

# CASE STUDY

## Discovering students' untapped potential

*Helping students to achieve beyond expectations, by offering them a different, applied style of learning with BTEC qualifications.*

 Centre name:  
**Dover College**

 Number of students:  
**290**

 Region:  
**Dover**

 School type:  
**Independent**

 Area type:  
**Coastal town**

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 support their students to discover untapped potential.

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

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%.

Many pupils in the Sixth Form want to progress onto university degrees. A BTEC helps students gain the knowledge and skills, to do just that. In 2017, BTEC-qualified school leavers went on to a wide range of university courses, from Sport and Exercise Science at Exeter University, to Music Management at West London University, and Law at Chester University.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

### NAME: SETH\*

Seth 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, which is ranked in the top 20 universities in the UK.

Since starting university in September 2017, Seth 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 been able to pick up the different learning style easily, having successfully developed to independent learning and research skills during his BTEC - skills that some of his peers are struggling with.

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*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*

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

*\*Name changed for confidentiality*

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