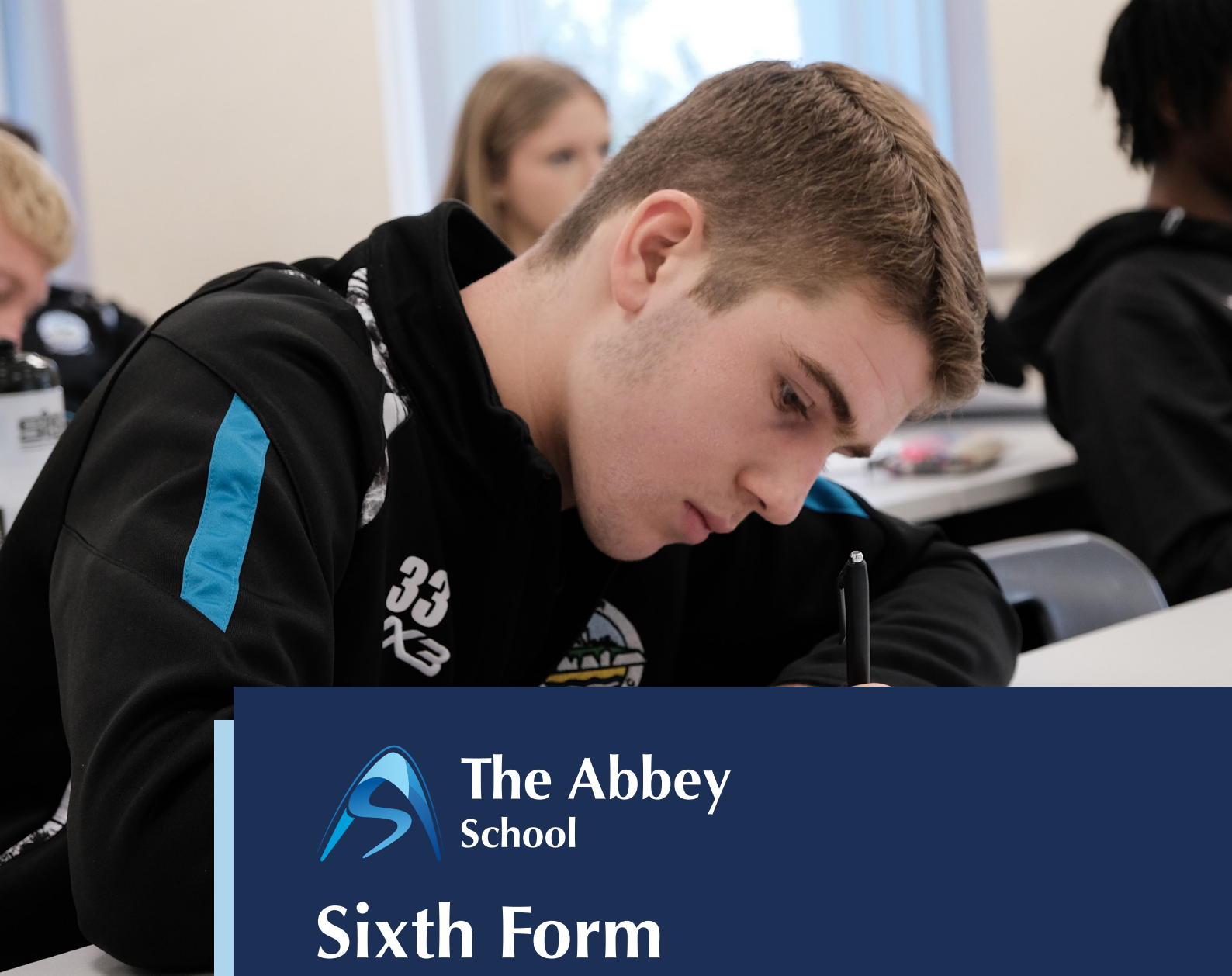




The Abbey
School

Sixth Form Prospectus

"Be The Best You Can Be"



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THE HOWARD
Academy Trust



*Be The
Best You
Can Be*

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Welcome to The Abbey School



The Abbey School offers a unique Sixth Form experience with small class sizes, excellent teaching and wonderful opportunities for enrichment.

We have spent many years developing a programme of study that allows students to gain skills in independent learning whilst providing the structure and support necessary for you to achieve your potential.

Our standards are high, and achieving a place in our Sixth Form has prestige in itself. We want to work with students who are prepared to work hard, are ambitious, but willing also to understand the importance of their wider personal development. The aim is that by the time you complete Year 13, you will have achieved a university place, apprenticeship, or other progression, which ensures that you are the best you can be.

- Dr R Speller, Principal

Whether you are currently studying at The Abbey School or are at another school or college, making the right decision about where you should undertake the next stage will play a key part in determining your future success.

The Abbey School is a safe, caring, supportive and challenging school in which to work and study. It is also a school which is constantly striving to improve all aspects of its practice and, frequently, we ask students for their opinions to help shape our future plans. We value academic accomplishment and personal achievement in equal measure.

The Abbey Sixth Form is relatively small compared to some. This serves to help ensure students are known, noticed, cared for and supported in their studies by their teachers. Small class sizes make the student experience at The Abbey positive and staff relationships with students are excellent and a real strength. This also helps to support our students in becoming employable, being ready for University or helping achieve their chosen path.

In addition, our vision and status enable us to play a key part at the cutting edge of exciting developments and projects, from which our students are able to benefit directly.

We value enormously the positive contribution Sixth Formers make to the ethos of our school and the influence they have over our younger students. Sixth Formers actively get involved with other year groups. We have invested in a bespoke study area within the Sixth Form block, which enables students to engage in directed study during their study periods or even when they are 'free'.

Finally, we wish you every success as you complete your Key Stage 4 studies over the next few months – remember, hard work now will be rewarded in the summer! If you feel that you want to be part of our Sixth Form and benefit from what we have to offer, then we would be delighted to help support you through the next exciting phase of your learning.

- Mrs N Crouch, Director of 6th Form

The Abbey Sixth Form Vision

The Abbey Sixth Form is a community with a clear focus on ensuring that every student entering the Sixth Form will leave with a wide mix of opportunities to choose from as they look to their future.

