



ABINGDON



ABINGDON SCHOOL
SIXTH FORM





What are you looking for from Sixth Form?

Career advice? Extensive choice of A level and Pre-U subjects? Expert help with university admissions?

Sixth Form represents a transition from school to further education and at Abingdon we encourage boys to take on responsibility and independence and to enjoy a relationship with the school and staff that more closely resembles university education.

Our Sixth Form has a co-educational feel with some joint lessons with the girls from St Helen and St Katharine and there is plenty of social life whether it's the Griffen Ball at the end of the year or less formal occasions such as the annual lacrosse match.

Click on any of the pink links on the following pages for further information.





Here's what Abingdon offers

A level choices and curriculum

At Abingdon we are able to accommodate almost all of the nearly 150 combinations of A level subjects that our students want to take. We fit our timetable around the subjects our students want to study and not vice versa.

In most years we teach around 24 A level and Pre-U subjects. Drama, D&T, Politics and Economics are currently taught jointly with the girls from St Helen's.



Our focus is on wellbeing



Sixth Form Centre

Placed at the heart of the school, the Sixth Form Centre occupies the ground floor of Beech Court and has university-style facilities including open plan social learning spaces, social and private study areas, a collaborative working area, meeting rooms, outside seating and an "innovation room" to encourage 'free-thinking'.

The careers office, UCAS facilities and sixth form staff are all based in Beech Court and the building's design and layout provides easy access to these and the library. The Centre is also in close proximity to the café, sports centre, science block and drama facilities.



The excellent quality of teaching fulfils the aim of the school to provide a first-class education and is successful in promoting pupils' excellent achievements.

ISI INSPECTION



Each boy is known and cared for



Academic Extension

Alongside the main curriculum, we offer a number of academic extension opportunities including the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). Usually, it's also possible to offer GCSE languages (German and Spanish) as well as a Creative Writing qualification.

Those seeking higher level study in specific subjects (particularly those aiming for an Oxbridge or medical application) will find that departments provide academic extension in the form of additional classes, support for competition entries and writing opportunities. We also provide teaching and support for pre-interview assessments that are required for many degrees.

Further information:

- Students initially study four subjects in the Lower Sixth, with the option to focus on three from the Lent term of the Lower Sixth.
- There is provision for those students wishing to pursue four subjects to A level or five subjects if studying Further Maths.
- Class sizes range from 5 to 16, averaging around 12 or 13
- A level [results by subject](#)
- Details of [sixth form curriculum](#)



Around 24 subjects to choose from



Senior production of *My Fair Lady* with
St Helen and St Katharine School



Applying to university

In the last two school inspections the **ISI commented** on how impressed they were both with the quality of the advice given to and the **university destinations** of our students. We have a specialist **team of advisors** who guide boys (and their parents) through the admissions process whether it's in the UK or abroad.

The majority of students are offered places at their first choice of university, mostly Russell Group institutions, with significant numbers receiving offers from Oxford and Cambridge each year. The range of subjects they study reflects the very diverse nature of our Sixth Form and the boys within it.

We have a full time career guidance service and a wide range of initiatives to help students decide what the next few years will involve, whether it's a gap year or even a move straight into employment.

Sixth formers benefit from the active Old Abingdonian Club which provides, alongside our parent organisation, bespoke career advice, work experience, and networking opportunities plus awards for sixth formers who are looking to travel in the summer holidays or during a gap year.



44 Oxbridge places in the last 3 years



Specialist team to advise our sixth formers





Personal development

We appreciate that maturity doesn't happen overnight and some boys need more guidance and support than others; tutors and teachers get to know students well and understand what suits each individual. Students remain with the same **tutor** throughout the Sixth Form and this tutor is the principal link between home and school.

Our Personal Development Education (PDE) programme spans the two years of the Sixth Form and is designed to enrich the lives of the students. They have a series of Mindsets sessions, delivered by their tutor which cover a range of topics such as mental health and wellbeing through to skills for later life.

In addition, there are lectures throughout the year often using powerful life stories to encourage students to think and engage with wider issues. In the Upper Sixth, students also attend a series of roundabout sessions delivered by staff on subjects related to moving on into adult life.



A culture of consideration
and kindness





Activities

With over 150 **Other Half** activities on offer and as wide-ranging as journalism, film-making, product design, composing and Model United Nations, there is plenty to do wherever your interests lie.

Drama, **Music** and **Sport** feature strongly throughout the Sixth Form. There are individual and team sports from rugby and rowing to basketball, cross-country, fencing and shooting and whether you are aiming to represent your country or tour Scotland with the third XV, there is something for everyone.

Many Abingdonians go on to make a career on the stage, David Mitchell, Toby Jones and Tom Hollander to name a few. We are also one of only a handful of schools with an award-winning **Film Unit**. Much of the sixth form drama takes place with the girls from St Helen's – take a look at our most recent productions *My Fair Lady* and *King Charles III*.

As well-known for musicians as actors and sportsmen, Old Abingdonians include all five members of Radiohead and many classical musicians. There are regular opportunities to perform at Abingdon, in venues across the UK and on overseas tours. Further information on **Music** at Abingdon.

There are numerous opportunities to travel and explore with kayaking, canoeing, sailing and walking expeditions through **The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme**. Recent overseas trips have included trekking in Costa Rica, field trips in Madagascar and the Azores, rowing in Spain, music in Japan, European language and culture visits, rugby in South America and volunteering in Moldova.



31 chamber ensemble groups



7 major drama productions a year



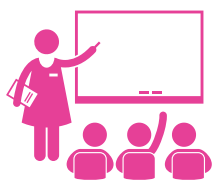
31 sports to try







We have students from 25 countries around the world



69% A*/A grades at A level in 2020



There is a caring atmosphere throughout the school.

ISI INSPECTION



Boarding

Weekly and full boarding are popular options at Abingdon and almost half of our boarders are sixth formers. Boarders benefit from the School's superb facilities and from a full activity programme. With no commute to and from school, there's plenty of time to study and to enjoy boarding life.

A guide to the School Day

9am - 4pm Academic lessons and study periods – usually five lessons of 50 or 55 minutes plus enrichment activities, extensions lessons and a range of sports.

4pm - 5pm Other Half activities.

Each day includes lunch and mid-morning breaks. Some Other Half activities take place at lunchtime and on Wednesday afternoons.

Homework A minimum of 4 hours per week per subject.

Entry Requirements

If you would like to know more about how to join our Sixth Form please see the sixth form [admissions information](#).

If you have any questions you would like to ask our Head of Sixth Form please email: nick.odoherty@abingdon.org.uk



ABINGDON

**independent day and boarding school
for boys aged 4 to 18 years**

**+44 (0)1235 849041
admissions@abingdon.org.uk**

abingdon.org.uk