

SIXTH FORM **PROSPECTUS** 2025 ENTRY



WELCOME TO OUR SIXTH FORM

I am delighted to welcome you to our Sixth Form!

Our aim is simple: to be the best Sixth Form in England, and to ensure that you receive the very best support in order to fulfil your true potential. Our most recent Ofsted inspection in 2022 described us as a:

"remarkable place to learn... where students in the sixth form enjoy the challenge of their A Level learning...and where the quality of discussion and debate in sixth form lessons is exceptional"

It is important to us that you leave Fort Pitt Grammar School not only with the very best exam results, but also with the values, resilience and social skills you need to take your place in our ever-changing world.

Your choice of where to study for the next two years is probably the most important decision you will make in your life so far. Studying for your A-Levels will define your future; at Fort Pitt we are passionate about providing you with the best education possible, guiding you to becoming successful and independent learners.

We pride ourselves on our excellent results and the individualised approach we take to career guidance so that all students leave the school equipped with the academic and personal skills to thrive at university or in the workplace.

We recognise the importance of a well-balanced education and as such all students participate in a dedicated enrichment programme. We also offer students the opportunity to lead the community and ensure that students play a central role in the life of the whole school.

The website provides you with a taste of Sixth Form life at Fort Pitt, but the best way to fully appreciate all that we can offer is to come for a visit and see us in action.

I look forward to meeting you.

Sitino

Ms S Hirons Headteacher

SIXTH FORM LEADERS

Thank you for taking the time to consider the Sixth Form at Fort Pitt Grammar School for the next stage in your education journey. As an Outstanding school we pride ourselves on delivering the highest quality teaching and learning to ensure students are supported to achieve the very best outcomes.

We are an incredibly ambitious school with an inclusive approach, students both from within Fort Pitt and from other schools appreciate our aspirational and supportive ethos and enjoy coming to school each day.

Our aim is to facilitate the development of each individual student from the end of Year 11, throughout Year 12 & 13 and beyond. We work incredibly hard to ensure they achieve the qualifications, skills and experiences that will enable them to stand out from the crowd when they move onto the next step in their educational journey. The sixth-form curriculum is delivered by expert teachers with exceptionally strong subject knowledge. Students can expect to be consistently challenged to achieve their very best and to develop their whole self.

An exemplary personal development curriculum and our 'Next Steps' programme runs alongside students' A Level studies. This ensures that whatever their aspirations, every student receives bespoke advice, and is fully prepared for life outside the school gates. Examples include extensive support for students applying for Medical courses or for entry to Russell Group universities and Oxbridge.

In addition, there are a multitude of extra-curricular opportunities for students to participate in, incorporating activities as varied as bowling, live ball and running election campaigns.

We work tirelessly to ensure students receive excellent pastoral support and care. Students have full access to our new Wellbeing Hub and Wellbeing Team, through which they can access a raft of extra support and advice throughout their time with us.



SUPPORT & WELLBEING

We are a vibrant, diverse and happy school, with high expectations and great ambitions for every one of our students. However, now, more than ever this needs to be balanced with ensuring the well being of our students. As such our pastoral care is first-class and students feel supported and cared for. We recognise that each child is unique and want them to know they are loved and valued. They are our greatest asset and they are supported by a team of staff dedicated to motivating, guiding and challenging each one of them to be the best they can be. Our new Student and Wellbeing Hub opened last year and adds another layer of support and guidance for all students.

"A caring and supportive ethos permeates the school. Relationships are exceptionally strong between pupils and staff. Pupils behave extremely well. They are polite, articulate and considerate. They respect each other's differences and celebrate the school's diverse community." (Ofsted 2022)

As an inclusive Sixth Form we work exceptionally hard to ensure there is a real sense of community, where all students feel a sense of belonging to their Tutor Group, Year Group and House. Our dedicated Sixth Form Team are available throughout the day for students who may have queries or concerns and are fully trained to deal with the range of issues that may present to students at Key Stage 5.

DEVELOPING THE WHOLE STUDENT

Our Sixth Form boasts a vast array of additional activities aimed at developing the whole person. Students are introduced to super-curricular activities, which encompass wider reading and further study along with suggestions of podcasts and documentaries, which may be of interest. We also provide time and support for students who wish to complete MOOC's or other university-based modules.

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities for students to experience, including roles such as Student Leadership, Subject Prefect, Peer Mentors, Student Council, Steering Groups and the Debating Society.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Student performance at A Level is consistently excellent.

In 2024 nearly 60% of grades were at A*-B and our A*- A saw a rise of 7%, with every student successfully securing their next destination. Such impressive outcomes do not come by chance, they are achieved through a combination of superb teaching, committed and hard-working students and a supportive culture.



For the vast majority of our students applying for university is the natural next step. Each year students are successful in securing offers at Oxford & Cambridge, whist many others gain places at Russell Group universities such as Imperial College, London, Kings, Durham and Bristol. We also have an increasing number of students that wish to study internationally at institutions such as MIT and LSU.

We also recognise that for others, higher-level apprenticeships, degree apprenticeships and career-based routes are equally as important. Every student is unique, and the Sixth Form team work closely with students to map out key dates and processes in applying for alternative future routes.

We are unapologetically ambitious for our students and do all we can to enable them to realise their potential.

"Sixth-Form students are mature and articulate. They talk with remarkable confidence and insight about their learning." (Ofsted 2022)

OUR VALUES

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

At Fort Pitt, our values run through everything we do, and reflect our culture of ensuring our students' happiness is at the heart of all our decisions; they are a set of core beliefs devised by both students and staff, which we feel encapsulates what we wish our students to strive towards during their seven years with us.

