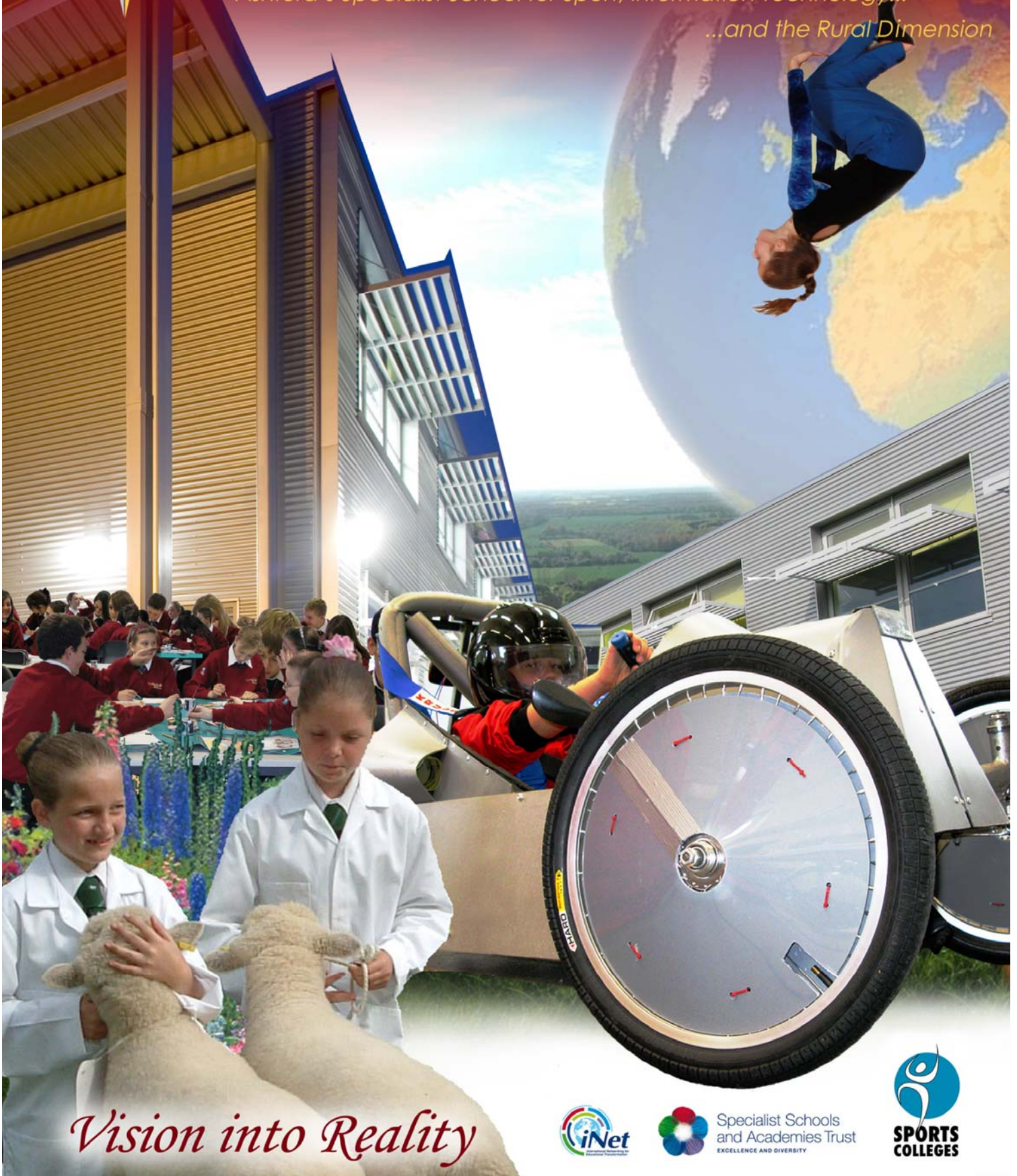




# TheNorth school

Ashford's Specialist School for Sport, Information Technology...  
...and the Rural Dimension



*Vision into Reality*





# The North School

*Vision into Reality*



# Welcome to our School



Gold Partner  
2011/12

**SPORTS  
COLLEGES**



Living the Olympic  
and Paralympic Values



Welcome to our prospectus and thank you for considering The North School. We hope that, before you make the important decision about which school to choose, you will come and sample the atmosphere for yourself.

