

Rated  
'OUTSTANDING'  
by Ofsted  
(2024)

KENNET  
SCHOOL  
SIXTH FORM



# DEFINE YOURSELF

FOR ENTRY 2025

# WHAT KENNET SIXTH FORM CAN OFFER YOU

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Ms G Rigg  
Headteacher

Welcome to Kennet School's Sixth Form; it is a thriving example of how great education can be. This prospectus provides an overview of the unique, balanced and fulfilling programmes on offer. Our Sixth Form is the most successful in the West Berkshire area and was recently graded 'Outstanding' by Ofsted. We are delighted to welcome applicants from other schools, as well as being the first-choice destination for our own students. Our culture of achievement is fuelled by a love of learning, grounded in our core values and driven by a shared commitment to succeed. Our students excel academically and vocationally, evolving into young adults of whom we are proud.

Whether the plan is to go to university or to enter employment at a higher level, Kennet School provides excellent opportunities for all. We have an enviable record of success at A Level and T Level qualifications too; a key part of our work is to help Sixth Formers focus on the next step, whether it be to university, college or promising careers in business and commerce. We have tailored packages of support for all pupils; from specialist Oxbridge preparation to expert guidance for apprenticeship applications.

Students at Kennet School are encouraged to make the most of their independent study. The facilities provided within the Sixth Form Study Centre enable our students to prepare effectively for higher level study at university and the world of work. They have open access to study materials, newspapers and periodicals, as well as to a student careers library. Our purpose-built centre offers students an enviable environment, from a comfortable and well-equipped common room through to a dedicated library space, silent study area and a popular Sixth Form coffee shop, a great place for studying, socialising, and tasty refreshments.

Our Sixth Form teachers are true subject specialists and have enormous experience and expertise in their fields. Our tutors are energetic and enthusiastic in supporting students through challenging but rewarding times. Our students leave us as independent thinkers, confident in their own abilities and able to make the most of life.

You will find Sixth Form life very different from the earlier years of schooling. You will pursue your chosen subjects to a higher level, while having opportunities to develop your many talents. You will have the chance to work with the rest of the school as Prefects and House Captains, giving a lead in many, many different activities. We plan that you will enjoy your time in the Sixth Form, as well as achieving your academic and other goals.

The world is a competitive place for young adults and there is nowhere finer to prepare to beat the competition than in our Sixth Form. Please digest this prospectus carefully – it will repay careful reading and do not hesitate to contact our Sixth Form team or myself directly if you have any queries.

# WHY STUDENTS ENJOY KENNET SIXTH FORM



At Kennet Sixth Form, I've found an incredibly supportive community that prioritises academic excellence, personal growth, leadership and co-curricular activities. The strong sense of belonging here has not only prepared me for further education but has also helped me develop the life skills needed to become a well-rounded individual.



As a T Level student at Kennet Sixth Form, I love how practical and hands-on the course is, blending real-world experience with in-depth learning. The work placements give me invaluable industry skills and the supportive teachers ensure I'm well-prepared for both my career and further studies.



Kennet Sixth Form has helped shape me into the person I've wanted to be, being supportive of each step and helping me get ready for university and adult life. There are many opportunities, a favourite of mine being the music and drama co-curricular events, such as school productions and music shows.

**Kennet Sixth Form provides you with a world of opportunity, combining outstanding academic and co-curricular achievement with a friendly, vibrant atmosphere where your contributions really matter. You will be challenged to achieve, set high aspirations for yourself and to respect your community, enabling you to develop into a thoughtful, confident individual, equipped with the skills to prosper in the modern world.**

Together with enthusiastic, specialist teachers, our Sixth Form boasts a vast array of industry-relevant courses (A Levels and T Levels). Life revolves around the Sixth Form Centre which is equipped with IT resources, a dedicated study centre and coffee shop, complemented by the school's outstanding library and multiple IT suites (including a coding lab). Bespoke careers advice is also on offer from our dedicated and experienced staff.

Sixth Form is not just about studying though. We recognise the importance of being able to learn and develop broader skills simultaneously, offering exceptional enrichment and co-curricular programmes (see page 10) with additional opportunities for our students to take on more responsibility – the day-to-day functions of Kennet School relying on their input.

We take the safeguarding and wellbeing of our students very seriously. Great emphasis is placed on providing them with the tools to keep themselves safe and well, as well as helping them develop their self-belief and resilience. Students thrive under an extensive mentoring programme, with access to study skills support sessions to enhance their academic success. We cover a wide range of key topics through our 'Preparing for Adult Life' sessions (PAL) and Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) curriculum, and our Pastoral Lead signposts additional aid through support workers and the Mental Health Support Team, if required.

