Abingdon Sports & Vocational College

Independent specialist school part of the **New Beginnings Learning Trust**

Learn | Achieve | Progress | Succeed









Building Futures

Beyond Boundaries

New Beginnings Learning Trust
Personal journeys. Real impact.

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Imaginative, diverse, impactful, partnerships

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Who We Are

Abingdon Sports and Vocational College is a specialist provision supporting pupils referred by **local authorities and mainstream schools,** typically for a **minimum of two terms.**

We work predominantly with pupils with:

- Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH)
- Barriers to engagement in traditional education

Our mission is simple:

Every child can succeed with the right support and environment.

Through small group teaching, strong relationships and purposeful pathways, we re-engage pupils with education and prepare them for their next step – whether that is a return to mainstream, college, employment or training.

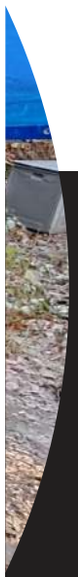






Our Core Offer: Two Distinct Pathways

At Abingdon, pupils follow one of two highly engaging, future-focused pathways, designed to build confidence, aspiration and real-world skills.



1

Sports Pathway

Performance, Resilience, Opportunity

The **Sports Pathway** uses physical activity as a powerful tool to:

- Re-engage pupils with learning
- Build discipline, teamwork and resilience
- Improve physical and mental wellbeing

Pupils access:

- A structured sports programme
- Competitive opportunities
- Outdoor and adventure-based activities

This pathway supports pupils to develop:

- Confidence
- Leadership
- A sense of identity and achievement

2

Vocational Pathway

Skills for Life, Skills for Work

The **Vocational Pathway** prepares pupils for real-world success through:

- Hands-on learning experiences
- Work-related skills development
- Industry-linked opportunities

A key strength of our provision is our partnership with leading corporate organisations within the aerospace sector, creating aspirational opportunities beyond the local area.

Pupils benefit from:

- Meaningful work experience placements
- Exposure to career pathways outside of Blackpool
- Development of employability and enterprise skills

This pathway broadens horizons and raises aspirations, showing pupils what is possible beyond their immediate environment.

Work Experience & Career Development

Work experience is a core part of our offer.

We actively support pupils to:

- Access placements with **large national and international organisations**
- Develop workplace skills and professionalism
- Build confidence in real-world environments

Our aim is to ensure pupils leave with:

The confidence to pursue opportunities at colleges, employers and universities beyond Blackpool.

Outdoor Learning & Residential Experiences

Personal development is at the heart of Abingdon.

Pupils are encouraged to take part in **residential trips and outdoor programmes,** including:

- **Yorkshire Dales**
- **Peak District**
- **Scotland**

These experiences promote:

- Independence
- Resilience
- Teamwork
- Confidence

They are a key part of developing **well-rounded, capable young people.**

Qualifications & Achievement

All pupils work towards a strong portfolio of recognised qualifications, including:

- **GCSEs**
- **BTEC qualifications (Level 1 & Level 2 and above)**
- **Duke of Edinburgh Award (Bronze, Silver & Gold)**
- **Sports Leadership Qualifications**
- **John Muir Award**
- **Scout Awards**

These qualifications reflect both academic progress and personal development, ensuring pupils leave with meaningful achievements.

Outcomes & Progression

Our provision is designed to:

- Re-engage pupils with education
- Build confidence and self-belief
- Create clear progression routes

Where this pathway can lead:

- College
- Apprenticeships
- Employment
- University
- Return to mainstream
- Specialist training pathways

Our Ethos

At Abingdon, we believe:

- Every pupil deserves a fresh start
- Every young person has potential
- Success comes from the right environment, support and opportunity

We don't just educate - ***We inspire pupils to think beyond their current circumstances and aim higher.***

Our Approach

Small class sizes, personalised timetables and therapeutic support help pupils rebuild confidence, improve attendance and re-engage with education.

Some pupils arrive believing their future is limited by their postcode, past experiences or confidence. We exist to them that their future can be much bigger.

Abingdon Sports and Vocational College

Creating confident, capable young people ready to take their next step - wherever that may be.



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For further information

To discuss a potential placement, or to arrange a visit to Abingdon Sports & Vocational College, please contact:

Email: referrals@thealternativeschool.co.uk
Tel: 01282 851800