The major transformation of our buildings, coupled with high standards, has led to the school being oversubscribed. We are a designated 11-19 school which enables us to provide a variety of post 16 courses including A levels and BTEC qualifications.

Facilities include an extensive outdoor area for sport, state of the art teaching rooms, an active school farm, dance studio, fitness suite, an all-weather pitch and a variety of specialist facilities for I.T., Design Technology and Science.

Staff and governors are committed to providing the best that is possible for our students. Our highly successful curriculum has considerably enriched the opportunities for students. We work in close partnership with parents to encourage students to reach their full potential.

The North School provides a caring and well-ordered environment where the highest possible standards of work and behaviour are expected. Students are encouraged to develop a sense of purpose and self-esteem which will help them to mature into confident and independent young adults.

We are committed to building upon the good work taking place in the primary schools. Close and valued contacts are maintained to help transition from Year 6 to Year 7 and great care is taken to support new students to help them settle in. All students have a learning mentor to ensure their progress is monitored and any additional need is supported.

Being proud of our school means that we are also keen to promote it. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

**Mrs L. Ellis,**  
**Headteacher**



The Open University



# The Curriculum

The North School's prime responsibility is to provide for the academic, personal and social development of our students. We aim to ensure that each student receives not only a broad and balanced education relevant to his or her ability, but is also able to enjoy dynamic and stimulating learning experiences. Our motto "Vision into Reality" meets the challenge of lifelong learning to enable each student to achieve his or her ambitions.



We set high academic standards and aim to stretch all of our students. We provide the opportunity to join a "Fast Track" for the most able and provide a wide range of individual programmes to support all students. Express groups are expected to work at the same pace as their peers in selective schools. Our setting arrangements are also flexible to allow students who are gifted in one area, but may need additional help in another, to work at the appropriate level across the whole curriculum.

"A key factor in the school's continuing rise in standards and achievement is an outstanding curriculum that is tailored well to the individual needs of its students. Extensive enrichment activities enhance the opportunities provided so that students have a range of interesting sporting or creative activities in which to develop their skills and interests.

Overall, students make good progress. A comprehensive tracking system is in place to identify the progress of both groups and individuals. This, linked with highly aspirational targets, is showing a positive impact on standards."

## **Ofsted 2009**

The management of the curriculum is divided into Faculties of Learning; English, Mathematics, Science, PE, Technology, Global Dimension, Performing and Creative Arts.



In Key Stage 4 the majority of subjects offered lead to formal accreditation at GCSE. All students are expected to sit examinations in English, Mathematics and Science with all other subjects being part of a wide and varied options programme.

All students are able to access the new English Baccalaureate and we are one of very few non-selective schools to have maintained the traditional subjects including history and geography as well modern foreign languages as option subjects available for all students.

We pride ourselves on being able to offer fully supportive and impartial progression to post 16 education. We work in partnership with local colleges, grammar schools, training agencies and employers to secure the best opportunities for our students, without exception. Our sixth form has expanded considerably over a short period of time and we specialise in a wide variety of A level and BTEC courses (Level 3). We also enable some students to follow a mixed programme of Level 3 and Level 2 (GCSE) subjects allowing students three years in the sixth form to achieve their ambitions.



# Student Care and Support



The school has eight Communities of Learning which provide a supportive learning environment for our students both academically and pastorally.

Each Community of Learning has a Head of Community and a full time non-teaching Community Assistant. These members of staff work with a team of tutors and mentors to ensure that the individual needs of each student are met. Thus each student will learn more, enjoy school and feel secure in the knowledge that progress through school will be smooth.

The highly experienced staff in our Inclusion Team helps to ensure that all students are appropriately supported in class and receive additional help as required.

"Students make a positive contribution to the school and local community, for example raising money through their learning communities for a variety of local and national charities. The specialisms have been at the centre of building local community links. Some students work with primary schools as junior sports leaders; others share knowledge and expertise of the rural dimension. Students' preparation for their future economic well-being is good. Their development of good teamwork and cooperative skills stands them in good stead for the future. As one parent wrote, 'I feel confident that my son will leave this school in a position to pursue a course in further education and on to the career of his choice.'"

