



# Prospectus 2025/26



# Contents



# A welcome message from **Andy Christoforou**, Headteacher at Abbey College

It is both a privilege and a pleasure to welcome you to our vibrant and ambitious school community. Here, we are committed to cultivating an atmosphere where every learner is inspired to thrive, and where our ethos shapes the character and aspirations of each individual.

As Headteacher, I am proud to lead a school where learning is purposeful, relationships are respectful, and every individual is encouraged to grow. Our ethos shapes everything we do – from the way we teach and learn, to the way we support and celebrate one another.

*“Pupils at Abbey College are happy, kind and friendly. Their interactions with adults and other pupils are very respectful. It is normal to open doors for others, or to listen carefully while pupils express their thoughts.” – Ofsted 2023*

## **Our Vision**

To make Abbey College a school that fosters engagement and pride in learning – where all young people have the opportunity to become a scholar and experience a life-changing curriculum that is aspirational, inclusive, challenging and rich in cultural capital.

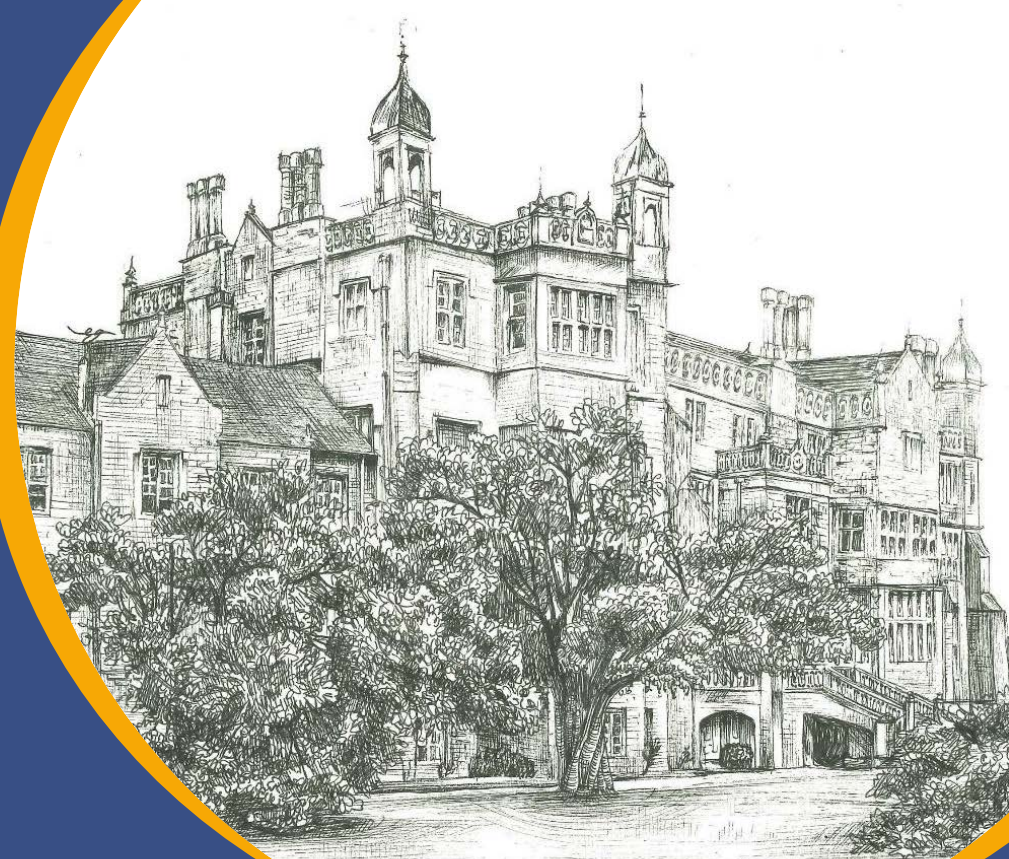
## **Our Purpose and Principles**

- ***Why do we exist?***  
To be a beacon of optimism and pride within our local community.
- ***How do we behave?***  
With Humility, Intuition, and Passion.
- ***What do we do?***  
We create a culture of learning where all students are inspired to achieve and grow through a transformative curriculum.
- ***How will we succeed?***  
By building a healthy, inclusive culture that promotes both character and academic excellence – underpinned by clear routines, smart systems, teamwork, and autonomy.

