

Abbey Community College

Entry Requirements for Sixth Form



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Abbey Community College is an inclusive school. The purpose of sixth form criteria is not to exclude students, but rather;

- 1) to ensure that Post 16, Level 3 education is at the appropriate level for students,
- 2) to ensure that the courses offered are appropriate to the future plans for students rather than simply a 'stop-gap', and
- 3) to ensure that class sizes remain at an appropriate size so that students benefit from a high level of education. Class sizes vary slightly between courses and are governed by such things as an appropriate level of ICT support, the level of practical work required in the course or the level of coursework requiring on-going assessment on the part of staff.

To ensure that students return to post 16 education with the adequate minimum level of academic performance at Key Stage 4, the base entry requirements for Level 3 are;

1. English and Maths at grade C or above. (In certain cases, Abbey Community College will accept students with no less than a D grade in one of these subjects, not both. In such instances, the student must enrol for a re-sit course in that subject)
2. A minimum points loading of 25, where;

Grade	Equivalence	Points
A*	Distinction*	9
A	Distinction	8
B	Merit	7
C*		6
C	Pass	5
D		4
E		3
F		2
G		1



3. Where a student is continuing a course of study previously studied at GCSE (or equivalent), the student must have at least a grade C in that subject. Students who have not attained that grade at GCSE level are very unlikely to manage the demands of a level 3 course.
4. Students will enrol in 3 Level 3 courses.

Note: Consideration may be given to individual circumstances at the discretion of the school and should not be understood as a precedent for all students.

Where students have met the minimum entrance requirements, they must choose 3 appropriate courses. To enrol on each course, the student must meet with the relevant Head of Department and the relevant pastoral staff to ensure that he / she is fully informed regarding the demands and suitability of the course. Each Head of Department must agree to accept the student for enrolment on that course. (Students should be aware that there may be additional departmental criteria for enrolment – pastoral staff will consider previous attendance and school engagement on the part of the student)

Where a student has been accepted for 3 courses by both the Heads of Department and pastoral staff, their place is ensured provided that;

1. the class size is viable – a necessary minimum of 8 students.
2. the class is not oversubscribed – these values depend on the nature of the course. As stated previously, these criteria are not to exclude but rather to ensure that each enrolled student receives the best education possible in each subject. Where classes are oversubscribed, the following criteria will apply;

- i) Students having the highest grades at GCSE (or equivalent) in a relevant subject will be enrolled first;
- ii) Students having the same grade will then be considered in terms of the total points scored in English and Maths;
- iii) Students having the same points score in English and Maths will then be considered in terms of the total points scored in all GCSE / equivalent course using Table 1 (above);

Once again, may we take the opportunity to state that Abbey Community College does not set out to exclude students but rather to be inclusive, providing the highest quality of education, at a level most appropriate for each student. As appropriate, Abbey Community College may, where possible, provide additional classes for popular subjects (students should refer to the College offer for that academic year). For this year, staff at Abbey Community College are mindful of the disruption to student's education over the last two years. This too will form an element of our consideration when offering places to students.