To achieve this vision, we have three clear aims:

- To provide a wide range of academic and vocational subjects to support students looking to extend their experiences in subjects they find invigorating, challenging and enjoyable.
- To ensure that students develop through their Sixth Form experience into fully rounded, driven individuals, prepared to ask questions to help themselves improve in an environment that nurtures and develops their independence.
- To leave at the end of Year 13 or 14 with a clear destination in mind, where the clarity of that destination has been informed through a mix of seminars, individual and group work led by a wide range of external providers mainly with university or apprenticeship expertise. This sits alongside the independent careers advice provided to all Sixth Formers which is delivered by CXK.

Each year, we have students gain entry to Russell Group universities and many of our students go on to University of Kent and Canterbury Christ Church University; we are very proud of the work we do in supporting our students to higher education. Particularly pleasing is the range of students who secure exciting apprenticeship opportunities at Level 3 and Level 4, with key highlights being students gaining apprenticeships in the Houses of Parliament and the Ministry of Defence.

Your experience at The Abbey Sixth Form will be one where you are given an exceptional opportunity to thrive and develop into a confident, happy, successful adult, where you choose the future you want.



How Demanding are A-Levels?

When you begin Year 12, it is likely that you will find the jump from GCSE to A-Level quite difficult. That is natural.

This is because:

- You will be expected to spend a far greater amount of time studying your subjects, both in and out of the classroom. We expect at least 20 hours of private study a week (9 a fortnight are timetabled to support you).
- Outside of lesson time, you will be expected to do independence/being proactive work that has not been set specifically by your teacher, for example, reading books related to your subject, watching out for information in newspapers etc. If you are not prepared to do this, you may find yourself falling behind.
- You are likely to come into contact with language, technical terms and ideas which are completely new to you, even if you studied the subject at GCSE level. Don't be put off by this, everyone in your A-Level group will be in this situation. Ask!
- There will be greater emphasis on discussion in classes – learn from your peers.
- You will have to plan your work with greater care so that you can complete your set targets in the deadlines you have available outside classes.



Making Your Choices

1. Are you great at exams or alternatively thrive when completing coursework?
2. Are you curious about a mix of different subjects and want to find out what the Advanced in A-Level actually means?
3. Are you really strong in one BTEC subject but also like a couple of other subjects?
4. Do you think you have the capability to work independently and after some early direction will thrive with that responsibility?
5. Do you like being stretched and challenged to think outside your comfort zone?

If the answer to these questions is positive, then the Sixth Form at The Abbey is the right place for you.

What about the following statements?

1. I'll only do the subject if I have a particular teacher who I really like.
2. The free time is really important to me.
3. I don't expect to work outside class time.
4. I want to do something really vocational that immediately leads to an obvious job.

If the answer to these statements is positive, then the Sixth Form at The Abbey may not be the right place for you.

Students at The Abbey Sixth Form thrive when they do their best.

Students at The Abbey Sixth Form succeed when they acknowledge the work commitment – 4 hours of out-of-class learning per subject each week will lead to success.

Students at The Abbey Sixth Form excel when they take responsibility for their learning and find out for themselves how to improve.

There are no 'average' students at The Abbey Sixth Form. There are lots of individuals with great stories to tell.

Dover Athletic Football Academy

In partnership with The Abbey School Sixth Form

Dover Athletic Football Academy are a licenced Football Academy and play in the National Youth League, the highest league outside professional status. The Academy players train every day like professionals, improving their knowledge of the game in order to take them to the next level. The Academy players also study a range of A-Level and BTEC courses at The Abbey School Sixth Form, continuing with their education to gain the necessary qualifications to take them further in their chosen career.

Entry Requirements

- Completing two football trials held on 17th February and 7th April
- 5 x 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Mathematics

Course Outline

- Academy players study 3 A-Level/BTEC Qualifications across a range of courses alongside their football commitments
- The Football Academy represents Dover Athletic FC in the National Youth League, the highest league outside of professional status
- Games programme on Wednesday afternoons in The National Youth League, National Youth Alliance and The Kent Schools Academies League
- Coaching from UEFA 'A' licenced coaches with professional experience
- Training daily, including full gym access and programmes

Further Progression

- Dover Athletic Professional Contracts
- Non-League and Professional Football Club Contracts
- Top University Progression, including American Scholarship Opportunities
- Apprenticeship Progressions
- Leisure Industry Employment

Please contact msandmann@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk or go to the Dover Football Academy webpage: www.theabbey-that.org.uk/footballacademy for more information.

Golf Academy

In Partnership with The Abbey School Sixth Form

The Faversham Golf Academy offers a unique post 16 education programme offering competitive golf to both boys and girls. The programme incorporates both full time education with a built-in golf development programme. Our aims are very simple, to develop and improve our pupils:

Academic Potential

- Pupils are able to study a wide variety of A-Level and BTEC courses, giving pupils the chance to achieve great grades
- The 6th form has a brilliant track record of progressing many pupils into top universities across the country

Golfing Potential

- Through weekly PGA golf instruction, supervised practice and weekly matches, pupils have a brilliant chance to improve their handicap and become the "best they can be"

Our programme is fully funded, allowing everyone to access the game of golf.

Entry Requirements

- 5 x 9-4 grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Mathematics

What's included?

- Full Membership at Faversham Golf Club
- Weekly PGA Tuition
- Weekly Supervised Practice
- Weekly Matches (in-house, local, regional and national)
- Weekly Strength & Conditioning
- Sports Therapy Access
- Optional International Training Camp (additional cost)

Contact Mr Long: jlong@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk





Core Learning and Enrichment

Alongside our academic offer, we provide our students with opportunities to develop their life skills and to broaden their understanding of the wider world. This takes the form of:

- Core Learning lessons
- Talks
- Trips
- Work experience and placements
- Careers advice
- Mentoring and extracurricular events
- Internal leadership qualification
- Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Our Core Learning programme consists of 6 lessons a fortnight and focuses on the following areas:

PSHE – Personal, Social, Health and Economic learning. Students engage in the issues that affect them as individuals and as a society.