Our staff are dedicated professionals who serve with integrity, joy, and a deep sense of purpose. Their passion is contagious – inspiring students to face challenges with resilience, learn from setbacks, and grow into confident, capable individuals.

We welcome enquiries from prospective families and look forward to the possibility of you becoming a part of our community.

**Andy Christoforou**  
*Headteacher*



**“Teachers have high expectations of what pupils should achieve”**

Ofsted 2023

## GCSE results 2025

# 70%

achieved grade  
9-4 in both  
English and Maths

## A-Level results 2025

# 76%

of grades were  
A Level A\*-C or  
BTEC D\*-D

## Parent View

Year on year the  
school consistently  
receives good  
reviews



The Abbey College Spirit is the set of virtues that underpin our school community. The Spirit comprises of three key virtues: Humility, Intuition and Passion, which we expect all members of our school community to work towards. Excellence in these virtues will equip our students with the skills and characteristics that they need to thrive in all areas of life, including their relationships and future careers. Our form time programme gives students opportunities to reflect on their progress towards the virtues as well as building their sense of community and belonging in the school.

The school's reward system is based around these virtues; students are recognised with points when they demonstrate excellence in Spirit both in lesson time and across the school. Students work towards their bronze, silver and gold awards as the progress through KS3 and KS4 and their achievements are celebrated with rewards that have been chosen by our student voice groups.

|                  |  |  |   |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| <b>Monday</b>    | We accept praise, praise others and apologise immediately                | We consider the impact of our actions on those around us | We show focus and use positive language                 |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | We use good manners, appropriate humour and don't interrupt others       | We actively listen and remember the detail               | We volunteer to go above and beyond                     |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | We embrace working with a wide range of people and celebrate differences | We maintain good eye contact and pay attention           | We are proactive and work hard to overcome obstacles    |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | We take responsibility for our actions and our environment               | We give constructive feedback                            | We use reasoning and organisation to solve problems     |
| <b>Friday</b>    | We support each other in our learning and well-being                     | We seek, reflect and act on feedback                     | We show pride in our work, our school and our community |

# Innovative and challenging learning

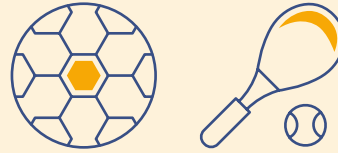
Teaching and learning is at the core of everything we do here at Abbey College. It ensures the development and learning of all students and secures their future pathway and life opportunities.

We believe that a challenging and supportive learning environment is key to helping students achieve. Our students expect to be challenged and engaged each and every lesson. It is our commitment that we utilise a range of strategies to ensure students' progress every lesson.

We believe this is done through ensuring our teachers are self-improving, passionate and know and challenge every child to succeed. We empower teachers to be an expert in their subject knowledge and we trust our staff to apply methods based on their knowledge and understanding of each individual student.



# A site with spectacular facilities



## PE facilities

Tennis courts, AstroTurf multi-sports pitch, MUGA (Multi Use Games Area and vast playing fields)