Students in the Sixth Form have additional freedoms and privileges that are not afforded to students in the lower school. However, they must also take their position as role models to the rest of the school seriously. It goes without saying that we have incredibly high standards for all our sixth-formers. We expect them to uphold the Fort Pitt values, to work hard and aspire to be the very best they can be. The Sixth Form Dress Code reflects this and is informed by three key principles:

- A mature and adult ethos; the Sixth Form is a place of work
- Preparation for the 'professional world'
- Sixth-formers are role models to the lower school

In July 2022, the school was divided vertically into six 'houses'; Attenborough, Aderin, Angelou, Mandela, Kahlo and Turing. All students are allocated a house and compete in a variety of competitions, the highlight being our annual House Arts and Sports Day events. Whilst in the sixth form, students can apply for House Leadership roles, providing them with the opportunity to develop and showcase a variety of inter-personal skills.



"The school's values of 'aspirational, resilient, collaborative, respectful and successful' pervade all aspects of school life." (Ofsted 2022)

OUR CURRICULUM

As a large Sixth Form, we are able to offer a wide range of Advanced Level subjects. Our curriculum offer is designed to ensure that students have as broad a choice as possible, whilst at the same time, being personalised and bespoke.

Students can choose to study between 3 or 4 A Level subjects in Year 12 and, dependent upon levels of progress and personal career choices, can opt to continue with 3 or 4 into Year 13. This is accompanied by our holistic Personal Development programme, which enriches our students' sixth form experience, providing additional learning opportunities and the further development of integral life-skills.



Alongside their A Level studies, students can also select the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), recognised by UCAS and carrying tariff points, it also enables students to consolidate skills of independent learning, project management, academic research, analysis and evaluation.

Our Curriculum Booklet contains full details of all the courses we offer and, for convenience, the table below provides a summary of the subjects and their entry requirements:

SUBJECT ENTRY CRITERIA 2025

5 x GCSE grades 4 or above must include English Lang & Maths

BTEC: Distinction - 6 Merit - 5 Pass - 4 (or below)

| Subject | English | Maths | Subject specific |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------|-----------------------------------------|
| Biology | 5 | 6 | 7 Separate Biology or 7:7 Combined |
| Business | 6 | 6 | |
| Chemistry | 5 | 6 | 7 Separate Chemistry or 7:7 Combined |
| Computer Science | 5 | 6 | 6 Computer Science |
| Criminology | 5 | 4 | 5 in a humanities subject |
| Drama | 6 | 4 | 6 English Literature & English Language |
| Economics | 6 | 6 | |
| English Language & Literature | 6 | 4 | 6 English Literature or Language |
| English Literature | 6 | 4 | 6 English Literature |
| Film Studies | 5 | 4 | 5 English Literature or Language |
| Fine Art | 5 | 4 | 6 Art & Design |
| French | 5 | 4 | 6 French |
| Geography | 6 | 5 | 6 Geography and 6 Science |
| Graphics | 5 | 4 | 6 Art & Design |
| History | 6 | 5 | 6 History |
| Maths | 5 | 7 | |
| Maths (Further) | 4 | 8 | Must be taken as a 4th A-level only |
| Music | 5 | 5 | 7 Music. Grade 5 instrument / voice. |
| Philosophy, Religion & Ethics | 6 | 4 | 6 R.S. / Humanity / Social Science |
| PE | 5 | 5 | 6 PE |
| Physics | 5 | 6 | 7 Separate Physics or 7:7 Combined |
| Politics | 6 | 5 | |
| Psychology | 6 | 6 | 6 Science |
| Sociology | 6 | 5 | |
| Spanish | 5 | 5 | 6 Spanish |
| Textiles | 5 | 4 | 6 Art & Design |

Any students applying with international qualifications including iGCSE please contact <u>sbutton@fortpitt.medway.sch.uk</u>

FUTURE DESTINATIONS

UNIVERSITY DESTINATIONS 2024

| UNIVERSITY | COURSE |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Aberystwyth | Psychology |
| Brighton | Medicine |
| Cardiff | Music |
| ссси | Criminology, Primary Education |
| Chichester | Business Management |
| Derby | Psychology |
| Exeter | Biological & Medicinal Chemistry, Computer Science & Maths |
| Falmouth | Computing for Games |
| Keele | Geography |
| Kingston | Filmmaking, Midwifery |
| Lancaster | Business Management |
| Leeds | English Lit, Graphic Communication, International Relations, Medicinal Chemistry, Sociology |
| Loughborough | English Lit |
| Medway School of Pharmacy | Pharmacy |
| Newcastle | English Lit |
| Norwich | Graphic Communication, Graphic Design |
| Nottingham Trent | Economics, Environmental Science |

| UNIVERSITY | COURSE | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Plymouth | Biomedical | |
| Portsmouth | Film Production, Law & Legal Practice, Modern Languages | |
| Queen Mary | Maths | |
| Ravensbourne | Fashion | |
| Reading | Psychology | |
| Sheffield | Medicine | |
| Southampton | Sociology & Criminology | |
| St Mary's, Twickenham | Psychology | |
| Stirling | Psychology | |
| Surrey | English Lit & Spanish, Paramedic Science | |
| Swansea | Law, Politics & International Relations | |
| UCA | Games Art | |
| UCL | Englis, Politics & International Relations | |
| University of Arts | Design | |
| UWE | Illustration | |
| Winchester | Marketing, Media & Communication | |
| York | Psychology | |



Attend our **Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 12th December 2024** and speak with subject teachers, support staff and leaders to ensure you make an informed choice.

Consult our Curriculum Booklet to ensure you are fully aware of course details and entry requirements.

Visit us at <u>https://www.fortpitt.co.uk/sixthform</u> for further information or get in touch via <u>office@fortpitt.co.uk</u> if you have any questions or need guidance or support.

Complete the online application by **31st January 2025**







