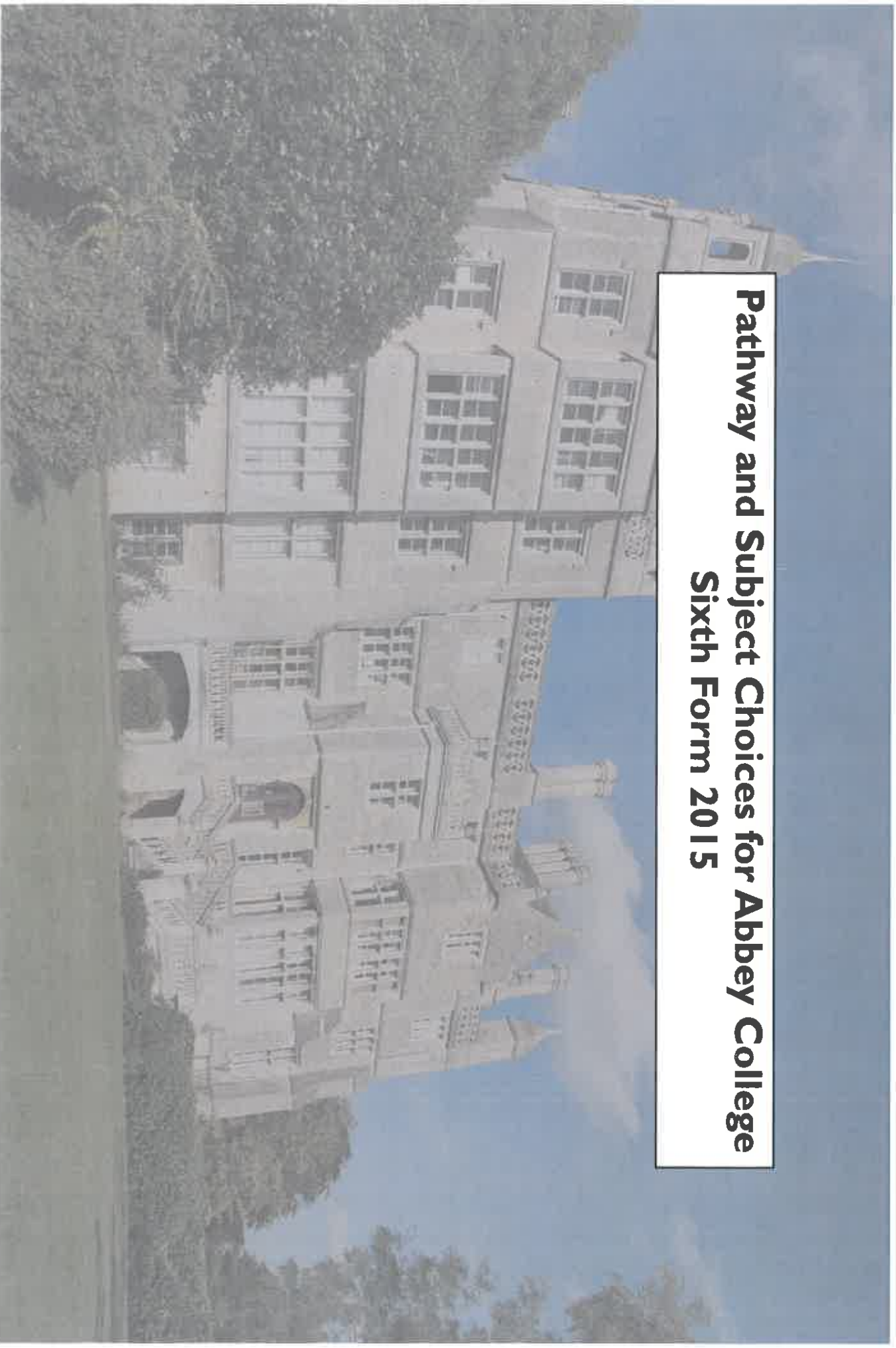


**Pathway and Subject Choices for Abbey College  
Sixth Form 2015**



Dear Student

A warm welcome to Abbey College Sixth Form, where we pride ourselves on an individualised and personal approach to learning. Abbey College is an exciting and vibrant place to study and we want to provide you with all of the opportunities to grow as a person and succeed academically.