Overall, our Sixth Form provides an invaluable two years' of learning which sees our students develop through effort in their studies, participation in school life and self-discovery. We also focus on ensuring students are well-prepared and set up for their next stage of life, once they leave Kennet and move out into the big wide world! We look forward to welcoming you aboard.

## T-LEVELS

In September 2023, Kennet Sixth Form began offering students the opportunity to study a T Level. This two-year qualification, broadly equivalent in size to three A Levels, has been developed in collaboration with employers and education providers. T Levels focus on vocational skills to help students into employment, higher study, or apprenticeships, with practical and knowledge-based learning at school and on-the-job experience through an industry placement. We also offer a T Level Foundation Programme designed to help students progress to a T Level qualification.



Mr R Tamale  
Head of Sixth Form



Ms R Mann  
Senior Deputy Head of Sixth Form



Mr D Domm  
Deputy Head of Sixth Form



Mr A Wood  
Deputy Head of Sixth Form



Mrs K Odenwälder  
Academic Scholarship Lead



Mrs L Danskin  
Careers Lead

# SIXTH FORM COURSE OPTIONS

In my Year 11 results...

...I achieved **Grade 5s or vocational equivalent and above in all GCSE exams**

**Your options are either:**

- 3 x A Levels\*
- 4 x A Levels

If there is a T Level you wish to study, this is also an option

...I achieved **mostly Grade 4s with some Grade 5s or vocational equivalent**

**Your option is:**

- 1 x T Level

...I **didn't achieve 5 x Grade 4s or vocational equivalent**

**Your option is:**

One-year foundation programme with possible re-take of GCSE Mathematics and/or English

\* We strongly encourage you to support this with the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), which is equivalent to half an A Level.  
Note: It is compulsory for Year 12 students to undertake one hour of enrichment activity per week.

## HOW COURSES WORK

If you have any queries about the application procedure, please contact us: email [sixthform@kennetschool.co.uk](mailto:sixthform@kennetschool.co.uk) or call the Sixth Form Office on 01635 862121.

Most Kennet Sixth Formers will take a two-year course which will lead to an A Level or T Level qualification.

Students will need to study three A Level subjects or their equivalent (1 x T Level).

If students do not get their desired results, we also offer a one-year foundation programme which comprises a range of qualifications and skills all geared towards preparing learners for further study, employment or higher level apprenticeships. Students may take this course alongside resit courses in English and/or Mathematics GCSE.

# COURSE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

## A LEVEL COURSES

To undertake courses at A Level, students will need a minimum of five GCSE subjects at Grade 4 or above (or equivalent), including English and Mathematics, together with a Grade 5 or above in the chosen subject. Some subjects may have additional criteria, detailed below:

Subject	Additional entry criteria
Art, Craft & Design	No additional requirements**
Biology	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Biology and one other science or Grade 66 in GCSE Combined Science. Grade 6 in GCSE English and Mathematics is desirable*
Business Studies	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Business Studies
Chemistry	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Chemistry and one other science or Grade 66 in GCSE Combined Science. Grade 6 in GCSE English and Mathematics is desirable*
Computer Science	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Mathematics and one of the GCSE Science qualifications. Programming experience to an equivalent level is required if GCSE Computer Science has not been taken*
Dance	Experience to an equivalent level is required if GCSE Dance has not been taken*
Drama & Theatre Studies	Experience to an equivalent level is required if GCSE Drama has not been taken. Grade 5 or above in GCSE English is desirable*
Economics	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Mathematics
English Language	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Language and/or GCSE English Literature
English Literature	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English Literature and/or GCSE English Language
Geography	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English and GCSE Geography is desirable
History	Grade 6 or above in GCSE English and GCSE History is desirable
Languages	Grade 5 or above in the chosen language
Latin	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Latin
Law	Grade 5 or above in GCSE English
Mathematics	Grade 7 or above in GCSE Mathematics
Core Mathematics	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Mathematics***
Further Mathematics	Grade 8 or above in GCSE Mathematics
Music	Grade 6 and above in an instrument or voice
Music Technology	Grade 5 or above in one of the GCSE Science qualifications is desirable
Philosophy	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Ethics & Philosophy
Photography	No additional requirements**
Physical Education	Grade 5 or above in one of the GCSE Science qualifications and expert in one sport
Physics	Grade 6 or above in GCSE Physics and one other science or Grade 66 in GCSE Combined Science. Grade 6 in GCSE English and Mathematics is desirable*
Politics	Grade 5 or above in GCSE English
Product Design	Grade 5 or above, or a Level 2 Merit, in a product related subject such as GCSE Design & Technology or Construction. Grade 5 or above in GCSE Mathematics or one of the GCSE Science qualifications is desirable
Psychology	Grade 5 or above in GCSE English and one of the GCSE Science qualifications
Sociology	Grade 5 or above in GCSE English

\* If required, students will be interviewed for a place on the course on GCSE results day.

