



**Fort Pitt
Grammar School**

About The School

Fort Pitt has served the area of Rochester and Chatham since 1926, when we were established as the nation's first technical school for girls. In 1984 we opened as a grammar school, a status we proudly hold to this day. Our history is deeply rooted in the local area, with the oldest building on the school site dating back to 1853. A military hospital during the Crimean War, Fort Pitt was also Florence Nightingale's first teaching hospital, with Queen Victoria visiting three times over the course of her reign. The site and school continue to be of national historical significance.

Today Fort Pitt is one of six selective schools located in the Medway. Much of our intake includes first-generation grammar school students as well as first-generation sixth form students and university aspirants. Raising aspirations lies at the heart of all we do. We are not super-selective and accept any student who has passed the Medway 11+ test; unlike most successful grammar schools, we do not take the test score into account when awarding places. We hold it as our duty to help high-ability students from all backgrounds to improve their life chances and achieve.

Accredited by the Prince's Trust Teaching Institute, Fort Pitt is a Leading Edge school, a National Support School, and an Initial Teacher Training institution. At our last Ofsted inspection (May 2009), Fort Pitt was awarded 'Outstanding' status, and it is this standard that we seek to uphold in every aspect of our provision. Since our last inspection the school has risen to fresh challenges, being awarded converter academy status in November 2010 and subsequently sponsoring two schools as the Fort Pitt Grammar School Academy Trust. In September 2015, the Trust merged with Thomas Aveling Academy to form FPTA Academies (Fort Pitt Thomas Aveling Academies).

The school is comprised of four forms of entry in Years 7 to 11, operating an accelerated curriculum in KS3 (Years 7 & 8) and an extended curriculum in KS4 (Years 9-11). Our thriving co-ed sixth form has capacity for 240 students, all of whom study between three and five A-levels. Fort Pitt is a fully integrated community comprised of four houses: Meaden, Ryder, Somerville and Westwood. There are ten vertical tutor groups in each house, each made up of students from Year 7 through to Year 13. This mutual support and challenge from cross-age peers makes a significant contribution to our ethos and culture.

At the heart of that ethos can be found four 'excellences': Academic Excellence, Excellent Appearance, Excellent Environment and Excellent Community. From the current academic year, we will be introducing the Fort Pitt Values, which will enhance the excellences and replace school rules. All members of staff are expected to uphold these values with diligence and pride.