**Dedicated ICT and media suites**



**Outdoor seating for lunch**



**Sixth form learning hub including independent learning zones**



**Extensive music and recording facilities**



**A fully resourced gymnasium**



**Café 6**  
Sixth Form café

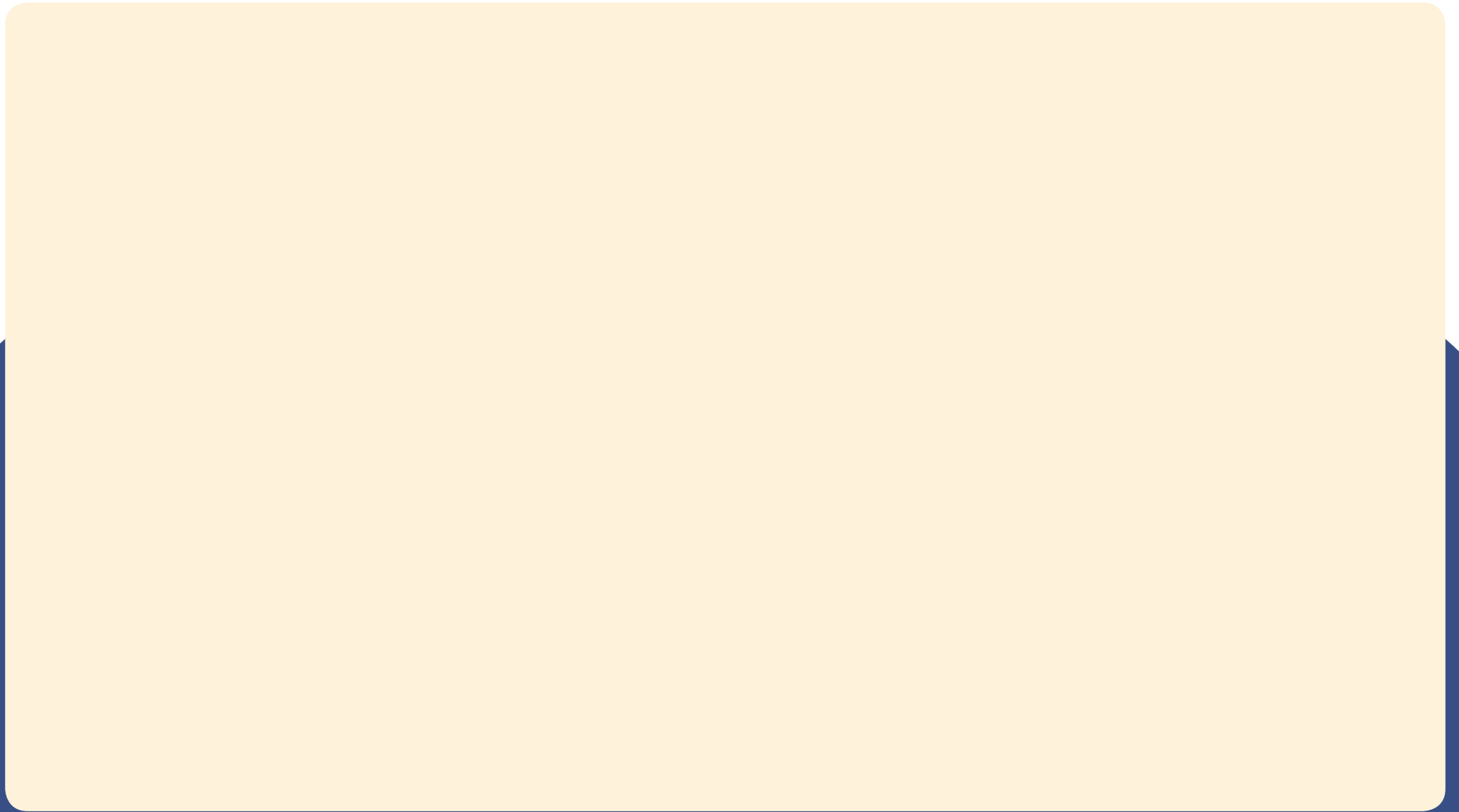


**One sports leisure centre on site**



**Two presentation halls for staged productions**

Abbey College in motion





# Beyond The Classroom

## The Offer and Opportunity Programme [OOP]

The Abbey College Offer & Opportunity Programme is being launched again for 2025-2026. We had a fantastic previous year with over 100 offers running throughout the year across academic support and revision sessions, to creative outlets and variety of sports. This year we are seeing a new connection with Ramsey Walled Garden, new sports and more creative opportunities.

Below is an example of some of what we have to offer for this academic year to our students.