Careers and Destinations – Students use these lessons to prepare themselves for their next steps after 6th form. They investigate the pathways open to them and make informed decisions about their Post 18 choices. Students will also learn employability skills which will support them in their part-time work and future careers.

Personal Finance – Students learn how the economy operates and how to manage their finances in the short term, medium term and long term - ready to leave us as financially literate young people.

Study Skills – Students learn and apply the skills needed to be independent, confident learners.

There are many opportunities for our students to build upon their life skills whether as part of the leadership team, a subject ambassador, a reading buddy or a mentor to students in the lower school. These opportunities help to set you apart from possible competition for future University applications, Apprenticeships or job applications. Being a part of the whole community is important to us and our students are a big part of this ethos as well. They are committed to supporting their peers, they welcome visitors to the school and are often involved in touring them around the school. The Sixth Form plays a valuable role in the wider school community. The involvement of Sixth Formers with younger year groups is an important part of daily school life. They really are an asset to us, and we are proud of the 6th form community we are building.

There are opportunities for you to join in with special activities dedicated to the Sixth Form, or the general activities of the school. The sports facilities can be used for recreation – badminton, tennis and football, along with the gym (where a staff member is present).

Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award

We offer students in Year 12 the opportunity to commence their Gold Award, and it doesn't matter if they haven't completed it before. The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award is for young people 16+ who can gain essential skills and attributes for work and life such as resilience, problem-solving, team-working, communication and drive, enhancing CVs for university and job applications.

You'll spend 12 months on your Volunteering section. For Physical and Skills, you must spend 12 months on one and six months on the other – you decide which way round you do it. Your expedition will be for four days and three nights (plus an acclimatisation day) and should take place in 'wild country'. You'll also do a Residential section – staying away from home for five days and four nights doing a shared activity with people you don't know.

It's great fun and a real chance to do something different! If you've jumped straight into your Gold DofE programme, you'll need to do a further six months either volunteering or whichever one of your physical or skills activities you spent the most time on. For Gold, you'll need to do your programme for at least 12 months if you've achieved your Silver Award, or 18 months if you've started at Gold level without doing your Silver – even if you've done Bronze. We feel that the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award is an excellent opportunity for students to complete alongside their studies, and will provide students with wider personal development opportunities which will support them both in their studies and in later life in further education and employment.



Study Periods

There are 27 teaching periods per two weeks. Each A-Level is allocated 9 periods per fortnight. You will receive vocational guidance throughout the year and be called for interviews – either on an individual basis or as a whole year group. In addition, you will get the opportunity to listen to visiting speakers from all fields and walks of life, who will offer their advice and experience, encouraging you to think beyond the confines of the classroom.

A unique strength of The Abbey Sixth Form are the ‘core’ learning lessons, usually 6 per fortnight, which aim to deliver personal development programmes, featuring modules on Careers, Finance, Personal and Health Education, including a driving awareness course. We now offer EPQ delivery within this time. It is important to be organised in your use of time.

Non-contact is not free time. In fact, this is the most important time on your timetable when you can study. You will be expected to work in the study area in the Sixth Form study centre, which is fully equipped with printers and other resources, and supervised by teachers. There is a strong link between those students who use their study time effectively and those who are able to gain the best results.

At The Abbey, we hope to make the transition from GCSE as smooth as possible. There is no limit to what an individual student can achieve and we aim to provide an environment within which you can develop your independent study skills, and at the same time, gain all the support and guidance necessary to reach your goals. In this way, The Abbey aims to provide a Sixth Form that combines the best features of a school and college.



The 6th Form centre is independent to the main school building, but within the grounds, and provides an area where students have an opportunity to relax in the common room during free periods or at lunchtime, study in their own dedicated computer suite or enjoy the nice weather in the outside area.

The common room has a kitchen attached, and students have access to table tennis, games and other activities at lunchtimes.



Testimonials From Alumni

“My time at The Abbey School Sixth Form was great. I had already been a part of The Abbey School since Year 7, but moving into Sixth Form was great for me as it allowed me to explore more of my passions and gave me the freedom that I needed whilst still having the guidance from the amazing staff there. Whilst at Sixth Form, I was one of the two head students, which allowed me to improve my skills in communication, which then allowed me to have a head start on some of the roles I currently do now at University, such as being elected as team principal and technical director of our formula student team, collecting feedback from 1000s of students, and working with the staff and lecturers to improve and change experiences for everyone.”

- David M (Former Student)

“I just wanted to say a big thank you to each of you for helping my daughter over the past few years. She has thoroughly enjoyed her time at school and that’s down to the support she’s had from yourselves. She speaks highly of you all... I know she’s quite sad about actually leaving!”

- Parent

“Having looked around other schools when I was in Year 11, I’m glad I decided to stay at The Abbey. I think that a key part of the school is the close relations that you can have with teachers and members of the Sixth Form staff who genuinely take interest in your life and support you in all ways that they can. I think that the school provides a great environment for learning while also maintaining a social balance during the day, and we are fortunate to have a team of teachers (and sixth form staff) who go above and beyond their duties to support you in all aspects of your life. I’m very happy with how I have come out of The Abbey, having been interviewed and shortlisted for Oxford University as well as receiving offers from multiple top 10 universities. I most definitely would not have been able to achieve any of what I have managed to date without the incredible help that the Sixth Form has provided me, and for that I am thankful.”

- Philip R (Former Student)

“The support that I have received over the last 2 years has been really helpful not only in building my academic skills, but also my confidence. It has done this by allowing me to be a part of the leadership team where we set up events and fundraising activities for the school, and raised a lot of money for good causes. I went from coming from another school and not knowing anyone to making some really good friends. [The staff] all worked tirelessly, not only for me but for everyone in the 6th form, making sure that everyone was happy and feeling comfortable, and being able to answer any questions that students may have. I will be forever thankful for everyone who has assisted me, and helped me to be the best version of myself I can be.”

- Edward D (Former Student)

Entry Requirements

All A-Level, BTEC and Diploma subjects require a minimum of 5 x 9-4 grades at GCSE or the equivalent, including English and Mathematics. Most subjects have specific entry requirements which are shown on each individual page and are summarised below.