\*\* Students who have not studied either of these subjects at GCSE will be required to produce a portfolio and be interviewed prior to being accepted onto the course.

\*\*\* One year course.

## APPLIED GENERALS

To undertake an Applied General qualification, students will need a minimum of five GCSE subjects at Grade 4 or above (or equivalent) including English and Mathematics. Additional criteria is also required for some subjects, detailed below:

Subject	Entry Criteria
Food Science & Nutrition	Grade 5 or above in GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition or a Level 2 Merit in a food-related subject, such as Hospitality & Catering. Grade 4 in one of the GCSE Science qualifications is desirable.

## T LEVELS

To undertake a T Level, students will need a minimum of five GCSE subjects at Grade 4 or above (or equivalent) including English and Mathematics. We are offering T Levels in the following subjects, with the following specialisms:

Subject
Management & Administration
• Business Support
Education & Early Years
• Early Years Educator
Health
• Supporting the Adult Nursing Team
Media, Broadcast & Production
• Creative Media Technician

## T LEVEL FOUNDATION PROGRAMME

Subject	Entry Criteria
T Level Foundation Programme	GCSE subjects below Grade 4 (or equivalent). Resits in GCSE English and/or Mathematics as required.

## NEW COURSES

New courses may be added before September. For an up-to-date course list, detailed course overviews and entry requirements, please visit:

[www.kennetschool.co.uk/sixthformcourses](http://www.kennetschool.co.uk/sixthformcourses)

# ACCESSING CULTURAL ENRICHMENT (ACE)

To supplement and extend the experiences received in the formal curriculum, we place great emphasis on the importance of our ACE programme. Run by subject teachers, some are seasonal, some of short duration and others are permanent. The range of courses is vast. Here are just a few of the enrichment activities on offer:



## INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATION

Equivalent to a Level 2, this qualification involves organising an event as a team. Develop vital leadership skills that will enhance your future interviews and workplace performance.

## LONDON ACADEMY OF MUSIC & DRAMATIC ART (LAMDA)

Complete your Acting Grade 7 exam while earning UCAS points. Develop your interpretative and technical skills and deepen your knowledge of the performance process.

## COACH BRIGHT

Participate in a 10-week mentoring programme, coaching Year 11 pupils in specific subjects to help them reach their potential. Earn an SSAT Leadership Qualification and valuable mentoring experience.

## SPORTS LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATION

Earn a Level 2 Award in Sports Leadership, developing essential skills in organisation, motivation and communication. Learn to mentor and lead groups, ideal for future careers in sports and youth work.

## MENTAL HEALTH MENTORING SCHEME

Train with professionals to support Key Stage 3 pupils on a weekly basis. Gain valuable mentoring experience and skills, enhancing your CV and preparing for careers in care and psychology.

## PRE-TEACHING

Gain hands-on teaching experience at a local primary school, assisting teachers and performing teaching assistant roles. Ideal for those passionate about working with children and pursuing careers in childcare, teaching, or psychology.

## BOOK CLUB

Love reading? Discuss books with like-minded individuals in a friendly environment. Ideal for anyone looking to share and expand their literary interests.

## ART

Explore provocative, boundary-pushing art by analysing and discussing controversial pieces. Gain inspiration from various sources and develop your unique, practical responses through diverse art disciplines and techniques.

## MUSIC TECHNOLOGY

Unleash your creativity with Music Technology enrichment, learning Logic Pro X and composing music. Engage in hands-on tasks like creating film trailers and songwriting, while exploring the music industry.

## RUNNING CLUB

Join our inclusive Running Club to improve your well-being and relieve stress through physical activity. Suitable for all abilities, from beginners to experienced runners.