- |                        |                |                     |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| • Philosophy           | • Band         | • Creative Writing  |
| • Volunteering         | • Dance        | • Netball           |
| • Ramsey Walled Garden | • Drama        | • Rugby             |
| • Musical Theatre      | • Science Club | • Homework Catch Up |

We also offer:

- Arts Award
- Leadership Academy – *see below for more info*
- Combined Cadet Force (CCF)
- Private music tuition – *see below for more info*
- The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme
- Trips to theatres, museums and universities
- International trips each year
- Interact – a programme of enrichment activities for all of our students
- Author/artists visits and workshops
- STEM focus days
- Paid external clubs for Arts and Tech
- Enterprise and innovation days contributing to our chosen charity
- Weekly and holiday additional learning sessions

*The Leadership Academy is a selected group of students who have an extra PE lesson on their timetable during which they will learn the required skills to be a Sports Leader. This will involve them learning how to plan, teach and officiate a range of different sporting activities and give them experience of leading these activities with their peers and other local primary school students. Our Leadership Academy students will gain a Sports Leaders Level 1 Award which will look fantastic on their CV and prepare them for GCSEs.*

*Abbey College is lucky to have its own music provision which offers private music tuition to any student within the college. Tuition is available from experienced music teachers, on a variety of instruments.*



**Here at Abbey College we aim to ensure that inclusivity is at the heart of our enrichment offer, supporting every student to have access to a wide range of opportunities across each day.**

# Moving beyond expectations

An essential part of our students' learning experience is the extracurricular activities (INTERACT) on offer, a few of these are:



**Fitness training**



**Basketball, rugby and netball clubs**



**Drama master class**



**Business, IT and 'cutting edge' computing**



**Art club**



**Musical/choir performance**



**STEM Crest award**



**Cook with me**



**Homework support**



**Design and Technology projects**



**Theatre studies**



**Book club**



**Junior Leadership Team (JLT)**

# One to one support for every student

At Abbey College, we offer our students an innovative and bespoke curriculum for each year group and provide them with stimulating teaching and learning experiences. Together, we have a strong commitment to a high standard of conduct that ensures the classroom focus remains on high-quality teaching and learning.

Our specialist teams of year group tutors led by their Raising Standards Lead will guide and support your child throughout their time at Abbey College. Through regular monitoring and tracking programmes, we ensure every student's progress is closely observed and shared with parents.

This is balanced with extensive and wide ranging extra-curricular and enrichment activities that encourage students to discover and develop their personal talents and a Sixth Form which offers both academic and vocational courses. Our Social Studies lessons, delivered by a team of specialist teachers, cover a wide range of Personal, Social and Health topics including unconscious racial bias, relationships and sex education and mental health issues.

## Pastoral care

At Abbey College 'Every Child Matters', and we pride ourselves on our high standards of pastoral care. Each student is treated as an individual and supported to achieve the highest standards they are capable of.

Form tutors are the first port of call for any concerns a student has. Our Welfare Team are available to provide support during lunch and break time for identified students to manage their emotions, resolve conflicts effectively or simply to provide an opportunity for a quiet chat. There is also a reporting system on the school website.

We have also trained a small group of our students to act as peer mediators whose job it is to support students in overcoming conflict and friendship issues. The aim of this is to model positive problem solving skills, as well as preventing friendship problems from escalating into bullying.



## Attendance

Our students' attendance is outstanding. We aim for 100% attendance for all students, placing the highest priority on excellent attendance and punctuality. These are essential factors that contribute to progress and achievement of high standards.

We have a strong attendance policy that clearly outlines our expectations in relation to achieving and rewarding the highest standards of attainment.

# Leadership Option Blocks

**At Abbey College, our Leadership block is designed to inspire and empower pupils to become confident, responsible, and visionary leaders.**

This dynamic curriculum offers a unique blend of practical and academic opportunities including Combined Cadet Force, Sports Leaders, Dance Leaders, GCSE Statistics, and the Level 2 Extended Project. Pupils develop essential skills such as teamwork, communication, critical thinking, and project management, preparing them for success both within school and beyond. Whether leading teams, analysing data, or managing extended projects, our Leadership block nurtures passion, resilience, and ambition in every pupil.