Subject	Additional Entry Requirements
Biology A-Level	Grade 5 in English Language and Mathematics and a Grade 6-6 in Combined Science or Grade 6 in GCSE Biology
Business A-Level	Min Dist* in BTEC Business or Business GCSE Grade 5, or a minimum of a Grade 5 in English if Business isn't studied already
Business BTEC Ext. Cert.	A minimum of Merit in BTEC in Business/Enterprise OR a Grade 5 in GCSE Business Studies, or Grade 4 in English
Creative Digital Media BTEC Ext. Cert.	Merit in BTEC 1st Award in Media (if studied). 5 x 9-4 Grades at GCSE or the equivalent, including English and Mathematics
Criminology Diploma	5 x 9-4 Grades at GCSE or the equivalent, including English and Mathematics
English Language and Literature A-Level	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and English Literature
Geography A-Level	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language, Mathematics and 5 in GCSE Geography (if taken)
History A-Level	Grade 5 in GCSE History or Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Literature if History not taken at GCSE
ICT AAQ Ext. Cert.	Grade 4 in GCSE ICT or Computer Science or equivalent or a Merit in a BTEC ICT course
Medical Science AAQ	Grade 4 in GCSE English and Maths and a Grade 5-5 in GCSE Combined Science or Grade 5, 5, 4 in Triple Sciences

Mathematics A-Level	A minimum of a Grade 7 in GCSE Mathematics
Physics A-Level	Grade 5 in English Language and Mathematics and a Grade 6-6 in Combined Science or Grade 6 in GCSE Physics
Politics A-Level	Grade 5 in GCSE History or GCSE Geography or Grade 5 in English Language and Literature
Psychology A-Level	Grade 5 in GCSE Mathematics, Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Grade 5 in Combined Science
Philosophy and Ethics A-Level	Grade 5 in GCSE English Language and Literature
Sport BTEC Ext. Cert. or Diploma	Grade 4 in English Language and Mathematics. Grade 5 in GCSE Physical Education or Merit in Cambridge National in Sport Science (or equivalent)

Application Process Timeline

Month / Year	Event
November 27th 2025	Sixth Form Open Evening
November 2025 - April 2026	Applications to be submitted
February - March 2026	Internal interviews commence, and external non-academy interviews
April 2026	Football Academy interviews
June 2026	Sixth Form Induction: Thursday 25th & Friday 26th June
August 2026	Thursday 20th August – GCSE Results Day & Sixth Form enrolment

Timetable for 2026-28

Below are the proposed blocks for 2026-2028. Courses will run if there are an adequate number of students who select the option. In this model, you can only pick one subject from each block.

Block A	Block B	Block C	Block D	Block E
History A-Level	Sport Science BTEC (Double) Diploma	Sport Science BTEC (Single) Extended Certificate	Sport Science BTEC (Single) Extended Certificate	Dover Football Academy
Geography A-Level	Criminology Diploma	Business A-Level	Politics A-Level	Philosophy and Ethics A-Level
Media BTEC (Single) Extended Certificate	English Language and Literature A-Level	Biology A-Level	Psychology A-Level	Golf Academy
Physics A-Level	Maths A-Level	ICT AAQ	Medical Science AAQ	
		Criminology Diploma	Business BTEC (Single) Extended Certificate	

Whilst the blocking structure has been agreed, there is still room for movement should the demand be there. This will be reviewed constantly. Courses offered are subject to an uptake of numbers and as a result, we aim to secure 12 students minimum per subject. Please bear in mind that you may be asked to review your choices. If you require any support with this, please contact Mrs Crouch: ncrouch@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk

Course Information

Biology

A-Level

Course Outline

The qualification consists of eight units across the two years, six of which are mandatory and three are externally assessed.

Year 1	Year 2
• Topic 1: Lifestyle, Health and Risk • Topic 2: Genes and Health • Topic 3: Voice of the Genome • Topic 4: Biodiversity and Natural Resources • Topic 5: On the Wild Side • Topic 6: Immunity, Infection and Forensics	• Topic 1: Lifestyle, Health and Risk • Topic 2: Genes and Health • Topic 3: Voice of the Genome • Topic 4: Biodiversity and Natural Resources • Topic 7: Run for your Life • Topic 8: Grey Matter

Assessment

The course features a range of practical activities which are undertaken during topic teaching and are examined in the final year exams. There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-Level, all of which are two hours long. The final paper is based around all topics studied over the two year course with a specific focus on the practical activities undertaken and practical applications of the Biology studied.

Further Progression

This qualification will provide learners with a broad understanding of Biology to support progress to higher education. This qualification can also prepare learners to take up employment in the applied science sector, either directly after achieving the qualification or via higher education.

Studying this qualification will enable learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of Biology principles, as well as those scientific practical skills recognised by higher education institutions and employers to be most important. The qualification also offers learners an opportunity to develop transferable skills such as problem-solving, research and communication as part of their learning.

Contact

Please contact Mr S Brock (sbrock@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
 Grade 5 in English Language
 Grade 5 in Mathematics
 Grade 6-6 in Combined Science
or Grade 6 in GCSE Biology



Business

A-Level

Course Outline

Students will consider how a range of organisations in a variety of contexts (e.g. large/small, UK/global, service/manufacture) operate in today's increasingly global business environment.

Topics to be studied include business basics – such as the different ownership types, external influences on business, business aims and objectives – as well as leadership and decision making, marketing, operations management, financial planning and human resources management. The course further focuses on strategic decision making and how businesses cope with - and plan for - change.

Assessment

Assessment is by three (A-Level) examined units in the summer of 2026. The units contribute equally to the final grade.

Further Progression

A-Level Business is a very versatile subject — it can open up a wide range of university courses, career paths, and entrepreneurial opportunities including Business management, marketing, accounting and finance, law, entrepreneurship, international business, human resource management, hospitality or tourism management. Many universities also accept Business A-Level for broader subjects such as Sociology, Politics, or Media Studies, since it develops analytical and evaluative skills.