**Ofsted 2009**



# Enrichment Activities



The school is able to provide a wide range of experiences outside the school curriculum. Every Wednesday the formal curriculum ends early to allow a comprehensive variety of enrichment activities to take place. Both before and after school, on all school days additional clubs and activities are organised by members of staff. Our Learning Resource Centre is open daily after school to give additional help to students with their homework or provide coursework guidance and advice.

We are fortunate that we have The North Youth Centre on the school site as our students can also benefit from the activities organised through the youth service. These include sailing, canoeing and activity weekends away.

Performing Arts is given strong emphasis. Students are actively encouraged to participate in a variety of performances throughout the year. Dance, drama, art and music combine to provide an extensive range of opportunities.



The school offers a wide variety of sport to cater for all students needs. The programme includes individual as well as team activities.

We are unique in the Ashford area in that we have a school farm and animal centre. Our wide variety of animals, ranging from the small birds and reptiles to the pedigree breeding sheep and cattle, provides all students with the opportunity to build relationships with animals and gain awareness of animal husbandry. We have a thriving Young Farmers' Club where members learn the skills to successfully show animals at events such as The Kent County Agricultural Show.



Each year group has the opportunity to take part in educational visits. Examples include visits to the World War One battlefields in France, to the theatres of London's West End, Hastings and Canterbury, or to Dover to study the Central Business District. We also have a wide range of residential experiences to other countries such as France, China, Spain and Russia as well as to activity centres in this country.



# TheNorth school



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**Website:** www.north.kent.sch.uk  
**Headteacher:** Mrs L. Ellis  
**DCSF number:** 886/4246  
**Group:** 6

## SCHOOL TIMES

### Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Lesson 1	8.45 - 9.35
Lesson 2	9.35 - 10.25
Lesson 3	10.25 - 11.10
<b>BREAK</b>	<b>11.10 - 11.30</b>
Lesson 4	11.30 - 12.20
Lesson 5	12.20 - 13.05
<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>13.05 - 13.45</b>
Lesson 6	13.45 - 14.35
Lesson 7	14.35 - 15.20

### Wednesday

Lesson 1	8.45 - 9.35
Lesson 2	9.35 - 10.25
Lesson 3	10.25 - 11.10
<b>BREAK</b>	<b>11.10 - 11.30</b>
Lesson 4	11.30 - 12.20
Lesson 5	12.20 - 13.05
<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>13.05 - 13.45</b>
Lesson 6	13.45 - 14.35
Lesson 7*	14.35 - 15.20

*\*Enrichment Activities*



## **GOVERNORS OF THE SCHOOL 2011 – 2012**

<b>Governor</b>	<b>Category</b>
Mrs L. Ellis	Headteacher
Mr C. Johnson (Chair)	LEA Appointed Governor
Mr P. Cooke (Vice-Chair)	Parent Governor
Mr R. Piner	Associate Governor
Mr M. Janes	LEA Appointed Governor
Mrs A. Major	LEA Appointed Governor
Mr A. Johnston	LEA Appointed Governor
Mr M. Boulding	Community Governor
Ms J. Brooks	Community Governor
Mr S. Cox	Community Governor
Mr M. Mutton	Community Governor
Mr J. Winter	Community Governor
Mr G. Brooker	Parent Governor
Mrs V. Hine	Parent Governor
Mrs T. Matthews	Parent Governor
Mrs S. Sheppard	Parent Governor
Mrs S. Wright	Parent Governor
Mr S. Dove	Staff – Teacher
Mr W. Clague	Staff – Non Teacher
Miss R. Rogers	Staff – Teacher
Ms J. Davey	Clerk to Governors

### **STUDENT NUMBERS AND ATTENDANCE**

This September, there were 1195 students on the school roll, compared with 1146 last year. The school attendance policy is available from the school. Attendance figures for the year 2010 – 2011 were as follows:

2010 - 2011	Attendance	Authorised Absence	Unauthorised Absence
	93.3%	5.25%	1.45%