Abbey College has changed the approach to entry onto courses in Sixth Form and for the first time have three different routes; green, blue and purple. This will allow us to consider your performance at GCSE as a whole and guide you along the most appropriate route.

Each GCSE grade is given a score, the best 8 subjects including English and Maths are averaged to give one final score.

Average Point Score per GCSE

A\* = 58

A = 52

B = 46

C = 40

D = 34

E = 28

F = 22

G = 16

Therefore, GCSE results of 2 C grades, 4 B grades and 2 A grades would have an APS of 46 and allow you to follow the

options on the purple route (see overleaf for all the possible routes).

If you achieve a higher APS score after the actual GCSE results next summer than your current predicted grades, then we will of course offer you the opportunity to change your route.

You are the most important person in the process and we aim to give you an individualised experience, to make the right choices and to be as happy and successful as possible.

Overleaf you will be able to see the pathway and the subject choices which are open to you at Abbey College, according to your APS score. I wish you every success in the coming year and look forward to you being part of our bright future.



Mrs Heather Paul  
Head of Sixth Form

# Enrichment Opportunities



## A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL

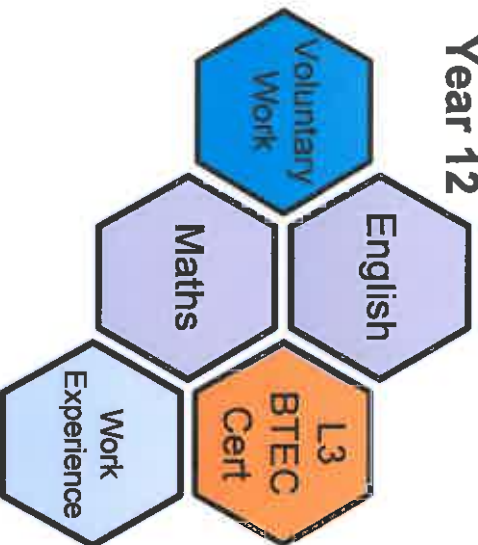
Having a good education is vital for future success. This, coupled with the opportunities available to indulge in at Abbey College, is what makes our sixth form stand out as a place we are proud to attend, as well as lead. We hope that you are given all the information you require when it comes to deciding your Sixth Form as it is an incredibly significant process to not only yourselves but your parents and carers also. In light of this, we are available to contact for further enquires if you wish to discuss anything from a student's perspective.

Thank you

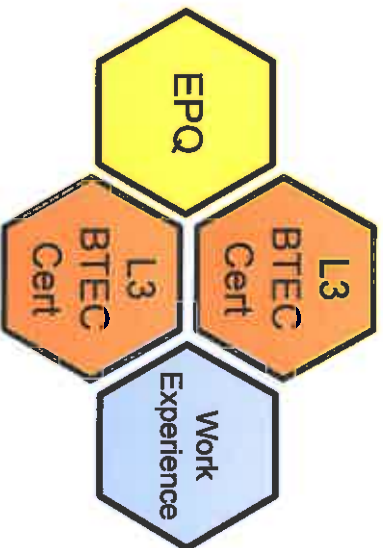
Thomas Cuthbert and Ella Garrett.