Contact

Please contact Mr J Rose (jrose@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
 Distinction* minimum in BTEC Business
or Grade 5 in Business GCSE
or Grade 5 minimum in English
(if Business isn't studied already)



Business Studies

BTEC Extended Certificate

Course Outline

The Extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the business sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in business-related subjects. It is designed to be taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A-Levels.

The qualification consists of four units across the two years, three of which are mandatory and two external.

Units

Unit 1: Exploring Business
Unit 2: Developing a Marketing Campaign
Unit 3: Personal and Business Finance
Unit 8: Recruitment and Selection Process

Assessment

Internal Assessment takes the form of two coursework units, one of which is mandatory and one of which is optional. This constitutes 42% of the final grade.

External Assessment consists of one exam and one controlled assessment and constitutes 58% of the final grade.

Further Progression

Students completing this Certificate can progress to University or College to study BTEC Higher Qualifications (Level 4/5). Due to the vocational nature of this qualification, students will also be able to build the skills necessary to seek employment in a business related industry.

Contact

Please contact Mr J Rose (jrose@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements

Merit minimum in BTEC Business/Enterprise
or Grade 5 in GCSE Business Studies
or Grade 4 in English



Creative Digital Media Production

BTEC Extended Certificate

Course Outline

The Extended Certificate is for learners who are interested in learning about the Media and the issues and debates with it as well as developing practical media skills, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in the media.

The qualification consists of four units across the two years, three of which are mandatory and two external.

Unit 1: Representations
Unit 4: Pre-production Portfolio
Unit 8: Responding to a Commission
Unit 10: Film Production Fiction

Assessment

Internal Assessment takes the form of two coursework units, one of which is mandatory and one of which is optional. This constitutes 42% of the final grade.

External Assessment consists of one exam and one controlled assessment and constitutes 58% of the final grade.

Further Progression

Students completing this Certificate can progress to University or College to study BTEC Higher Qualifications (Level 4/5). Due to the vocational nature of this qualification, students will also be able to build the skills necessary to seek employment in a media related industry.

Contact

Please contact Mr Dannell (sdannell@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements

Merit minimum in BTEC 1st Award in Media
(if studied)
5 x 9-4 Grades at GCSE or the equivalent,
including English and Mathematics



Criminology

Diploma

Course Outline

Criminology is the study of crime and punishment, the theories behind what makes somebody a criminal and the punishments that work alongside it. Not all crimes are the same and we look at what kind of crimes take place within our society and crimes we know little about. We also look at the criminal justice system and how effective it is at controlling and preventing crime.

The topics we look at are Changing Awareness of Crime, Criminological Theories, Crime Scene to Courtroom, and Crime and Punishment.

Assessment

Criminology is a Level 3 Diploma, students have four main areas of study - 50% is examined with 2 examinations of Criminological Theories and Crime and Punishment. The remaining 50% is controlled assessment on Changing Awareness of Crime and Crime Scene to Courtroom. Both parts are spread over the two year course.

Further Progression

Recognised and well respected by universities and employers, Criminology can offer students a number of skills in critical thinking and judgement as well as research skills and understanding how to form an argument effectively.

Criminology can lead to a diverse range of jobs. This can include Policing, Social Work, CSI Units, Forensics and the Legal Profession.

Contact

Please contact Mr T Purnell (tpurnell@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
5 x 9-4 Grades at GCSE
or the equivalent, including
English and Mathematics



English Language & Literature

A-Level

Course Outline

Students will study prose, poetry and drama texts, in addition to extracts of fiction, non-fiction and non-literary material that share common content, theme and/or styles. This can include, but is not limited to: spoken transcriptions; advertisements; autobiographies; biographies; travel writing; journalism; letters; reports; and speeches. Students will also be required to write creatively, including the act of re-creative writing inspired by set texts. An accompanying critical commentary is required, in which students are encouraged to reflect on the language choices they have made, making points of comparison and contrast. Methods of language analysis will build upon those embedded at GCSE, expecting students to be familiar with the following: phonetics, phonology and prosodics; lexis and semantics; grammar; morphology; pragmatics; and discourse. The coursework component is comprised of a personal investigation that explores a specific technique or theme in both literary and non-literary discourse (2,500-3,000 words).

Assessment

- AO1: Apply concepts and methods from integrated linguistic and literary study as appropriate, using associated terminology and coherent written expression
- AO2: Analyse ways in which meanings are shaped in texts
- AO3: Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which texts are produced and received
- AO4: Explore connections across texts, informed by linguistic and literary concepts and methods
- AO5: Demonstrate expertise and creativity in the use of English to communicate in different ways

Further Progression

Further Education opportunities include BA Hons in English or English Literature, the Humanities and STEM subjects, considering the range of transferable skills required by the course. Career pathways include: journalism; broadcasting; digital media; publishing; marketing; advertising; content creation; proofreading; teaching; research; forensic psychology; forensic linguistic analysis; screenwriting; and game narrative design.

Contact

Please contact Ms P Jones (pjones@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
Grade 5 in GCSE English Language
and English Literature



Geography

A-Level

Course Outline

In A-Level Geography we strive to challenge perceptions and stimulate investigative and analytical skills. This dynamic and topical course gives students the opportunity to:

- Engage with the relationship of human populations to each other over space and time;
- Study the relationship between human populations with their physical environment at a variety of scales from the local to the global;
- Consider their own role in relation to themes and issues being studied, and the roles, values and attitudes of others including national and international policy makers;
- Fieldwork experience is compulsory and informs both the exams and the non-examined assessment;

You need not have studied GCSE Geography to apply, although it is useful. Numeracy (particularly statistics) and literacy are intrinsic throughout the course as well as use of ICT. Presentation and communication skills will be developed, as will teamwork on field trips.

Assessment

Component 1 will focus upon physical geography, including topics such as tectonic hazards and coastal systems. Component 2 will focus on human geography, including contemporary topics such as global governance and population and the environment. Both of these exams constitute 40% each of the final A-Level grade. The third component consists of an independent geographical investigation, where students develop their own hypotheses, carry out data collection on fieldwork and complete a 4000 word report. This is started at the end of year 12 and submitted in March of year 13. This constitutes 20% of the final A-Level grade.