## **Combined Cadet Force (CCF)**

Abbey College proudly offers a unique Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Army section, one of only 500 units in UK state schools since 2019. This government-backed programme, run in partnership with the Ministry of Defence, provides pupils with valuable skills, exciting challenges, and fun experiences within a military ethos. The programme develops teamwork, respect, and increasingly advanced skills.

Cadets follow a structured training programme and can earn nationally recognised qualifications, including BTEC Teamwork and Personal Skills, the Institute of Leadership and Management's Award in Leadership, and St John's Ambulance First Aid.

Cadets participate in weekend exercises to practise field craft and navigation, and have the opportunity to attend an Annual Camp each summer term. Camps include military skills and outdoor activities like climbing, kayaking, and mountain biking, held at various UK and international locations, fostering camaraderie with cadets from across the country.



# Leadership Option Blocks *(continued)*

## **Sport Leadership Courses – Levels 1, 2 & 3**

Students develop essential leadership skills – communication, organisation, teamwork, confidence, responsibility, and reflective thinking – that support personal growth and future goals.

### **Level 1 – Introduction to Leadership in Sport**

For beginners, focusing on basic communication, teamwork, and supporting sports activities.

### **Level 2 – Developing Leadership Skills**

Students plan and lead small group activities, enhancing communication, organisation, and decision-making.

### **Level 3 – Advanced Sports Leadership**

Prepares students to independently manage sporting events, demonstrating leadership, problem-solving, and mentorship – ideal for further education, coaching, or community volunteering.

## **Dance Leaders**

Our Dance Leaders programme develops confident, creative, and responsible young people by giving them opportunities to lead, choreograph, and inspire others through dance. Students learn how to plan and deliver engaging warm-ups, sequences, and full routines while promoting teamwork, discipline, and self-expression. The course encourages leadership, communication, and organisational skills that extend beyond the studio, preparing students to support performances, lead workshops, and act as role models within the school and wider community.

## **GCSE Statistics**

GCSE Statistics allows students to develop a range of practical, transferable skills for their future education/careers. In our data-driven world, statistical competency allows students to critically evaluate information that they hear and read, spot misleading statistics and make better informed decisions. Students will study the course over 2 years and sit the exam at the end of year 10, giving them an additional GCSE qualification by the time they enter year 11. Along the way, they will explore methods of data presentation and analysis, learn how to produce a variety of summary statistics that tell the story behind a dataset and explore some higher level topics from the A Level course of study. All of the theoretical content will be framed within the statistical enquiry cycle, allowing students to see how the techniques they are learning can be applied to real world scenarios.

## **Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)**

The EPQ offers pupils the opportunity to undertake an independent research project on a topic of their choice, developing skills in research, critical thinking, and project management. This qualification encourages pupils to explore their interests in depth, enhancing their academic confidence and preparing them for higher education or future careers.

Through the EPQ, pupils learn to plan, research, and present their findings effectively, gaining valuable skills such as time management, problem-solving, and academic writing. The EPQ is highly regarded by universities and employers as evidence of a pupil's ability to work independently and think critically.



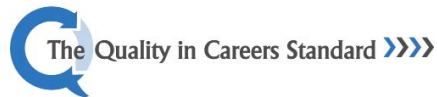
# Partnerships for learning

## Primary school partnership

There is a strong bond between all of our primary schools and Abbey College, and it is something we take great pride in. We have a transition programme in place that allows students to spend a period of time within the Abbey, developing their personal skills, knowledge and experiences whilst also getting a real taste for the outstanding teaching and learning that takes place. Our staff regularly visit our primary schools to build on their own experiences so that they are better equipped when the new intake of students arrives. We take great pride in having primary schools visit us during the academic year for a series of whole school events, from our annual Remembrance Service and Sports Day. All learners have a dedicated team around them, which includes a Raising Standards Lead, Form Tutor and Student Support Officers, who are there to support each and every child on a daily basis.

## Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

We support our students in making well-informed decisions through our comprehensive and high quality careers programme, and access to independent information and guidance about the range of options open to them. Being an integral part of students education across all years, our programme aims to raise aspirations, irrespective of age, background, ability or SEND, preparing them for their time at Abbey College and in the future.



