Linguistics Olympiad

Solve linguistic puzzles and codes in this internationally recognised competition.

# Warhammer Club

#### Years 7-9

A chance to battle it out with your armies of Warhammer figures or other table war games.

# Wellbeing Club

#### Years 7-9

Everyday skills of personal selfmanagement and wellbeing techniques aimed at all pupils to improve lifestyles and mental health.

# Book Club

Years 10-11

A relaxed chat about the YA book of the month and other digressed topics over a hot drink and a cookie.

## Young Health Leaders Years 7-13

Promoting health and wellbeing in school in partnership with Blackpool Victoria Teaching Hospital.

# Young Soroptomists Youth Group

A student-led group that focusses on education for all, in particular, empowering young girls across the world.