Further Progression

The Geography course develops necessary skills, such as data handling, GIS cartography and analysis of inter-relationships of global patterns and trends. This provides students with an informed understanding of our changing world that employers look for. Success in the course leads towards University courses of Human Geography (BA), Physical Geography (BSc), Geology and Environmental Science. There are a range of careers where Geography is a fundamental driving force. Potential roles include cartographer, volcanologist, town planner, environmental scientist, GIS specialist and meteorologist to name a few.

Contact

Please contact Mrs H Finney (hfinney@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk) or Miss S Hutchins (shutchins@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
Grade 5 in GCSE Geography
(if taken)
Grade 4 in Maths and
English Language



History

A-Level

Course Outline

Unit 1: Breadth study with interpretations - Option 1G: Germany and West Germany, 1918–89
Unit 2: Depth Study - Option 2G.1: The rise and fall of fascism in Italy, c1911–46
Unit 3: Paper 3- Aspects in breadth and depth - Option 35.1 – Britain: losing and gaining an Empire, 1763-1914
Unit 4: Coursework – Origins of the Cold War

Assessment

Unit 1

Written examination, lasting 2 hours 15 minutes (60 marks)

- Students answer three questions: one from Section A, one from Section B and one from Section C.
- Sections A and B comprise a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in breadth.
- Section C comprises one compulsory question that assesses the ability to analyse and evaluate historical interpretations.

Unit 2

Written examination, lasting 1 hour 30 minutes (40 marks)

- Students answer two questions: one from Section A and one from Section B.
- Section A comprises one compulsory question for the option studied, based on two sources. It assesses source analysis and evaluation skills.
- Section B comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in depth.

Unit 3

Written examination, lasting 2 hours 15 minutes (60 marks)

- Students answer three questions: one from Section A, one from Section B and one from Section C.
- Section A comprises one compulsory question for the option studied, assessing source analysis and evaluation skills.
- Section B comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in depth.
- Section C comprises a choice of essays that assess understanding of the period in breadth.

Unit 4 – Coursework

Students complete a single 4000 word assignment on a question set by the teacher on the Cold War, Civil Rights in the USA or the Holocaust. The assignment will assess the ability to analyse and evaluate historical interpretations.

Further Progression

This course can complement other A-Level courses which could lead onto higher education in History or countless other subjects such as English, American Studies, Politics, Archaeology or more general degree courses.

Contact

Please contact Mr M Labrou (mlabrou@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
Grade 5 in GCSE History or
Grade 5 minimum in GCSE
English Language and Literature
(applicable if GCSE History not studied)



ICT

Pearson Level 3 AAQ

Course Outline

The ICT BTEC Extended Certificate is designed for learners who are interested in an introduction to the study of creating IT systems to manage and share information alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in IT.

IT is a subject that most employers now expect from all their employees. This course will enable you to gain skills to work within the IT industry or use IT effectively within other employment sectors.

You will study four units across the two years:

- Information Technology Systems – Information technology systems, including the relationship between software and hardware, and the issues related to IT systems (EXAM)
- Cyber Security and Incident Management – Types of cyber security attacks, the vulnerabilities in networked systems and how to plan and respond to attacks (EXAM)
- Website Development – The development tools, techniques and processes used in website development and how to test usability, functionality and fitness for purpose (COURSEWORK)
- Relational Database Development – Structure of data, data design and database management systems (DBMS). (COURSEWORK)

Assessment

Internal Assessment takes the form of two coursework units. This constitutes 33% of the final grade. External Assessment consists of two exams and constitutes 66% of the final grade.

Further Progression

This course can lead to higher education on an HND or Degree in Computer Studies. Or alternatively employment in one of the following areas; Software Developer, Games Designer, Website Developer, Technician, Network Manager, Computer Systems Analyst, ICT help desk, PC Maintenance or Programmer.

Contact

Please contact Mr Dannell (sdannell@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk) or Mr Cameron (ncameron@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
Grade 4 GCSE ICT **or**
Computer Science
or equivalent of a Merit
in a BTEC ICT course



Medical Science

Pearson Level 3 AAQ

Course Outline

The qualification consists of four units across the two years, three of which are mandatory and are both internally assessed and externally verified and externally assessed. One topic is optional and this will be decided based upon need.

Year 1

- Principles of Human Physiology, Anatomy and Pathology (Externally assessed)
- Health Issues and Scientific Reporting (Externally assessed)

Year 2

- Practical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (Internally assessed and externally verified)

Optional components – 1 to be studied from:

- Diseases, Disorders, Treatments and Therapies (Internally assessed and externally verified)
- Biomedical Science (Internally assessed and externally verified)
- Human Reproduction and Fertility (Internally assessed and externally verified)

Assessment

The course features a range of practical activities which are undertaken during topic teaching and form part of the external assessment and internal assessments. The Year 1 topics are both externally assessed with assessment points in January and May/June exam series, with first assessment in May/June 2026.

Further Progression

This qualification will provide learners with a broad understanding of Medical Science to support progress to higher education and into various occupations in the health sector, either directly after achieving the qualification or via higher education. Studying this qualification will enable learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of Science principles in a medical setting, as well as those scientific practical skills recognised by higher education institutions and employers to be most important. The qualification also offers learners an opportunity to develop transferable skills such as problem-solving, research and communication as part of their learning.

Contact

Please contact Mr S Brock (sbrock@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
Grade 4 in GCSE English
Grade 4 in GCSE Mathematics
Grade 5-5 in GCSE Combined Science **or**
Grade 5, 5, 4 in Triple Sciences



Mathematics

A-Level

Course Outline

A-Level Maths will extend your knowledge of algebra and geometry from GCSE and explore the ways in which mathematics can be applied in the real world. Areas which you will cover include:

- New topics such as coordinate geometry, series, differentiation and integration, all of which are highly algebraic and are an excellent introduction to maths at a higher level.
- Branching further into core maths with topics such as logarithms and exponentials, radian measures and higher level trigonometry.
- Further and more complex work on coordinate geometry as well as vectors in 3D. Lots of the maths studied in earlier core modules is linked together here.
- Mechanics and Statistics: this applied paper introduces students to mathematical modelling of everyday experiences. You will have a better understanding of how the physical world operates and how to use maths to predict what will happen and use statistics to critically analyse and model.