For a full breakdown of Kennet Sixth Form's enrichment opportunities, please visit our website:

[www.kennetschool.co.uk/sixthformcourses](http://www.kennetschool.co.uk/sixthformcourses)





# OTHER SIXTH FORM OPPORTUNITIES

## EPQ

The Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) is an opportunity for academic stretch and challenge. Not only is it worth half an A Level, but it also exercises various skills needed to study at degree level with the added benefit of topping up UCAS points. Learning is expanded via research into an area of interest, giving you the freedom and responsibility to select topics which interest you. When completing this qualification, you follow a clearly structured process from planning to presentation, developing transferable skills which are invaluable for further study and the workplace. For those interested in studying Law at university, there is a specific Law pathway within the EPQ, involving taught content to deepen knowledge and understanding.

## ‘PREPARING FOR ADULT LIFE’ PROGRAMME

Sixth Formers will face a series of changes in their lives as they progress through their time with us and Kennet School helps to address some of the issues they encounter through the weekly ‘Preparing for Adult Life’ (PAL) programme. Here, Sixth Form staff and visitors to the school will provide talks and workshops on a range of matters, including health and wellbeing, politics, the law and finance.

## THE SUPERCURRICULUM

We would hope that everyone in Kennet Sixth Form has a love of learning and a desire to know more. All students should be willing to ‘give something a go’ because they think it might be interesting. The Supercurriculum is not just about studying, it’s about getting involved: peer support and reading a newspaper are just two of the ways that students are encouraged to extend themselves.

## READ & STUDY PROGRAMME

The ‘Read & Study’ programme is designed to support students in developing their wider reading and academic engagement through a structured programme. Using the Unifrog ‘Read & Study’ tool allows students access to articles, podcasts, films, TED Talks and book recommendations all aimed at supporting their learning.

## MOOCs

Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are strongly encouraged within the Sixth Form. These are ‘massive’ because they can be taken by thousands simultaneously; ‘open’ because there is no selection of students and no fees and ‘online’ because you can read course materials, hear lectures, watch videos and take tests. They have been proven to support Sixth Formers in developing their interests and skills in a wide range of areas.

A diverse selection of courses is offered from leading universities and cultural institutions from around the world. These are delivered one step at a time, and are accessible on mobile, tablet and desktop, so our students can fit learning around their academic studies. Universities are keen to see extension and depth of knowledge and such courses provide an excellent platform for achieving this.

## GCSE RESIT COURSES

If you have missed a Grade 4 in GCSE English and/or Mathematics in Year 11, you can resit these subjects. The benefits of possessing as good a grade as possible in these two subjects cannot be over-emphasised. The Grade 4 is recognised nationally and is in fact required by many employers and higher or further education institutions.

## LEARNING HABITS FOR STUDY

There is a strong focus in Kennet Sixth Form on the development of independent work habits which will allow students to succeed at both university and work. This involves learning to work effectively with others, taking a lead in groups, thinking of creative solutions, making presentations and problem solving. There is also clear guidance on effective research, encouraging students to evaluate their internet use as well as finding information from a wider range of reliable sources. These skills are part of all courses students take in the Sixth Form, and are a special focus of sessions in the ‘Preparing for Adult Life’ (PAL) programme.

## ACADEMIC SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

High-attaining students are offered one-to-one mentoring and support for early-entry applications, including Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary programmes.

# CAREERS INFORMATION

## ADVICE & GUIDANCE

**Our aim at Kennet Sixth Form is to prepare students for their next steps, whatever these may be.**

Over 100 students each year apply for places at universities, including Oxbridge. They go on to read for undergraduate studies in traditional subjects they have already worked on at school, such as English, Languages, Sport Sciences or Psychology, or for subjects new to them. Vocational degrees such as medicine or law, or other disciplines they cannot choose for A Level, such as anthropology or ancient languages. Others will apply for further training in the National Health Service or at art, music, drama or dance colleges.

There are five choices for students post Sixth Form:

- university;
- employment;
- apprenticeship;
- gap year;
- sponsored degrees.

Some students will choose not to go to university or into further education and we prepare our students to apply for apprenticeships and higher entry careers in employment too. All of these successful applications reflect a planned programme of information, advice and guidance which is part of Kennet Sixth Form students' weekly 'Preparing for Adult Life' (PAL) programme.

One-to-one discussions with our school careers advisor, as well as visits to, and talks from, universities and employers, encourage students to look at their future career paths. If university is the right option, there is plenty of help in maximising opportunities. If applying for an apprenticeship or going straight out to work is the better choice, then help is available with CV preparation, interview techniques and writing letters of application. Employability consists of much more today than simply getting the paperwork right – and mock interviews, discussion of 'soft skills' such as working with others and showing yourself at your best, are important too. The specialist website 'Unifrog' is made available to support students' research into university and apprenticeship options. It also provides templates to help students write CVs and personal statements.