# Green Route

Year 12



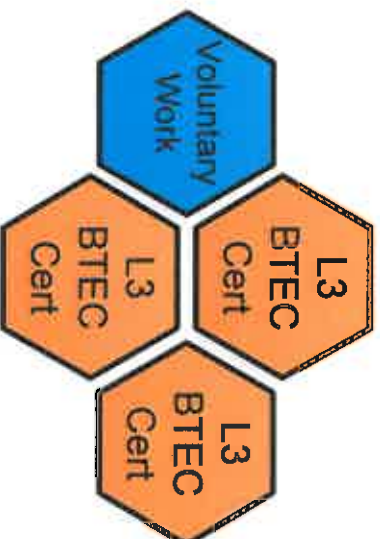
Year 13



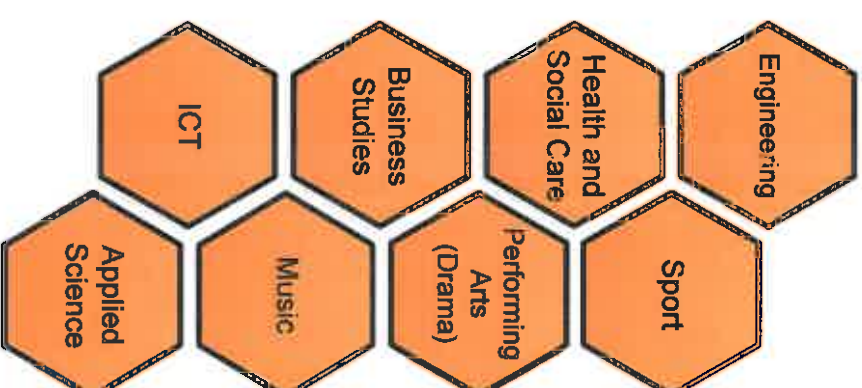
Year 12



Year 13



Available Courses



## Option 1

Complete E/ M GCSE, 2 L3

BTEC Cert and EPQ

## Option 2

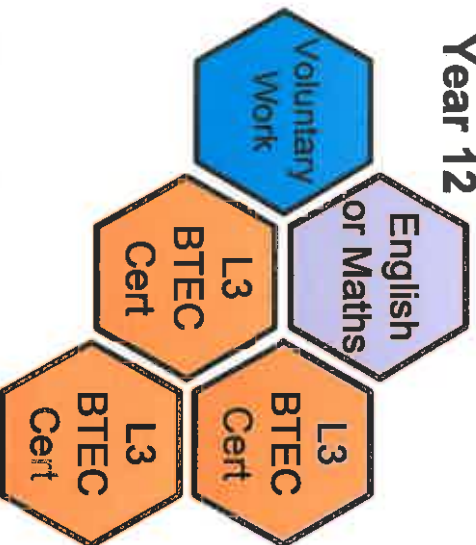
Complete E/M GCSE

and 3 L3 BTEC Cert

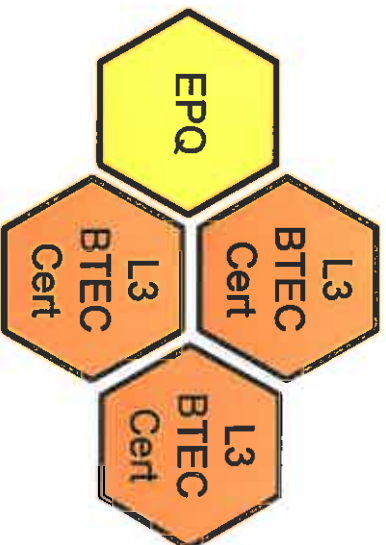
Average Point Score 34-39 without English and/or Maths GCSE