Assessment

The Level 3 Advanced GCE in Mathematics consists of three externally examined papers. Students must complete all assessment in May/June in any single year.

Further Progression

Maths is essential for studying Maths, Physics or Engineering at University. Other courses which benefit from Maths A-Level are medicine, economics, accounting and other sciences such as sports science. It is a highly academic qualification, so can help to provide students with the tools required within a vast range of employment opportunities.

Contact

Please contact Mrs K Ellender (kellender@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk) or Mr McCormack (cmccormack@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
Grade 7 minimum in
GCSE Mathematics



Philosophy and Ethics

A-Level

Course Outline

Philosophy is the study of ultimate questions, such as: What is our purpose of life? Is there life after death? It gives you the opportunity to explore these questions, and to consider a range of responses. Ethics is becoming more important in our technological society, where AI is becoming increasingly prominent. You will study and apply ethical theories to topics such as abortion, to euthanasia, to animal rights. We also examine modern issues surrounding religion, such as feminism, and religion and science. You will be able to critically question and learn the skills to develop academic arguments and to challenge other people's viewpoints. This is an active, debating subject whereby your criticality, values, and beliefs matter.

Component 1: Philosophy of Religion and Ethics: Arguments for the existence of God, evil and suffering, Religious experience, Religious language, Miracles, Self and life after death, Ethical theories, Issues of human life and death, Issues of animal life and death, Introduction to meta ethics, Free will and moral responsibility, Conscience, Bentham and Kant.

Component 2: Study of Religion and Dialogues: Christianity: Sources of wisdom and authority, God/gods/ultimate reality, Self death and the afterlife, Good conduct and key moral principles, Expression of religious identity, Religion, gender and sexuality, Religion and science, Religion and secularisation, Religion and religious pluralism.

Assessment

Component 1: Written exam lasting 3 hours (100 marks)

Section A: Philosophy of religion – 2x compulsory two-part questions (each out of 15 marks)

Section B: Ethics and religion – 2x compulsory two-part questions (each out of 15 marks)

Component 2: Written exam lasting 3 hours (100 marks)

Section A: Study of religion – 2x compulsory two-part questions (each out of 15 marks)

Section B: The dialogue between philosophy and religion, one question from two (25 marks)

Section C: The dialogue between ethical studies and religion, one question from two (25 marks)

Further Progression

You would be able to further your study by completing a degree in Philosophy, Ethics, or Religion. Alternatively, courses within the Humanities field could also be a good destination: Law, Criminology, History, Government and Politics and English.

Contact

Please contact Dr A Moseley (amoseley@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
Grade 5 in GCSE
English Language and Literature



Physics

A-Level

Course Outline

The qualification consists of nine units across the two years, all of which are mandatory and externally assessed. There is one option topic in Year 2.

Year 1	Year 2
- Measurements and their errors - Particles and radiation - Waves - Mechanics and energy - Electricity	- Further mechanics and thermal physics - Fields - Nuclear physics - Option Topic: Astrophysics (If demand is strong enough, the optional topic may change to one from: Medical Physics, Engineering Physics, Turning points in Physics or Electronics)

Assessment

The course features a range of practical activities which are undertaken during topic teaching and are examined in the final year exams. There are three exams at the end of the two years for A-Level, all of which are two hours long. At least 15% of the marks for A-Level Physics are based on what you learned in your practical activities.

Further Progression

This qualification will provide learners with a broad understanding of Physics to support progress to higher education. This qualification can also prepare learners to take up employment in the applied science sector, either directly after achieving the qualification or via higher education.

Studying this qualification will enable learners to develop their knowledge and understanding of Physics principles, as well as those scientific practical skills recognised by higher education institutions and employers to be most important. The qualification also offers learners an opportunity to develop transferable skills such as problem-solving, research and communication as part of their learning.

Contact

Please contact Mr S Brock (sbrock@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
Grade 5 minimum in
English Language and Mathematics
and Grade 6-6 in Combined Science
or Grade 6 in GCSE Physics



Politics

A-Level

Course Outline

Component 1: UK Politics and Core Political Ideas

Political Participation, students will study: Democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media. **Core Political Ideas**, students will study: Conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

Component 2: UK Government and Non-core Political Ideas

UK Government, students will study: The constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches of power. **Non-core political ideas**, students will study: One idea from the following: anarchism, ecology, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism

Component 3: Comparative Politics

Global Comparative Politics: Sovereignty and globalisation, global governance: political and economic, global governance: human rights and environmental, power and developments, regionalism and the European Union, comparative theories

Assessment

Exam Board – Edexcel. All assessment is a written examination lasting 2 hours (equal weighting)

Component 1	Component 2	Component 3
Section A: Political Participation One 30-mark question from a choice of two (each question uses a source) One 30-mark question from a choice of two Section B: Core political ideas One 24-mark question from a choice of two	Section A: UK Government One 30-mark question from a choice of two (each question uses a source) One 30-mark question from a choice of two Section B: Non-core Political Ideas One 24-mark question from a choice of two	Section A: One 12-mark question from a choice of two Section B: One compulsory 12-mark question focused on comparative theories Section C: Two 30-mark questions from a choice of three

Further Progression

Politics A-Level is an exciting subject that investigates a range of contemporary and classical political issues and delves into a variety of theoretical and practical topics. The knowledge gained through the course would greatly complement other humanities subjects such as History, and aspects of Geography. Studying Politics A-Level could also support a path into higher education in subjects such as Politics, International Relations, Philosophy Politics and Economics, and History. The analytical skills that are developed would support pursuit of employment in sectors such as management, finance, government, and industry and business environments.

Contact

Please contact Mr Jarman-Howe (ajarman-howe@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
Grade 5 in GCSE History
or GCSE Geography or Grade 5 minimum in
English Language and Literature
(applicable if neither History nor Geography has
been studied)



Psychology

A-Level

Course Outline

Psychology is the study of human behaviour. It aims to understand how our minds process information such as memories and moods. Psychology uses principles from many other disciplines such as Sociology, Biology, Maths and Philosophy to determine what causes an individual or society to act in a certain way.