## Parent participation

We want our parents to be active participants in the life of the College. In addition to regular information and opportunities to receive progress updates, we actively encourage parents to become involved in events at the College.

**“Pupils benefit from a rich and diverse personal development curriculum”**

Ofsted 2023



# Leadership by example

## Senior Leadership Team (SLT)

**Mr Christoforou**

Headteacher

**Mrs Wibberley**

Deputy Headteacher

**Mr Craig**

Assistant Headteacher

**Miss Davey**

Assistant Headteacher & SENCO

**Miss Dowd**

Assistant Headteacher

**Mrs Moore**

Associate Assistant Headteacher  
and Head of Sixth Form

**Mrs Noble**

Assistant Headteacher

**Dr Pinnock**

Assistant Headteacher

## Governing Body

The Governing Body is made up of foundation, community, parent and staff governors plus the Headteacher.

## Governance

The Governing Body has the strategic responsibility for the effective management of the school, acting within the framework set by national legislation and with due consideration to the policies of Cambridgeshire County Council.

Our Governing Body supports the Headteacher in both the undertaking and monitoring of statutory duties and policies, but also actively helps to develop the College's direction on:

- Admissions
- Behaviour and discipline
- Building community cohesion
- Budget, staffing and buildings
- Teaching and learning and the delivery of the curriculum



# Academy uniform

- White shirt (long sleeve or short sleeve purchased from any supplier)
- Clip on tie, pin stripes represent year of entry (purchased from the school suppliers)
- Royal blue blazer with logo (purchased from the school suppliers)
- Black trousers (two styles for girls and boys to be purchased from any suppliers)
- Tartan skirt (from the school supplier) to be worn with black opaque tights
- Black smart leather shoes (no trainers, canvas or leisure shoes)
- Optional: Black jumper with royal blue trim to match the blazer (from the school suppliers)



## PE uniform

### Essential

- Abbey College polo shirt
- Abbey College navy fleece (printed initials optional)
- Abbey College rugby shirt
- Abbey College navy shorts
- White sport (not football) socks
- Abbey College football socks
- Trainers (not pumps or canvas shoes)

### Desirable

- Football boots
- Shin pads
- Gum shield

All available from the school supplier



Our Sixth Form provides the kind of experience that will allow all students to progress to either University, Apprenticeships or Employment. We offer a wide range of subjects and our teaching and learning is excellent. We are extremely proud of the support we provide for all students to achieve both their academic goals and ensure that they are happy. With a dedicated Sixth Form team, any worries or concerns will be addressed whether academic or pastoral.

Visit [www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/gatehouse](http://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk/gatehouse) for more information.

## Ramsey Gatehouse Sixth Form

Here are **5** amazing reasons that make our sixth form stand out:



**High quality teaching allows students to achieve their full potential**

If you want to achieve your full potential, our sixth form is the right place to be

**54% A\*-B grades**



**A wide range of subjects to suit your needs**

Go and check out our online prospectus if you don't believe us

**20 to choose from**



**Strong track record in supporting students to take their next steps**

We pride ourselves in providing you with the tools and guidance to access your future, be that a place at university, an apprenticeship or job

**32% go onto university including Russell Group universities**



**Your learning experience is tailored to YOU**

We offer a flexible approach to where you study, offering the opportunity to work in our newly refurbished Study 6, our Café 6 facility or at home.

**Personal development programme**



**Small class sizes with teachers who care**

We'll give you the independence you need to grow and achieve but provide personalised support along the way

**Average of less than 10 students**

# A day in the life of a student

"The school day starts with a short bus ride. We get to the bus turnaround just outside the College and lots of us walk through the school gates together being welcomed by the School Leaders who smile and say good morning - every day!

We line up for form time, where our form tutor helps us to settle into school and encourages us to make the most of every opportunity. We think about things like, the Abbey College Spirit, making friends and taking care of our well-being.