## **EXAM RESULTS**

### **2011 GCSE**

#### **5 + A\* - C**

2008 = 40%  
2009 = 51%  
2010 = 80%  
2011 = 90%

#### **5 + A\* - G**

2008 = 93%  
2009 = 95%  
2010 = 98%  
2011 = 99%

#### **5 + A\* - C**

Inc. English and Maths

2008 = 23%  
2009 = 28%  
2010 = 40%  
2011 = 40% \*2011 Unverified Data

English baccalaureate = 9%  
8 + A\*-C inc. English, Maths and Science = 40%  
5+ A\*-C inc. English and Maths = 40%  
8 or more A\*-C = 61%  
5 or more A\*- C = 90%  
5 or more A\*- G = 99%  
1 or more A\*- G = 100%  
Average Point Score = 486

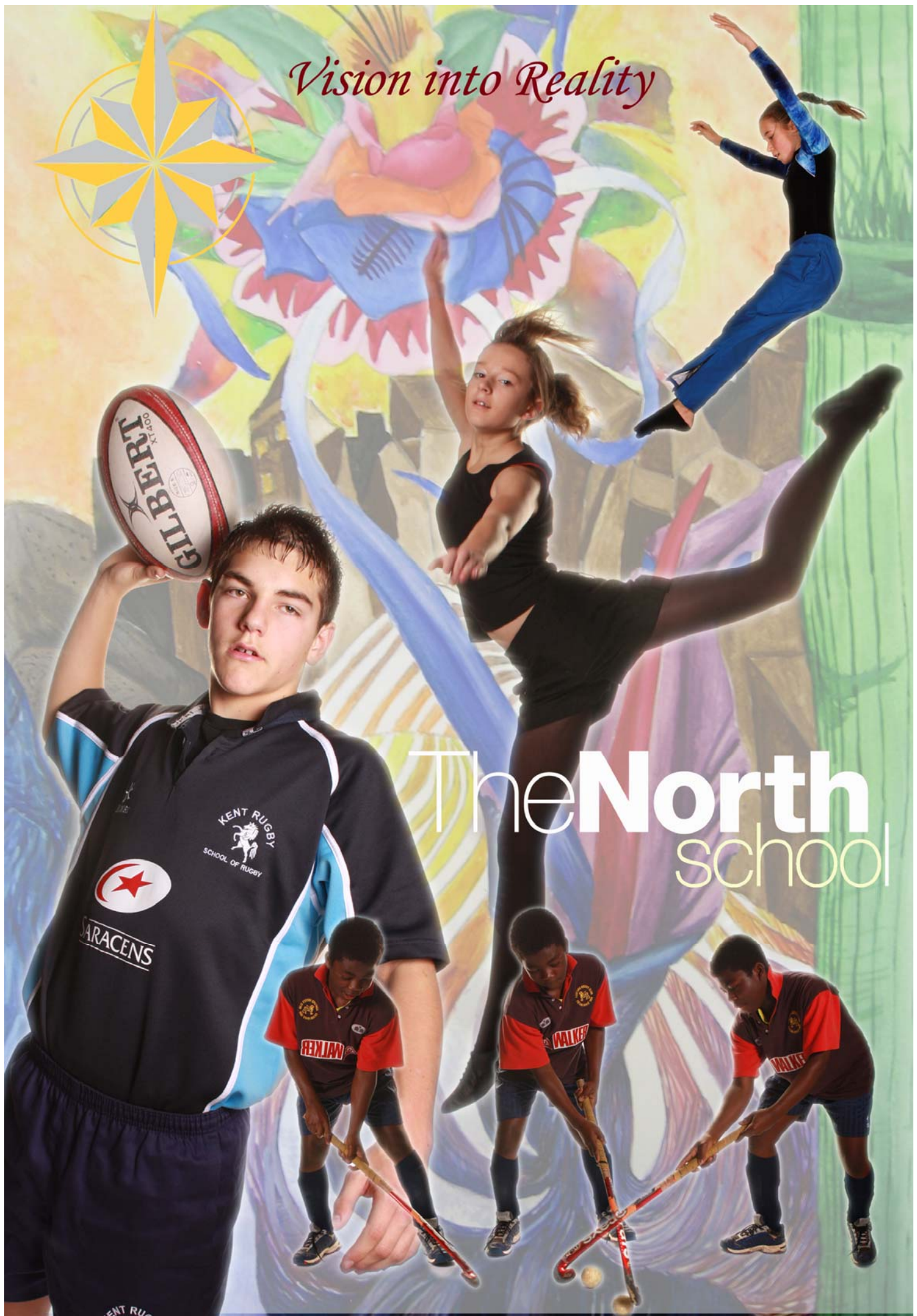
# The North School Table of Results 2011