Students are also supported in finding and undertaking mandatory work experience whilst in the Sixth Form (in person or virtually), either to improve their chances in applications such as those for medicine or teaching, or to gain workplace skills.

## PREPARING FOR UNIVERSITY

All university applications are through UCAS ([www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)). Each final examination grade (A Level and vocational) has an equivalent UCAS points value which is a way of providing universities and colleges with a consistent method to compare qualifications and inform admission decisions.

From early in Year 12, students are encouraged to look at whether university is the right path for them. A university degree is one way to gain advantage in future job choice, with the average earning capacity of graduates still higher than for those without higher education qualifications in the modern workplace.

However, it is not a decision to be taken lightly, and students are prepared for making decisions about the right course, given information from university speakers as well as from school staff on selecting universities, financial planning and options for gap years. The Sixth Form Common Room and the Sixth Form Library equip students with the latest careers books to support the decision-making process.

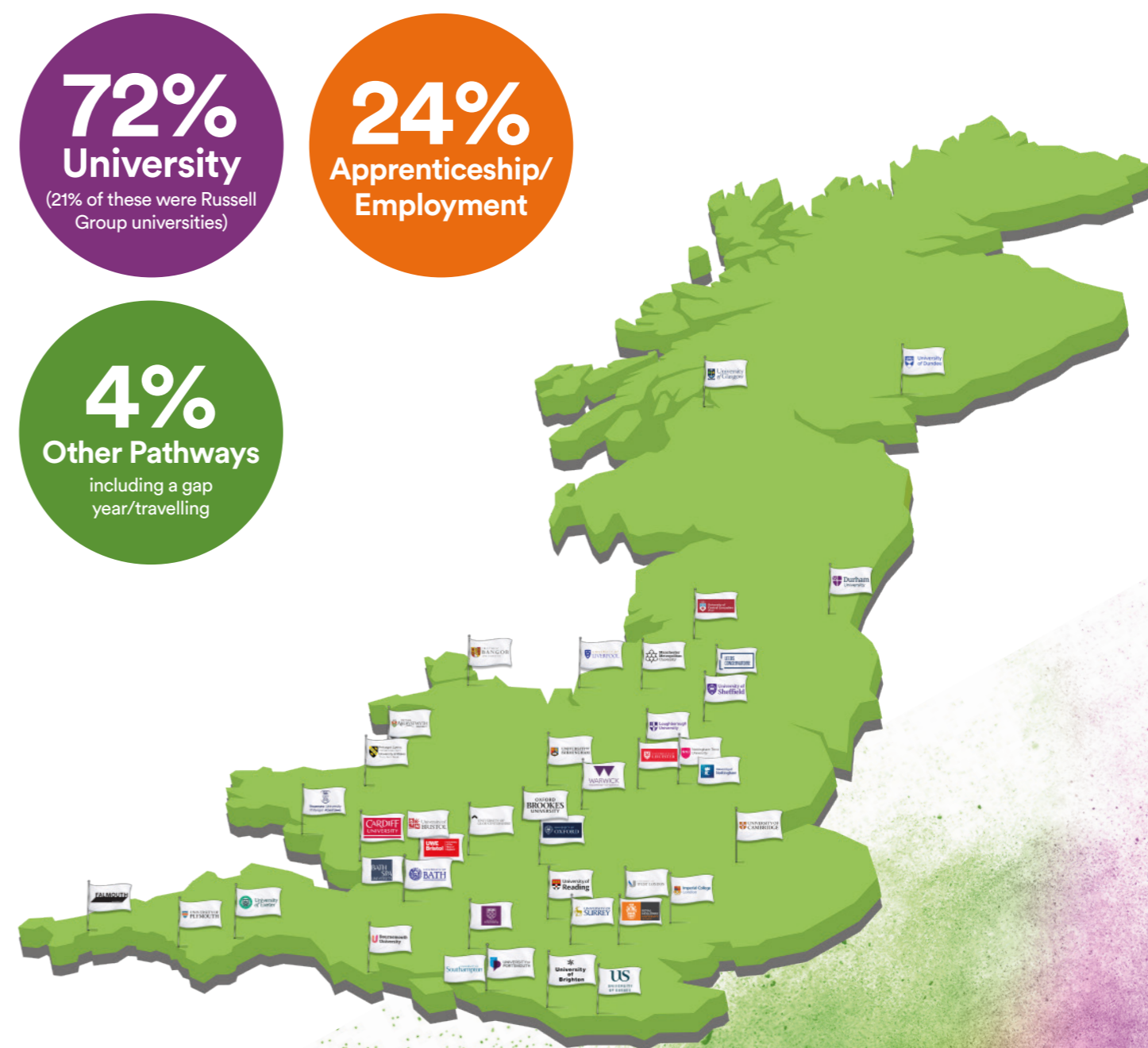
There is a specialised programme of preparation for potential medics, vets and law applicants, where competition is particularly high, as well as for those applying to Oxford and Cambridge and students are guided by tutors and Sixth Form staff to make applications appropriate to their abilities.

