

# Discovering students' untapped potential

Centre name:  Dover College

Number of students:  290

Region:  Dover

School type:  Independent

Area type:  Coastal town

Helping struggling students to achieve beyond expectations, by offering them a different way of learning with BTEC qualifications.

Dover College is an Independent school committed to 'thinking differently' and achieving exceptional results. They have a value added score of 0.9, meaning that pupils achieve considerably better results than they were predicted to on entry. Offering BTEC qualifications has helped the school reach this score, helping students to discover untapped potential.

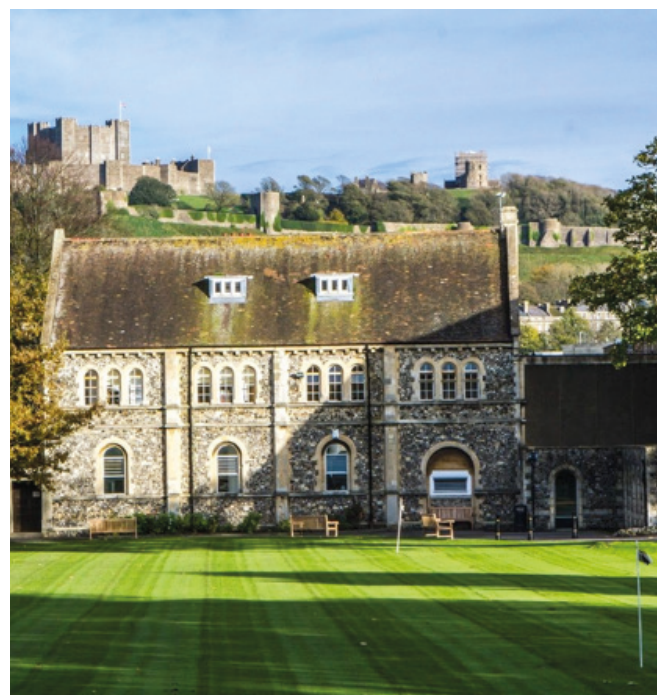
With the traditional curriculum, some pupils were struggling to cope with the formal examination system. By introducing BTECs at Level 3, alongside their existing A level programme, Dover College was able to support those struggling pupils with a different method of learning and assessment, and they're now achieving beyond previous expectations.

We can see this by looking at grades that students are now achieving at the school. When the Level 3 BTEC National in Sport was introduced, UCAS points per pupil **increased by 152%**, with an average of 109 more UCAS points per pupil. This continued the following year with the first results from introducing the BTEC National in Business, which saw a further increase of 78 points, bringing the school to a total average of 398 UCAS points per pupil. During the same time, the percentage of students achieving A\* to C or Distinction\* to Merit grades **increased from 74% to 87%**.

Most pupils in the Sixth Form want to progress onto university degrees, and BTEC gives them the knowledge, skills, and UCAS points to do so. In 2017,

**BTEC results in 2017**  
100% pass rate  
91% Distinction\* to Merit.

BTEC leavers went on to a huge range of university courses, from Sport and Exercise Science at Exeter University, to Music Management at West London University, to Law at Chester University.



## Student spotlight

Name: *Sam Kibler*

Sam studied a BTEC National Extended Diploma in Sport during Sixth Form at Dover College, the equivalent of three A Levels, alongside an A level in Product Design. He achieved a triple Distinction\* and has now progressed to a degree in Sport and Exercise Science at Exeter University, ranked in the top 20 universities in the UK.

Since starting university in September 2017, Sam has found that his BTEC qualification has been a great foundation for the content covered in the course, especially the Anatomy and Kinanthropometry units. He's also found that he's been able to pick up the different learning style easily, having got used to independent learning and research during his BTEC, skills that some of his peers are struggling with.



"I would have been far less successful if I'd have taken the A level route – it simply doesn't suit my style of learning. I thoroughly recommend using BTEC as a route to university."

Type of result	2010 results Pre-BTEC	2011 results First year of BTEC National in Sport	2012 results First Year of BTEC National in Business
% of A*-A or D*-D grades	n/a	29%	51%
% of A*-B or D*-M grades	49%	48%	61%
% of A*-C or D*-P grades	74%	79%	87%
UCAS points per candidate	208	317	398

University	Degree	Offer	BTEC(s) taken
Exeter	Sport and Exercise Science	D in 6 units	Sport
Chester	Law	300 UCAS points	Sport, Business
Plymouth	International Business	240 UCAS points	Business
Southampton	Nursing Adults	BB (A level) + DM (BTEC)	Health and Social Care
Surrey	Politics	B (A level) + DM (BTEC)	Business
West London	Music Management	200 UCAS points	Business, Sport
Buckinghamshire New	Sports Management and Football Studies	240 UCAS points	Business, Sport
Portsmouth	Computer Games Technology	300 UCAS points	Business, Sport
Chichester	Physical Education and Sports Coaching	DDD (BTEC)	Business, Sport
Kent	International Business	320 UCAS points	Business