# Blue Route

Year 12



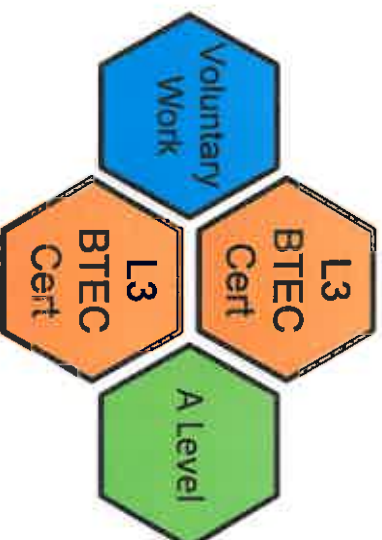
Year 13



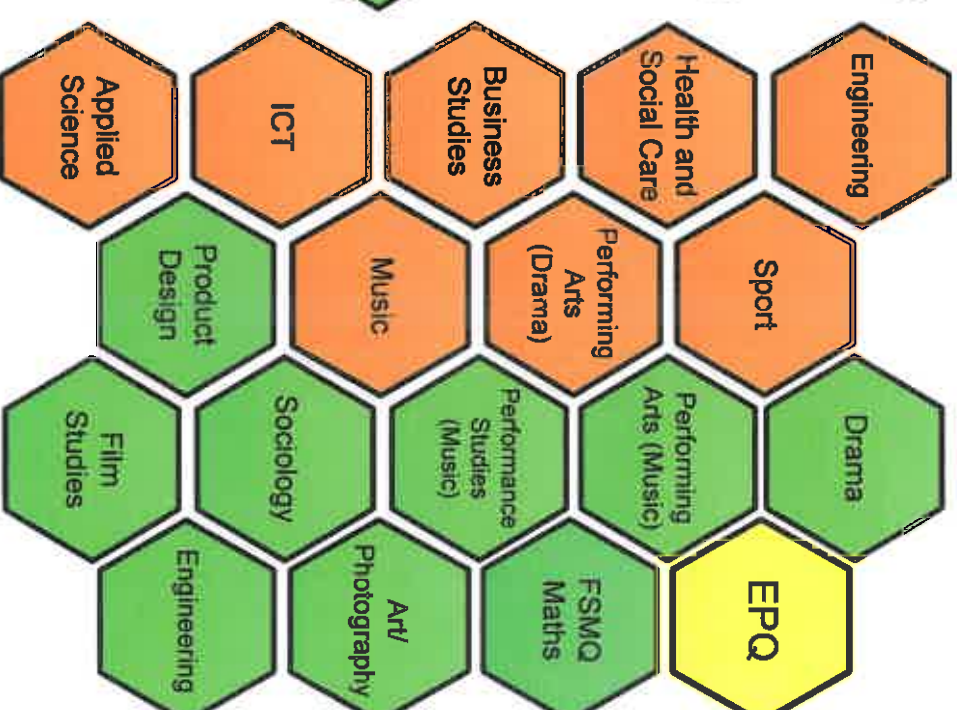
Year 12



Year 13



## Available Courses



## Option 1

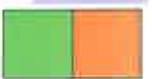
Complete E or M GCSE  
and 3 L3 BTEC Cert

## Option 2

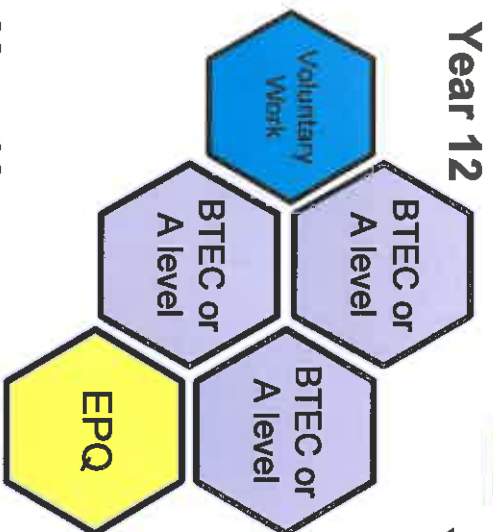
2 L3 BTEC Cert  
and 1 A level

Average Point Score 40-45

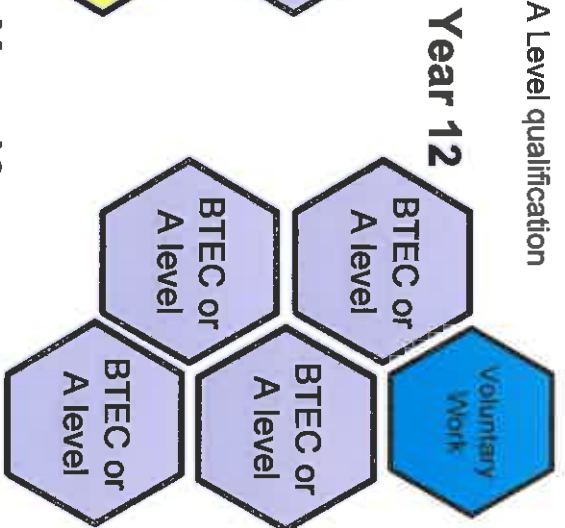
# Purple Route



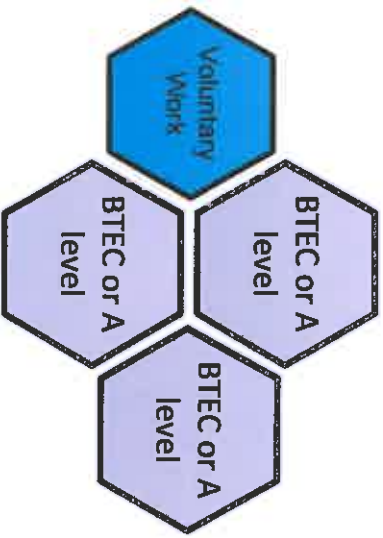
BTEC qualification  
A Level qualification