At the end of Year 12 and into Year 13, specific guidance is given about UCAS applications and writing successful personal statements.

**Further information**  
Contact: [careers@kennetschool.co.uk](mailto:careers@kennetschool.co.uk)

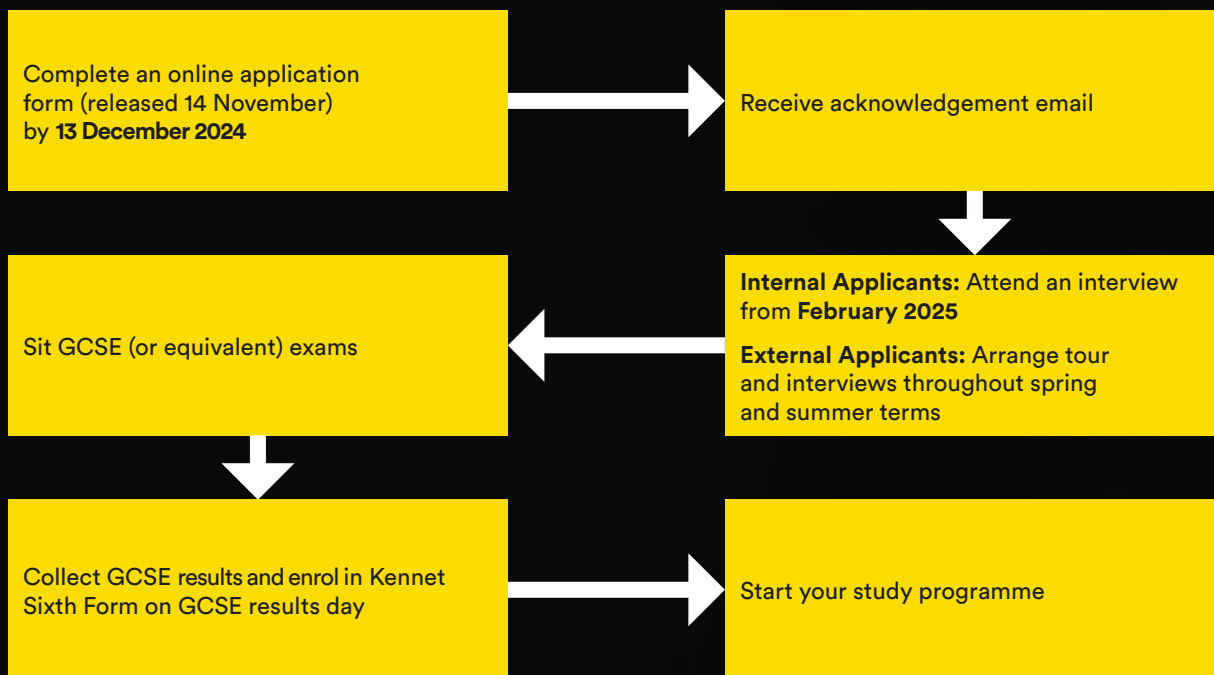
# 2024 DESTINATIONS

Kennet Sixth Form's 2024 student destinations highlight a diverse range of successful outcomes. Our students have secured places at top universities, gained sought-after apprenticeships, and pursued various professional pathways. With personalised support and guidance, students are well-prepared for the next stage of their journey.



# UNLEASH YOUR POTENTIAL

## HOW TO APPLY...



### Kennet School

Stoney Lane, Thatcham, Berkshire RG19 4LL

☎ 01635 862121

✉ [office@kennetschool.co.uk](mailto:office@kennetschool.co.uk)

🌐 [www.kennetschool.co.uk](http://www.kennetschool.co.uk)

✂ @kennetschool

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