Studying Psychology can provide you with a scientific toolkit to collect and analyse evidence about questions about Memory, Attachment, Clinical Psychology and Mental Health and Social Influence. Students will then have the opportunity to consider the options of looking at Relationships, Stress and Aggression and how it links to our brains.

Assessment

Students follow the AQA syllabus. Students complete 3 papers in total, Paper 1 is an Introductory Topic in Psychology. Paper 2 looks at Psychology in context, looking at different approaches to Psychology, for example; Cognitive, Biological and Psychodynamic. Paper 3 is about Issues and Options in Psychology as well as building on existing knowledge. Each exam is 2 hours long and each paper contributes a third towards the final overall grade.

Further Progression

Many with a Psychology qualification have careers in: Art, Drama, or Music Therapy, Counselling, Mental Health Nurse, Physiotherapy, Social Work, Retail, Education, Marketing, Medicine, Politics, and the Public Services.

Contact

Please contact Mr T Purnell (tpurnell@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
Grade 5 GCSE in English Language
Grade 5 in Combined Science
and GCSE Mathematics



Sport

BTEC National Extended Certificate (Single Award)

Course Outline

This is a theoretical and practical course for students who are able to demonstrate a high level of knowledge and understanding of the different areas of sport science such as anatomy and physiology, fitness testing, sports leadership, training programmes and career development.

You will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques and personal skills and attitudes essential for successful performance in working life and at university.

You will need to study the following mandatory units across the two years:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Application of Fitness Testing

Chosen alongside 2 further A-Levels

Assessment

You will be assessed through an external examination in Unit 1 (Anatomy and Physiology), a controlled assessment task in Unit 2 (Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being) and through a series of internally assessed coursework assignments.

Further Progression

BTEC Sport gives you the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification to enter employment in the sports sector or to progress into higher education.

Contact

Please contact Mr J Nuttall (jnuttall@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements
Grade 4 in English Language **and** Mathematics
Grade 5 in GCSE Physical Education
or Merit in Cambridge National in Sport
Science (*or equivalent*)



Sport

BTEC National Diploma (Double Award)

Course Outline

This is a theoretical and practical course for students who are able to demonstrate a high level of knowledge and understanding of the different areas of sport science such as anatomy and physiology, fitness testing, sports leadership, training programmes and career development. You will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills and techniques, personal skills and attitudes essential for successful performance in working life and at university.

You will need to study the following mandatory units across the two years:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being
- Professional Development in the Sports Industry
- Sports Leadership
- Application of Fitness Testing
- Sports Injury Management
- Investigating Business in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry
- Skill Acquisition in Sport
- Rules, Regulations and Officiating in Sport.

Chosen alongside 1 further A-Level

Assessment

You will be assessed through an external examination in Unit 1 (Anatomy and Physiology), a controlled assessment task in Unit 2 (Fitness Training and Programming for Health, Sport and Well-being) and through a series of internally assessed coursework assignments.

In the Diploma course, you will have three further internally assessed units and one externally assessed unit - Unit 22 (Investigating Business in Sport and the Active Leisure Industry).

Further Progression

BTEC Sport gives you the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised qualification to enter employment in the sports sector or to progress into higher education.

Contact

Please contact Mr J Nuttall (jnuttall@abbeyschoolfaversham.co.uk)

Entry Requirements

Grade 4 in English Language **and** Mathematics
Grade 5 in GCSE Physical Education
or Merit in Cambridge National in Sport
Science (*or equivalent*)



Apply To Our Sixth Form

The Abbey School aims to ensure equality of opportunity by providing a wide range of programmes that facilitate access and progression. It is our policy to operate an admissions system which guides students onto appropriate programmes of study from which they are likely to benefit and which will enable them to fulfil their potential.

Abbey School Students

will receive an email with log in details to the Applicaa Admissions Plus system and should apply in Applicaa using a digital form.

External Students

should apply via Kent County Council's website: www.kentchoices.com. Once an application has been accepted, you will receive an email with log in details for the Applicaa Admissions Plus System to complete a digital form.

Non-Kent Based Students

will need to set up an account on, and apply via: www.kentchoices.com. Once an application has been accepted, you will receive log in details for the Applicaa Admissions Plus System to complete your application.

How do I apply?

- 1. Identify the subjects you are interested in** - Use this prospectus to find out about the subjects we offer that interest you. If you would like further information about a subject, please do not hesitate to get in contact with the school by emailing the specific teacher (contact details are on each subject page in this prospectus).
- 2. How many subjects do I select?** You will select 3 subjects. Depending on the pathway that you take, this may be 3 applied general (vocational) subjects, 3 academic subjects or a mixture of both. As A-Levels are now linear, examinations occur at the end of Year 13. At The Abbey School, departments internally assess students' progress at the end of Year 12. If you are applying for the Football or Golf Academy, you must select 3 subjects in addition to this.
- 3. When is the application deadline?** Due to our academies, we do not have a formal deadline. However, in order to receive as much support and guidance as possible, applications by February half-term are advised.
- 4. Attend an interview** - Interviews will be held during Terms 3-5. We will contact you to arrange a date and time. Parents are welcome to attend, but it is not compulsory.
- 5. Football Academy** - Interviews for Football Academy students will be held soon after the second Football Trial (which is in the Easter holidays).
- 6. Receive Your Offer** - We will let you know if you have been successful and offer you a conditional place at The Abbey School Sixth Form within a few weeks following your interview (subject to achieving the relevant entry requirements).
- 7. Collect Your Results** - You will be asked to attend on results day to an enrolment meeting to secure your place in the 6th Form. Post-GCSE results advice is available on results morning and Mrs Crouch (Director of Sixth Form) will be available via email.
- 8. Enrolment and Start of Term** - Following enrolment, you will be sent a start pack which will outline all of the start of term arrangements.

Notes

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We Hope To Welcome You Soon

Thank you for taking the time to read through our Sixth Form Prospectus. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We hope to welcome you to The Abbey School in September.



Scan to submit your application!

Or visit: bit.ly/theabbeysixthform25

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