**Year 13**

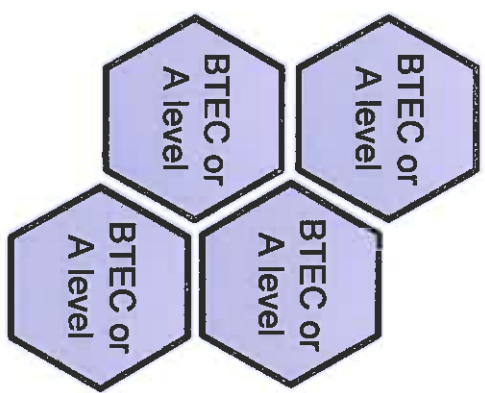


**Year 13**



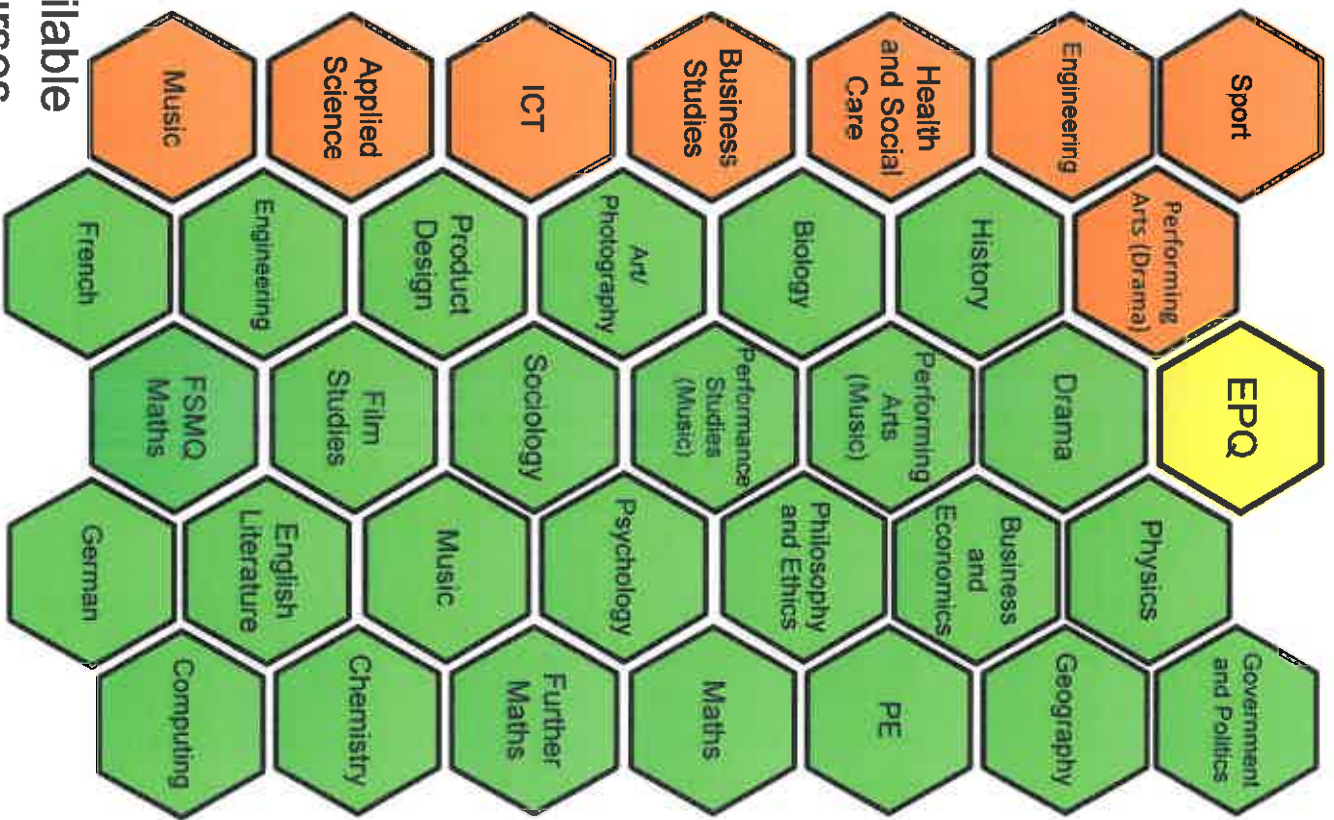
**Option 1**  
3 A levels or equivalent  
and EPQ