Next it is time for period 1, which is Maths on Mondays and then to period 2 which is PE. Then it's break time. I line up for the canteen to get a snack and then eat in on the field in the sunshine.

Period 3 is science and we performed a fireworks practical. It made so many colours - like magic! I now know what's inside them. Period 4 is drama and we are practicing for a school performance; Madam said we would be performing with the older students because we are all 'in it together'.

After that, it's lunch. I go to the canteen for the first sitting, and there is lots to choose from. Some of us eat together in the hall; it's like a big family dinner. After that we go back out onto the field to enjoy the rest of lunchtime.

Finally, it's off for the last lesson which is IT. We are learning about designing and making apps.

After school I'm in the netball club which finishes in time for us to change and get the later bus home.

It's a busy and fun day!

## Applying to Abbey College

Please call our attendance team on **01487 812352** for information on applying to Abbey College or visit our website for more details: [www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk)



# COMMUNICATION FLOWCHART

I have a **general enquiry**

I have a **specific enquiry**

I have a **concern**

PHASE ONE

If you have a question about your child's progress, their education, or a general question about the school:  
Please contact your child's Form Tutor or Subject Teacher.  
Your question will be answered as soon as possible.



Contact Us

For enquiries relating to pastoral, finance, attendance, welfare, SEND and IT please contact the teams directly

**STUDENT SUPPORT**  
[studentsupport@abbey.college](mailto:studentsupport@abbey.college)

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS**  
[welfare@abbey.college](mailto:welfare@abbey.college)

**ATTENDANCE & ABSENCES**  
Call 01487 812352 or email [attendance@abbey.college](mailto:attendance@abbey.college) via MCAS App (before 8.40am each day)

**WELFARE & WELLBEING**  
[welfare@abbey.college](mailto:welfare@abbey.college)

**SEND:**  
[SENCO:JDavey@abbey.college](mailto:SENCO:JDavey@abbey.college)

**IT**  
MCAS (My Child At School) App:  
[IT@meridiantrust.co.uk](mailto:IT@meridiantrust.co.uk)  
General: [IT@meridiantrust.co.uk](mailto:IT@meridiantrust.co.uk) or 0300 666 0300

## INFORMAL CONCERN

Let us know you have a concern or complaint:  
Email: [office@abbey.college](mailto:office@abbey.college) or phone: 01487 812352  
Letter: Katie Dodsley, Abbey College, Abbey Road, Ramsey PE26 1DG

We will respond 

We expect to resolve the matter with you within 3 school days after our initial response.

If you feel that the issue has not been resolved

## OFFICIAL COMPLAINT

If you feel the matter has not been resolved, you should make an official complaint in writing to the Complaints Co-ordinator:

Email: [office@abbey.college](mailto:office@abbey.college)  
Letter: Katie Dodsley, Abbey College, Abbey Road, Ramsey PE26 1DG

If you feel that the issue has not been resolved

## FORMAL COMPLAINT

If you still feel the issue has not been resolved, you should follow our Formal Complaints Procedure.

We will provide a copy of this and it can be found on our website:  
[www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk)  
(Statutory Information section)

If you feel your question has not been answered

Please contact your child's Raising Standards Leader

They aim to respond to you



Year 7: Fiona Lane  
Year 8: Karen Glen  
Year 9: Ian Matthews  
Year 10: Abi Witten  
Year 11: Alison Beel  
Head of Sixth Form: Samantha Moore

If you feel your question has not been answered

## PARENT'S FORUM GUARANTEE

After following these stages, if you feel your query has not been answered you should complete our Parent's Forum Guarantee.

This gives all parents the right to talk with our Headteacher and then a further meeting, if needed



Call 01487 812352 or email [office@abbey.college](mailto:office@abbey.college) stating 'Parent's Forum Guarantee'

If you feel your question has not been answered

PHASE TWO

PHASE THREE



Abbey College Main Office  
Abbey College, Abbey Road,  
Hollow Lane,  
Ramsey  
Cambridgeshire  
PE26 1DG

**Telephone:** 01487 812352

**Email:** [office@abbey.college](mailto:office@abbey.college)

[www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk)