Course	No. Results	A*/A or DT	B or MT	C or PS	D	E	F	G	% A*-C	% A*-G
3D Design (BTEC)	24	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	96%	96%
Adult Literacy	57	-	28	-	-	-	32	-	49%	100%
Adult Numeracy	41	-	25	-	-	-	18	-	58%	100%
Animal Care (BTEC)	11	8	1	2	-	-	-	-	100%	100%
Art (BTEC)	36	7	11	18	-	-	-	-	100%	100%
Art, Design & Media (BTEC)	21	-	-	-	-	6	6	9	-	100%
Chinese (GCSE)	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	100%	100%
Construction (Bricklaying)	12	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	92%
Construction (Carpentry)	8	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	88%
Engineering (BTEC)	20	1	9	10	-	-	-	-	100%	100%
English (GCSE)	174	1	28	48	34	30	26	4	44%	98%
English Literature (GCSE)	126	4	26	19	10	19	23	19	39%	95%
Environment Based Higher Project	7	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	71%	71%
Ethics & Philosophy (GCSE)	18	5	3	-	8	2	-	-	89%	100%
French (GCSE)	26	4	4	9	7	1	1	-	61%	100%
Functional Skills English	41	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	73%	73%
Functional Skills ICT	47	-	22	-	-	-	-	-	47%	47%
Functional Skills Maths	28	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	64%	64%
Geography (GCSE)	34	3	8	10	6	2	4	1	62%	100%
Hairdressing Diploma	6	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	83%	83%
Health & Social Care (GCSE)	11	-	1	1	2	3	3	1	18%	100%
History (GCSE)	47	-	7	13	19	6	1	1	43%	100%
Hospitality & Catering (BTEC)	21	-	10	10	-	-	-	-	95%	95%
ICT (BTEC)	86	17	21	41	-	-	-	-	92%	92%
Key Skills - Improving Own Learning	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	100%
Key Skills - Working with Others	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	100%
Law (GCSE)	31	1	8	11	4	3	2	1	65%	97%
Leisure & Tourism (GCSE)	9	-	-	3	2	2	2	-	33%	100%
Mathematics (GCSE)	174	16	22	68	28	19	14	5	61%	99%
Motor Vehicle Maintenance	10	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	100%
Music (GCSE)	8	-	3	3	1	1	-	-	75%	100%
PE (BTEC)	36	2	8	26	-	-	-	-	100%	100%
PE (GCSE)	26	2	7	10	6	1	-	-	73%	100%
PE NCFE	149	-	149	-	-	-	-	-	100%	100%
PE Short Course (GCSE)	42	3	4	17	13	2	3	-	57%	100%
Performing Arts (BTEC)	21	-	7	12	-	-	-	-	90%	90%
Photography (GCSE)	25	5	3	2	2	3	3	5	40%	92%
Polish (GCSE)	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	100%	100%
Preparation for Working Life	163	-	73	-	-	-	87	-	44%	96%
Psychology (GCSE)	41	4	9	15	5	5	1	2	68%	100%
RE Short Course (GCSE)	101	8	16	20	26	18	7	3	41%	97%
Science (BTEC)	106	-	23	80	-	-	-	-	97%	97%
Science (GCSE)	151	3	31	72	19	15	10	1	70%	100%
Skills Towards Enabling Progression	20	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-	100%
Spanish (GCSE)	19	3	1	9	3	2	1	-	68%	100%
Sport Leadership	16	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	100%
Statistics (GCSE)	24	2	9	12	1	-	-	-	96%	100%
Work Skills	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46%	100%



# Notes

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Photography, design and production: Staff and students of The North School