Average Point Score 46+



**Option 2**  
4 A Levels or  
equivalent

Available  
Courses



## SIXTH FORM FAQ

### **How big is the Sixth Form?**

There are roughly 150 students in the Sixth Form, meaning that classes are smaller than GCSE and as a consequence more academic support and individualised feedback is available.

### **How many courses are available?**

At Abbey College, there are 30 courses available to students including traditional AS and A-Levels as well as a selection of Level 3 BTECs. Students can choose to take either solely BTECs or A-Levels or a combination of the two.

### **Do you have to take certain A-Levels/BTECs for university courses?**

This can differ with each university and therefore it is best to check, however some may ask for a qualification in the course. For example, you may need Mathematics at A-Level to study Computing at degree level.

### **What if my son/daughter isn't intending to go to university?**

It is often presumed that the next stage from Sixth Form is university, however this isn't the route for everyone and therefore career support and advice with writing CVs are offered. As well as this, information about apprenticeships are readily available, with public speakers visiting the Sixth Form to discuss other options (also including gap years).

### **What guidance is available?**

All students are part of a Sixth Form tutor group and these are led by tutors who personally monitor progress, work alongside students when completing their personal statements/CVs and ensure they are organised and on top of their work. These groups meet twice a week and generally comprise of roughly 10 students.

### **What facilities are available just for Sixth Form?**

Students have exclusive use of the library on the ground floor of the Abbey (where there are computers). In addition they have Cafe 6 - a Sixth Form only cafe serving food and drink from 8:30 – 3:10 daily.

### **Is there any financial support available?**

Bursaries are available to students with lower household incomes. If you wish to inquire about eligibility criteria, please contact Mrs Young (her email is on the reverse side).

### **How are A-Levels assessed?**

Some A-Levels have an exam and coursework split, but generally you are assessed through exams at the end of year 12 and then at the end of year 13. For both A-Levels and BTECs, each year is worth 50% of your overall grade.

### **How are BTECs assessed?**

BTECs are currently assessed through assignments which are incorporated into the learning as well as a small examination element.

### **How much studying should my son/daughter be completing on a weekly basis?**

It's recommended that students spend a minimum of 4 hours, per subject, studying outside of lessons.

### **What's the difference between Sixth Form and a further education college?**

A further education college will offer you a different learning environment to that experienced at a school's sixth form. The types of courses available are different (there are a higher proportion of vocational courses offered at a further education college) and the timetable can vary (e.g. if you have three lessons at Sixth Form, you are still expected to come in).

**What is UCAS?**

UCAS is the system that students use in year 11 and year 13 to apply for Sixth Form and eventually university.

**When do you start personal statements?**

Personal statements are written over the summer in year 12, with the application process ending January 15<sup>th</sup>, although there is an internal deadline of December. (Unless you apply to Cambridge, Oxford or courses in medicine, dentistry and veterinary medicine/science, these must be completed by October 15<sup>th</sup>.)

**Who is available to contact to further discuss Sixth Form?**

Our Head of Sixth Form, Mrs Paul, is available through email at:

**heather.paul@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk**

Our Sixth Form Pastoral Assistant, Mrs Young, is available through email at:

**ann.young@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk or 01487 811783**

If students would like to contact representatives of the Sixth Form, the Head Boy (Tom Cuthbert) and Head Girl (Ella Garrett) are available through email at:

**08mtcuthbert@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk**

**08fegarrett@abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk**