



**HADLOW
COLLEGE**
Part of North Kent College

**Kent's only
rural and
land-based
college**

16+



COURSE GUIDE



2026/27

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To see our full course offer please visit our website: www.hadlow.ac.uk



**APPLY
NOW**

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WELCOME

A Welcome from the Chief Executive and Executive Principal

I am delighted to introduce the 2026 full-time course guide. Choosing which college or school to attend is one of the most exciting and important decisions you will make. The course you choose now will help shape your future career and we are committed to helping you make the right choice.

Our North Kent College portfolio incorporates Kent's only rural and land-based college, Hadlow College, with a specialist rural university experience and state-of-the-art facilities. North Kent College also offers three other campuses in Dartford, Gravesend and Tonbridge. All our campuses serve their local communities, and each campus has its own unique identity but together we offer a broad range of programmes, enrichment, and progression opportunities.

We are committed to providing our students with the best learning experience possible and welcome all students,

whether joining us from school or college or returning from a break in their studies.

Our work with employers and the local community leads to many wide ranging and diverse progression opportunities and you will find within this guide several case studies from current and past students where you will see their journeys and chosen career paths.

Take your time to explore this guide and you can find even more details on our website. Make sure to visit our year-round open events including our popular Lambing Weekend or simply give us a call or drop us a message on our social media channels. Don't just take our word for it though make sure to watch the student testimonials and video interviews to find out why students have made us their number one choice.

David Gleed
Chief Executive and Executive Principal



A Welcome from the Campus Principal, Hadlow College

Thank you for considering Hadlow College for your next step along your educational journey. Our aim is to provide you with a solid foundation upon which you can build your career or further studies. Hadlow College has a proud heritage within the land-based sector and we pride ourselves in being a community.

For over 50 years we have been based at our current site, just outside of Tonbridge, and our history can be traced back over 100 years. Former students have won major prizes in several prestigious national events and are a key part in Kent County's rural economy.

Our staff are highly skilled in supporting you along this land-based path; helping you settle in, make new friends and get the most out of your time with us. However, even before you start, our impartial careers advice can help you choose the right course and support you through the application and enrolment process.

During your course you will benefit from a number of exciting learning opportunities, both in the classroom and outdoors. You will gain real-life skills and experience a real-life work environment, guided by our expert lecturers. Follow our social media channels to keep up-to-date with everything that is happening at the College. I would also recommend that you consider attending one of our recruitment events and speaking to our tutors. I hope you enjoy finding out about Hadlow College.

Chris Lydon
Campus Principal, Hadlow College

Visit our
website to
see all our
courses and
apply.



OPEN EVENTS and Campus Tours



2025

Saturday 15th November
10.00 am – 1.00 pm

2026

Saturday 24th January
10.00 am – 1.00 pm

Wednesday 3rd June
3.00 pm – 7.00 pm

Our Open Events are held at various times across the year and take the form of online or on-site events.

We want you to explore our facilities whilst having the opportunity to speak to tutors, current and past students. You can also apply for a September 2026 start with us at our events.

Make sure you keep an eye on our website for full details and to pre-register!

www.hadlow.ac.uk/events

**FIND
OUT
MORE**



SPRING 2026

Lambing Weekend

Come and visit our new born lambs, activities include tractor rides, birds of prey, food and craft stalls and so much more!

Check website for details.

REASONS TO BE PART OF HADLOW



Hadlow College is Kent's only rural and land-based college

Whether joining us from school or looking to change career, Hadlow College offers a huge range of courses covering: Agriculture (livestock, arable, fruit and vegetables), Horticulture (glasshouse production, fruit and vegetables, viticulture, greenkeeping and ornamental production), Gardening, Agricultural Engineering, Aquaculture & Fisheries Management, Equine, Animal Management, and Floristry, to suit the needs of many different students.

**APPLY
NOW**

Sustainability Agenda – We Grow Farmers of the Future

We educate students as farmers of the future to operate and manage sustainable systems.

We have our exciting new decarbonisation and sustainable development - the creation of a new 'robotic orchard and vineyard' aimed at promoting sustainability, which is now a vital part of land-based industries. The cutting-edge orchard and vineyard has been planted with vines and stone fruits and will enable students to use and learn about automated spraying, robotic harvesting and the use of drones for such things as mapping yield. We've got state-of-the-art technology to ensure our students are at the forefront of the sustainable farming industry.

Proud heritage within the rural sector

We have a proud heritage within the rural sector, and our main aim is to make all our students feel welcome and secure in what is a fantastic learning environment as they gain the skills they require for a successful land-based career.

Excellent resources

The College has excellent resources including a working beef farm (we also have links with local dairy farms), sheep unit, arable crops, glasshouses, fruit production, Broadview Gardens, animal collection, fisheries lakes & hatchery and stables at Hadlow.

Work experience

All full-time courses and Apprenticeships include a significant amount of work experience that is carried out in a work place developing the skills and knowledge related to the sector and provide excellent opportunities for the industry to raise the profiles of their sector.

The College courses include:

Full-time Further Education

College delivered course – Levels 1-3 in Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, Animal Management, Equestrian Studies, Fisheries Management, Floristry and Horticulture.

Higher Education – in conjunction with University of Greenwich

College delivered Foundation Degree and Degree programmes in Agriculture, Animal Management, Equestrian Studies, Fisheries Management and Horticulture

Apprenticeships

See website for further details

Part-time

Introductory courses for Adults

Continuous Personal Development
(Floristry update workshops)

Our Beautiful Campus

Our main campus is set in beautiful surroundings - a large managed estate including over 265 acres of prime farming land, woodland, three commercial farms, established show gardens and horticultural glasshouses, and other natural habitats. Including our sustainable orchard and vineyard with all the latest technologies to learn sustainable farming techniques.

**APPLY
NOW**

A man with a beard, wearing a blue jacket, is shown in a glasshouse, carefully examining a plant. The background is a white, translucent structure. The overall image has a green and yellow geometric overlay in the top left corner.

AROUND THE GROUNDS

Faulkner's Farm

Our fully functioning commercial farm is home to the College flock of 350 ewes, lambing sheds and 66 hectares of rotational grazing. Students are involved with lambing, shearing and care of the flock.

Blackman's Farm

Home to our herd of beef cattle. As well as land for grazing, the farm which extends to 57 hectares is also used for arable crop and forage production. We also have very close links with local dairy farms giving our students an all round experience with dairy and beef.

Equestrian Facilities

Our superb Equestrian stabling for 64 horses along with two international size indoor arenas, outdoor arenas and paddocks. We regularly host competitions and lecture demonstrations from famous riders and trainers such as Mary and Emily King, Mark Todd and Monty Roberts.

National Centre for Reptile Welfare (NCRW)

The facility, the first of its type in the United Kingdom, provides refuge and care for up to 600 unwanted and vulnerable reptiles and amphibians. Its aim is to re-home them through a national network of retailers and wholesalers, as well as improve the body of knowledge





Horticultures State-of-the-art Glasshouse

The **Thanet Earth Centre of Excellence** @ Hadlow College is a groundbreaking partnership between ourselves, leading industry grower Thanet Earth, and research and innovation organisation Growing Kent & Medway.

The Centre is based at our state-of-the-art glasshouse and is the UK's first centre of excellence in greenhouse growing.

Aiming to inspire and train the next generation of UK commercial horticulturists, the Centre connects students with leading businesses from the greenhouse sector, promising to bring a new generation of skilled workers to protect the future of UK-grown fresh produce.

Animal Management

Our Animal Management Unit (AMU) is one of the country's leading educational animal collections. The collection houses over 500 animals from over 125 different species, which all the students study to develop their skills and expertise. With state-of-the-art aquatics, herpetology and nocturnal sections, students have the opportunity to experience a diverse range of working environments, while the opportunity to work with exotic carnivores, canids and mongoose species provide our students with first-class experience in a zoo environment.

Many of the species we house are endangered and are part of national and international collaborative programmes with other UK zoos. The collection also has a substantial range of domestic species including pigs, goats, alpacas and poultry.

Horticulture

Our Horticultural facilities comprises of a brand new glasshouse complex, access to fruit orchards and field production facilities. Exciting new automated and sustainable developments with our three hectare robotic orchard producing apples, pears, cherries and other crops using the latest harvest and management tools / equipment and robots. A vineyard looking at the production requirements for English wine and grape juice. A new commercial nursery was introduced recently comprising glasshouses with hydroponic growing facilities.

Broadview Gardens

Comprising four hectares of beautiful individually designed themed gardens built by Hadlow staff and students, Broadview offers a retreat and a great place to escape when you fancy a break from your studies.

Fisheries Hatchery

Our fully-stocked hatchery contains various species of tropical and cold water fish, in different types of industry-specific systems. Students learn about different methods of fish welfare, accommodation and husbandry.

We have over 50 aquarium tanks and several advanced Recirculating Aquaculture Systems which incorporate industry standard equipment such as commercial drum filters.

Floristry

We have chillers, bespoke classrooms for floristry and cutting gardens.

Grove Farm Fishing Lake

Comprising a two-hectare mixed coarse fishing lake and growing on ponds. Grove Farm operates as a commercial fishery and fish farm, providing our students with practical skills in carp husbandry, modern fisheries management practises and all aspects of fish farming and relevant legislation.

Agricultural Engineering

We have very well-equipped state-of-the-art workshops where engineering students have a vast array of specialist tools to hand to carry out all sorts of engineering projects. The workshop, which has recently been extended, has 540 square metres of floor space to accommodate many kinds of projects, from vintage and classic tractor restorations to modern tractors and implements that need fault diagnosis with the aid of a laptop.



STUDENTS' UNION & LEARNER VOICE





Students' Union

The Students' Union (SU) is run by students and promotes the interests of the student community.

Every student becomes part of the Union from the day they join us to the day they leave us – but it's up to you as to how involved you want to be from being part of the Executive Committee, to being a Class Representative. You could even become a Student Governor or SU President.



Learner Voice

It is important to us at Hadlow that all students are given the opportunity to have their voices heard.

The Learner Council is a democratic system based on government principles as identified in Fundamental British Values. Learner Voice provides learners with the platform to share persuasive arguments to improve elements of learner experiences.

Class representatives will have the opportunity to develop integrated employability skills, election and voting processes.



OPTIONS AFTER YOUR GCSEs

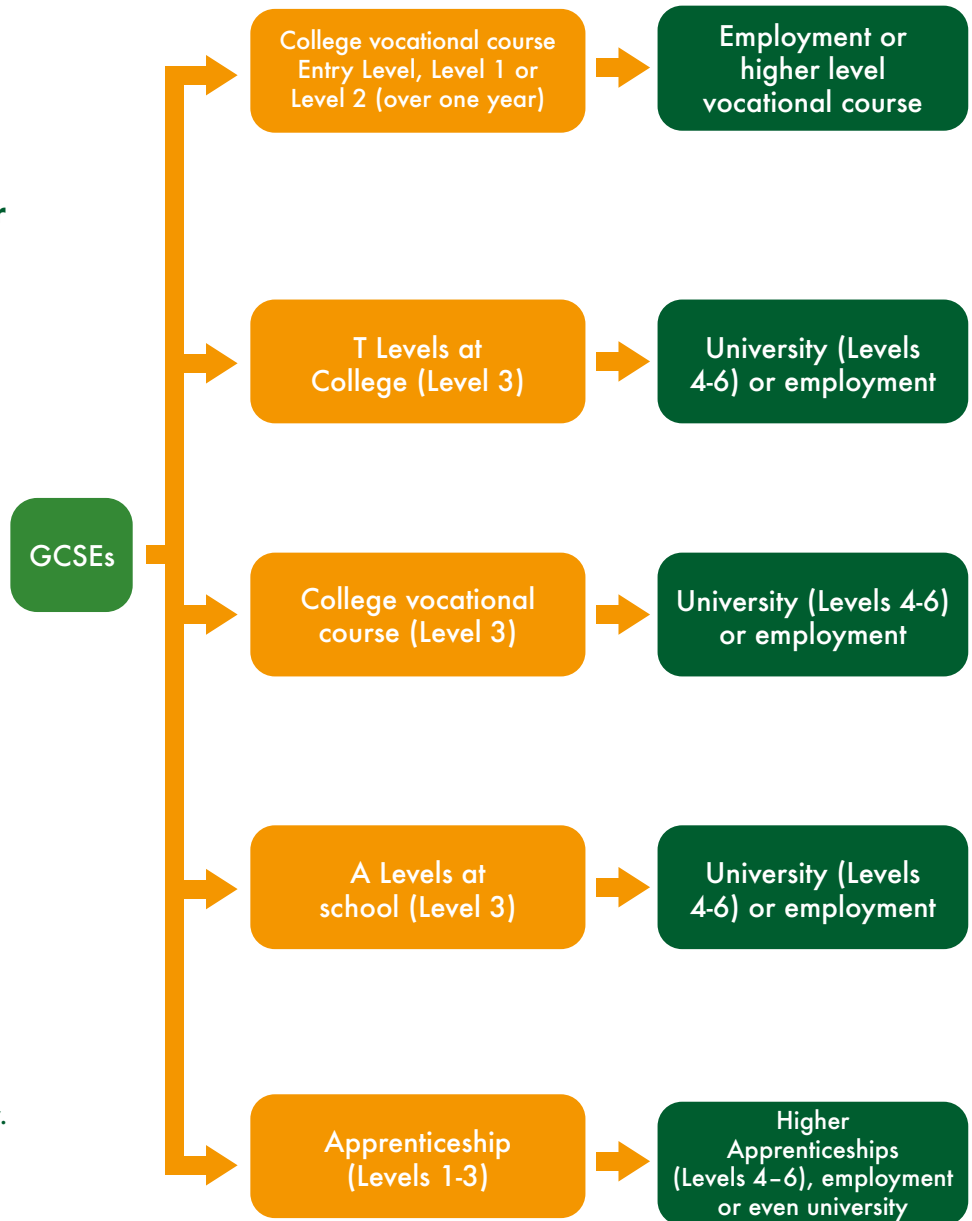
There are many options after your GCSEs, from vocational programmes, to A Levels, to apprenticeships and they can all lead to your chosen career, but what are the best routes for you? Here's an idea of the paths you can take.

Levels of study

Depending on GCSE results (or predicted results), our tutors will recommend what level of study to apply for. This will be discussed at interview, but can be moved at enrolment after GCSE results.

As you can see, after GCSEs, students can start at Entry Level or Level 1 or 2 which are completed in 1 year and move to Level 3 which is equivalent of A Levels, or you can go straight into a Level 3 programme and move onto Level 4, university or into employment once completed.

For students wishing to go to university or study Higher Education programmes, a Level 3 Extended Diploma is required by universities in the subject (or closely related subject) to the one you wish to study. We have a number of courses that can lead to Higher Education.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Level of Study

Equivalent to

Entry Requirements

LEVEL 1

NVQ Level
BTEC Introductory
Diploma

Minimum of 2 GCSEs at Grade 2 or equivalent
Progression options: Level 2 Qualifications

LEVEL 2

BTEC Diploma

Minimum of 4 GCSEs at Grade 3 or equivalent, should include English or Maths at GCSE Grade 4
Progression options: Level 3 Qualifications

LEVEL 3

A Levels
T Levels
NVQ Level 3
Access

Minimum of 4 GCSEs at Grade 4 or equivalent, must include English or Maths at GCSE Grade 4
Progression options: University or Employment

Specific entry criteria may apply to certain courses so please check our website for further details.

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APPRENTICESHIPS AT HADLOW COLLEGE



Apprenticeships

Why not start to build your career with an Apprenticeship?

Did you know Hadlow College is one of the country's leading land-based Colleges.

No matter what stage you are within your career, whether just starting out in the world of work or already in an established position, Apprenticeships can support you to develop your skills, knowledge and behaviours in your chosen profession via an apprenticeship scheme, and is perfect solution to earn while you learn.

What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a real job that gives you a learning platform to train and develop your skills, knowledge and behaviours in your chosen profession.

20% of your contracted working hours will be spent in training and development, either with us at college, or even in your workplace. The remainder of your time will be spent applying and developing deeper skills and knowledge in your workplace.

Apprenticeship FAQs

Do Apprentices get paid?

As an apprentice, you'll usually be employed to work a minimum of 30 hours per week and be paid a wage no less than the National Minimum Apprenticeship Rate – £7.55* per hour, for the time you are in work and in off-the-job training.

You can also undertake an apprenticeship if you are a part time employee, in these circumstances we will review your part-time working hours and extend the duration of your apprenticeship to ensure you receive the required level of training needed.

The amount you are paid is based on several factors including your previous experience and current skill set. Within some job roles your wage may increase as you progress and take on more responsibility. You will also receive the same benefits as any employee, including holiday pay.

Who can do an Apprenticeship?

Apprenticeships are open to anyone who is 16 years old and over, has a right to work in England and is not in full time education. There is no upper age limit and available to anyone whether starting out on their career or for those who have been working for some time.

We offer:

- Advanced Sports Turf Technician
- Crop Technician
- Golf Greenkeeper
- Golf Course Manager
- Horticulture or Landscape Construction Operative
- Horticulture and Landscape Supervisor
- Motor Vehicle Service & Maintenance Technician
- Sports Turf Operative

*Price correct at time of print.



Please check our website for the most-up-to-date apprenticeship information as these are subject to change.

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DECARBONISATION AND SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA



Working towards a decarbonised economy

EDUCATING FARMERS OF THE FUTURE!

We educate farmers of the future and are working on sustainable farming skills with our state-of-the-art developments:

The establishment of a “concept orchard and vineyard” showcasing the latest technology in automated systems, including automated and AI management systems, innovative crop diversity, cleaner storage, and robotic fruit picking.

We educate Hadlow students as the farmers of the future to operate and manage these sustainable systems and develop concepts for real change in the sector, for an efficient, economic, healthy and sustainable farming industry. In line with the collaborative project across Kent with the Chamber of Commerce and Kent’s Further Education Colleges, Hadlow College work on decarbonisation and skills shortages in identified industry sectors.

Hadlow College has a well-established three hectare orchard growing a range of crops on the main campus. This exciting development focuses on sustainability, reducing labour where possible and allows us to work collaboratively with industry and importantly inspire the next generation of fruit growers and horticulturists.

The orchard is automated using a range of robotic equipment and sensors to remove much of the labour intensive aspects but develop the highly skilled labour requirements of orchard management.

The crops grown include apple, pears, cherries, apricots and other prunus. A section of the orchard is devoted to viticulture producing a crop of grapes but with the training emphasis being on how to set up and manage a vineyard. Cherries grown under plastic

and intensive production systems are used to maximise the potential yield of all crops. The planning of the orchard was conducted in conjunction with industry to ensure we are meeting future demands.

The crops are grown with sustainability in mind at all times. Drones are used to monitor bud set, predict yields and monitor the growth of the crop allowing precise applications of nutrition, pest and disease control methods to be used.

Sensors are installed throughout the orchard to monitor amongst other things moisture, relative humidity, PAR, rainfall plus other exciting sensors which are currently being developed.

Post-harvest technology will include new cold store facilities with lab based research storage facilities to help better understand the implications of long term storage of fruit. Hadlow College has a rich history of fruit production, working with industry and providing training opportunities for students. This latest development is an exciting opportunity for industry to engage with the college to shape the future of the fruit industry in Kent and further afield.



**A Greener
Garden of England**
Working towards a decarbonised economy



RESIDENTIAL LIFE

Make your **home** here at **Hadlow**



**Our Residential
Accommodation is rated
'Outstanding' by Ofsted**

Want to live and study on campus?

Leaving home to live at College is an exciting experience and Hadlow College provides the opportunity to take those first steps of independent living in a supportive and friendly environment.

We offer excellent accommodation for students, which are set at the heart of our charming Hadlow campus.

You'll get a single study bedroom, shared bathroom or shower facilities, a communal lounge and kitchen equipped with cooker, fridge and freezer.

Weekly enrichment opportunities and student-led groups to encourage learning new skills, making new friends and experiencing different activities.

HOW TO APPLY FOR RESIDENTIAL

All full-time students are eligible to apply for accommodation; however, preference is given to those who live a considerable distance from the College. In addition, course hours are taken into consideration, particularly for those courses that have early morning or late practical duties. If you are interested in applying, please complete the online form by visiting

www.hadlow.ac.uk

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Our accommodation package includes:



We offer our students accommodation on a half-board basis and self-catering for those over 18 years of age.



All utility bills.



A member of staff available at all times. 24 hours a day, 5 days a week when students are in accommodation.



Pastoral support and personal and social development opportunities.



Daily cleaning and maintenance support.



Access to student zone activities and facilities.



Please check our website for the most-up-to-date Residential information.



AGRICULTURE



Through practical experience on the College farms as well as working on machinery and in our workshop facilities, you will gain an in-depth understanding of the skills needed to work within the Agricultural industry.

COURSES

Agriculture

Level **1** **2** **3**

Please note that the Level 1 qualification in Land-based Studies is a combined Horticulture and Agriculture programme.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For more information, please see page 16.

You will be involved in all aspects of the farming year - including lambing, shearing, ploughing and harvest - and assist with the College's beef herd. We also have close links with local dairy farms so you'll get all the experience of dairy herd management as well. Our beef herd forms part of the College's wider re-generative farming strategy that helps improve the environmental credentials of the farm and provides excellent learning for students.

By studying a course in Agriculture, you can become part of an industry which is key to the production of food, preservation of the countryside and ongoing survival of the rural economy. The Agricultural team have a array of experience ranging from crop, soil, plant, livestock, machinery and business management, and bring this knowledge and experience to the delivery of the courses.

The courses have a mixture of practical and theory and are delivered making use of the excellent Agricultural facilities.

Future Careers

Farm Worker

Shepherd

Stockperson

Assistant Farm Manager

Agriculture Inspector

Herdperson

Agriculture Contractor

Agriculture Engineer

Groundcare Engineer

Tractor Driver



AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING



**APPLY
NOW**

Land-based technology

Through practical experience in the College workshops, as well as working on machinery restoration projects for local farmers, students gain an in-depth understanding of the skills they need to work within the Agricultural Engineering industry.

Students are involved in all aspects of engineering – including welding, fabrication, servicing, engine and transmission rebuilds, hydraulics and suspension systems, restorations, machinery operations and ploughing. The course has a mixture of practical and theory and is delivered making use of the excellent Agricultural workshop facilities and machinery training yard.

COURSES

Agricultural Engineering

Level **3**



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For more information, please see page 16.

Fire Training

Agricultural Engineering students visit North Kent College, Gravesend campus for Basic Fire Training



Hadlow College Level 3 Agricultural Engineering students had the chance to visit North Kent College's Gravesend campus to take part in Basic Fire Training.

The students completed the one-day training course to gain basic knowledge of fire safety, fire prevention and an understanding of the hazards of fire. The students now understand the need for prompt, safe and correct action to be taken on the outbreak of a fire and experienced the use of extinguishers on live fires.

This course was essential knowledge the students needed to keep them safe in the environments they currently work in at college and for their future employment enabling them to use the lessons learnt in the case of an emergency, enhancing their employability skills.

Future Careers

Agricultural Engineer or Technician

Truck/Bus Engineer or Technician

Groundcare Engineer or Technician

Workshop Manager

Self-Employed Engineer or Technician

Machinery Contractor

Dealership Technician



ANIMAL MANAGEMENT



Providing a comprehensive introduction to all aspects of animal care, students will benefit from a mix of theory combined with a large degree of practical work in our custom-built Animal Management Unit.

COURSES

Animal Management

Level **1** **2** **3**



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For more information, please see page 16.

Students will learn about the structure and function of the animal body, animal welfare, animal health and nursing. Throughout the courses, students are required to complete work experience to develop practical skills, both on the animal unit and externally. Undertaking practical duties as part of their course, students benefit from a wide range of experiences and opportunities to work with both exotic and domestic animal species.

Students are involved in all aspects of husbandry and management from planning animal collections, designing and maintaining enclosures to day-to-day animal care within an animal collection set up as a commercial enterprise. Students benefit from using the most up-to-date equipment in the aquaria, pet trade and zoological fields.



Higher Education

We also offer Higher Education programmes in Animal Management. See page 50.



Future Careers

Animal Boarding Establishments

Pet Shops

Animal Trainers

Animal Behaviour

Animal Management Instructors

Animal Welfare Inspectors

RSPCA Inspectors

Veterinary Nurses

Animal Conservationists

Animal Keepers

EQUESTRIAN STUDIES



**APPLY
NOW**

By studying an equine course at Hadlow College, you can become part of an industry which, with approximately 900,000 horses and 2 million riders in the UK, constantly needs well trained and devoted individuals to give expert care and tuition.

Future Careers

Assistant Yard Manager

Competition Groom

Competition Rider

Equestrian Retail

Equine Journalism

Equine Veterinary

Event Organiser

Freelance Coach/Rider/
Practitioner

Nurse

Nutritionist

Riding Instructor

Racing Groom

Therapy Centre Assistant

Welfare Officer

Yard Manager

COURSES

Land-Based Studies (Horse Care)

Level 1

Equine Studies

Level 2

Equine Management

Level 3



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For more information, please see page 16.

Our Equine Unit at Hadlow has extensive facilities including two indoor arenas, a large outdoor arena and stabling for 64 horses. As well as a complete range of show jumps, there are also cross country fences suitable for students training at Level 3 and above. There is a mechanical horse, Racewood Equicizer and an extensive range of tack and equipment to support you on your study programme.

Students have exceptional opportunity to gain genuine hands on practical experience as well as ride and compete quality horses. They gain knowledge and develop their practical skills in horse husbandry, horse handling, grooming, application of tack and equipment, feeding and routine yard management. Students may also study horse behaviour and welfare, anatomy and learn how to work a horse correctly on the flat, and over fences, if the riding option is chosen. In addition to the development of vocational skills, students will develop transferable skills such as; team work, effective communication, presentation skills and problem solving.

Student benefit from an exciting range of field trips which may include Badminton Horse Trials, Newmarket and New Forest as well as specialist guest speakers from nutrition companies, veterinary centres and the British Horse Society amongst others.



FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND AQUACULTURE



The fisheries lecturing team has an array of experience ranging from freshwater fishery management specialists, construction, marine environments, fish health and disease, angling, fish farming and aquatics. All have worked in the industry in various sectors and bring this knowledge and experience to the delivery of the course.

Students will develop and enhance a range of skills including the practical fishery management skills and design, communication, knowledge of fish biology and health, disease identification and treatment, management of aquatic environments and the interactions that occur. Angling knowledge and skills are also developed whilst considering a range of angling skills and opportunities.

COURSES

Fisheries Management

Level **3**



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For more information, please see page 16.

Knowledge of and practical skills in current aquaculture methods are learnt and developed along with a range of environmental science areas and subjects. We also have strong partnerships with The Environment Agency, Angling Direct, London Councils, Cottington Lakes, Manor Fisheries and Coombe Bank Fisheries.



Future Careers

Fish Farm Worker

Assistant Fish Farm
Manager

Fishery Manager/Bailiff

Assistant River Keeper

Aquatic Retail Assistant

Aquatic Retail Manager

FLORISTRY



Our floristry courses are designed to allow students interested in a career in the floristry industry to develop the confidence, ability and skills they need whilst studying or working.

**APPLY
NOW**

COURSES

Floristry

Level **2**



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For more information, please see page 16.

Course structure focuses on the development of floristry practical skills alongside the associated underpinning knowledge of design theory. This ensures our students to develop good vocational, practical and employability skills. The subject involves conditioning and maintaining fresh flowers, foliage and plants. You will develop floristry techniques and design principles. It will also involve learning a popular range of flower, foliage and plant names as well as an introduction to creating displays to promote floristry goods and services.

All aspects of retail practices such as a business management and marketing, trends and event floristry are included. Duties will also be carried out maintaining the College floristry facilities where students will develop their knowledge alongside their practical skills. The floristry staff have a wealth of experience within the team ranging from the highest level floristry design skills with the associated underpinning knowledge to ensure every learner can achieve their optimum personal best and to be a successful retail florist. All have current industry knowledge in various sectors and bring this knowledge and experience to the delivery of the course. These courses are aimed at someone who wants to either gain employment in the floristry industry or progress onto a higher level floristry course.



Future Careers

Florist

Display Merchandiser

Florist Manager

Floral Buyer

HORTICULTURE



**APPLY
NOW**



Do you enjoy being outside, or growing your own food? If so Horticulture is for you. Our courses cover a wide range of Horticultural subjects and will help students who wish to pursue a career in Production Horticulture, Garden Design, Hard and Soft Landscaping and Amenity Horticulture.

COURSES

Horticulture

Level **1** **2** **3**

Please note that the Level 1 qualification in Land-based Studies is a combined Horticulture and Agriculture programme.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For more information, please see page 16.

Horticulture has been part of Hadlow for 50 years and as such we have built a reputation in the industry as one of the leading education providers. As a student you will benefit from the vast network of contacts we have of industry links which is comprised of former students and companies who take students on in work experience placements year after year. The horticultural team have an array of experience from head gardener to commercial production management.

All have worked in the industry in various sectors and bring this knowledge and experience to the delivery of the course. Students benefit from a wide range of links with commercial nurseries, research institutes, organic producers, public and privately owned gardens as well as exposure to the retail world through our on-site garden centre.

Future Careers

Nursery Assistant

Garden Centre
Sales Assistant

Assistant Gardener

Estate Gardener

Landscaper

Groundsperson

Landscape Contractor

Fresh Produce Assistant



Thanet Earth Centre of Excellence @ Hadlow College



Higher Education

We also offer Higher Education programmes in Horticulture See page 50.



**APPLY
NOW**



Construction



Motor Vehicle

NKC HADLOW

COURSES

Several of our North Kent College, General Further Education courses, run from our Hadlow College campus in our brand-new state-of-the-art workshops.

COURSES

Carpentry & Joinery 1 2

Introduction to Motor Vehicle Industry & Vehicle Technology E

Motor Cycle Maintenance & Repair 2 3

Motor Sport 1 2 3

Motor Vehicle Maintenance 1

Motor Vehicle Maintenance & Repair 2 3

E Entry Level 1 2 3 Level 1, 2 and 3



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For more information, please see page 16.



ALUMNI SUCCESS

Lewis Bennett

Fisheries Management Level 3 and BSc (Hons) Aquaculture & Fisheries

"The courses are well-designed and encourage hands-on learning, rather than just reading through PowerPoint presentations. It allowed me to "get my foot in the door", as my lecturer would say. My employer, a small salmon company in the northwest highlands of Scotland, was looking for someone with an academic background in aquaculture to innovate the company.

Without my course, I wouldn't have had the aquaculture knowledge that I gained through research and international work experience, which gave me a broader view and understanding of techniques, research, technology and fish cultivation methods."



Bradley Church

Animal Management

"There are so many good memories, whether it be the informal yet engaging teaching style and absorbing lessons, the time spent with friends, to the light-hearted moments chatting with the staff. My time at Hadlow not only progressed me academically, but also grew me as a person as well."



Georgia Child

BSc (Hons) Applied Animal Behavioural Science and Welfare

"I would highly recommend studying for a degree at Hadlow. I know it sounds like a cliché, but choosing to study at Hadlow was honestly the best decision I have ever made"



Daisy Starling

Level 2 Golf Greenkeeping Apprenticeship

"My course gave me so much more confidence, and this has led to amazing opportunities which I could never have achieved without the confidence the course, and the tutors gave me."



Rebecca Yussuf

Level 2 & 3 in Floristry and various part-time floristry courses

"Studying at Hadlow gave me the confidence I needed to set up my own floristry business, Lilac & Lace Floral Design. The encouragement I had from my tutors at Hadlow, along with the skills I had learnt and the confidence I had gained made me realise my dreams were possible."



Studying at Hadlow College opens up a world of possibilities. Scan to find out more about what some of our students are now doing.

Elouise Dubrow

Equestrian Studies

"Hadlow is fantastic for the contacts they know in the industry, the field trips to see new perspectives and the equipment we have access to for research."

Embrace your studies, find your passion and seize as many opportunities as you can regardless of if you think you'll be successful"





For the latest
information on
student financial
support visit
www.hadlow.ac.uk



**FREE
EDUCATION
UNTIL YOU
ARE 18!***

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We know that education is priceless. At Hadlow, wherever possible, we try to ensure that no student is unable to study due to financial constraints and have in place a number of different schemes to support you, whatever course you choose.

***If you are aged 16-18** (under 19 on 31st August 2026) you will not be charged tuition fees or examination fees for the courses in this guide. There may be charges for essential equipment and trips associated with certain courses. You can find out about these at interview or by visiting our website: www.hadlow.ac.uk

16-18 year old students can apply for assistance with the additional course costs, residential onsite accommodation (Hadlow students only) and travel, through the college bursary. All bursaries are awarded in accordance with government guidelines and the college policies and eligibility criteria.

If you are aged 19+ you may be eligible to receive financial help with course fees. If you do not hold a Level 2 qualification (e.g. 5 GCSEs at Grades A*-C/9-4) or a Level 3 qualification (e.g. 2 A-Levels) and are under 23 years old, you may be able to get a substantial reduction in your fees. You may also be able to claim for free or discounted courses at Level 1 and Entry Level if you're aiming for a Level 2 course, do not already have a qualification at this level and are under 23 years old.

Free College Meals

Students must be aged between 16 and 18 on 31 August 2026 to be eligible for a free meal in the 2026 – 2027 academic year and meet the eligibility criteria. Students who turn 19 during their study programme will remain eligible for a free meal until the end of the academic year in which they turn 19, or to the end of their study programme, whichever is sooner. Student's aged between 19 and 24 who have an Education Health and Care Plan (EH & CP) and European Social Fund (ESF) are also entitled to a free meal while attending their provision, if they meet the eligibility criteria.

16-18 Vulnerable Young Persons Bursary

Students from groups identified by the Government as vulnerable can apply for the 16-18 Vulnerable Young Persons Bursary. This includes young people in care (Children in Care/CiC), Young Care Leavers, young people in receipt of Income Support/ Universal Credit and Personal Independence Payments (PIP) or Disability Living Allowance (DLA), Young Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers, and young people who are disabled and in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance/Personal Independence payments.

Advanced Learner Loans

If you're over 19, have lived in the UK for more than three years and are considering a further education course at Level 3 or above you may be eligible for the Government's new 19+ Advanced Learner Loans. Similar to the loans available for higher education students, it is not means-tested or credit checked - if you meet the criteria you will be able to apply regardless of whether you're employed or unemployed.

You will also only begin to pay the loan back once you're earning over £27,295 and, in the same way as the Higher Education Tuition Loans, it is written off after 30 years.

To apply you need to be:

- Aged 19 or over at the start of your course
- Resident in the UK for three years
- Studying an approved Level 3, 4, 5 or 6 qualification (such as A-Levels, Access to Higher Education (HE), Extended Diplomas and Advanced Apprenticeships).

Financial Support

If you are in financial difficulties, you can apply for support with travel, course-related costs and childcare (subject to funds). All awards made by the College are subject to eligibility and are awarded according to household income.

Course Related Costs

Some courses have additional costs associated with them (for example trip funds, clothing and materials). You may also need to purchase some specialist equipment to study certain courses, with much of the equipment listed on the course pages being available to purchase through the College. Full details of these additional costs will be given to you at your interview.

Hadlow College Clothing

It is recommended that students purchase the relevant clothing for their course prior to enrolment. Information on all of the clothing available, including prices, can be obtained through the College website at www.hadlow.ac.uk



HOW TO APPLY

So, you've found the perfect course, really like the look of the College and are ready to apply.

The question is, how do you go about it?





1

It's simple really, visit www.hadlow.ac.uk and apply online. If you're a Year 11 student at a Kent school, you are also able to apply through the Kent County Council online system, Your school will be able to provide more information.

2

Application is received

Once we have received your application, we will check if you have given all the information we need and contact you if you have not.

3

You will be invited for interview

After your application has been processed, we will invite you in for interview. This is your chance to discuss your course options with the tutor. You will be asked to bring your latest school report with you. Interviews generally take place throughout the year, but demand is high so do not be alarmed if your interview date seems to be a long way away. Our aim is to contact you with an interview date within three weeks of receiving your application.

4

The Interview

This is our chance to learn more about you, and your chance to find out about us. At the end, you will be offered an unconditional place or a conditional place based on GCSE results. Occasionally, we may decide to offer you an alternative course which, after consultation, we believe is more suitable.

5

Confirmation of our offer

We will confirm our offer to you by email and you will be asked to reply to accept your place. Once we have received this, your place on the course will be reserved and details of accommodation, finance and fees will be sent to you.

6

Enrolment

Over the summer, you will be sent joining instructions and details of what will happen at the start of term. Enrolment normally takes place at the end of August. If you are receiving exam results in August and they do not turn out as you had hoped, then do not panic. If they are close to the original requirements, then the offer may stand. If not, our Curriculum Team will do their best to place you on a different level course in the same subject area.

STUDENT WELFARE



Careers Advice

Our qualified Careers Advisers are available all year-round to help students with impartial, confidential guidance and advice with career choices and planning Higher Education and job applications.

Counselling

College comes with more independence and therefore more responsibility and we know that sometimes life in general can be difficult. Our Counsellors run a confidential and non-judgemental service to help students when they need to talk, whether it's an emotional or personal difficulty. They support our students in enhancing their emotional well-being, and nurturing personal growth.

Equal Opportunities

We're committed to the active pursuit of equal opportunities, which is based on the needs and rights of everyone in the College to be treated with respect and dignity. The College aims to ensure that no prospective or existing student, or member of staff receives less favourable treatment on any grounds, including; age, race, colour, nationality, ethnic origins, creed, disability, HIV status, sexual orientation, sex, marital or parental status, political belief or social or economic class. We continue to encourage the inclusion of students with learning difficulties and disabilities.

Disability

The College is committed to responding positively to the needs of all students so that they are able to access a broad offer of curriculum. Specialist staff are available to advise lecturers on appropriate support for individual students and groups.

Student Support

The transition from school to college is an important step and we have a variety of support in place to help young people make the most of their time at college.

Personal Tutors

Every student is allocated a Personal Tutor for their studies who can assist with academic study related questions, target setting to help ensure achievement and success and to support pastoral needs.

SEN Support

The Learning Support & Inclusion Team provides support to students who have an EHCP (Education, Health & Care Plan). There may also be additional support for students with disabilities and for those students with specific learning difficulties, including dyslexia, if supporting evidence is provided.



If you would like further information or to talk to someone about Inclusion and Learning Support, please scan the QR to visit our website.



Partner of



Did you know we also offer University programmes?

Four Reasons to Study at University Centre Hadlow

01 A COST-EFFECTIVE OPTION

Competitive fees mean the University Centre Hadlow is not just a convenient local option, but a cost-effective one too.

02 SMALLER SCALE, CLOSER COMMUNITY

Smaller class sizes offer a more personal experience, with more one-to-one time available with tutors. Easier access to lecturing staff on a smaller campus can be a huge plus point.

03 FAMILIAR SURROUNDINGS

Studying locally also offers the advantage of staying closer to friends and family in familiar surroundings.

04 UNIQUE QUALIFICATIONS

Study is underpinned by the unique facilities and resources, enabling University Centre Hadlow to offer distinct qualifications.

HIGH QUALITY EXPERIENCE

Our programmes are validated by the University of Greenwich and delivered by tutors who are experts in their subject.

Hadlow College
is Kent's only
rural and
land-based
college.

**APPLY
NOW**



To apply via UCAS:
hadlow.ac.uk/university



Part of North Kent College

WHAT IS A UNIVERSITY CENTRE?

Exists as part of a college, in partnership with a larger university

Teaching takes place at the University Centre

The Degree is awarded by the larger university

Our Higher

Education Programmes



**APPLY
NOW**

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained within this guide is accurate, Hadlow College cannot be held responsible for omissions and errors. We reserve the right to introduce changes to the information at any given time. Information accurate at time of print.

Full-time courses offer at Hadlow Campus



Course title

Level

FdSc in Applied Animal Behavioural Science & Welfare

4 & 5

FdSc in Equine Training & Management

4 & 5

FdSc in Horticulture – Commercial

4 & 5

FdSc in Zoo Husbandry & Animal Management

4 & 5

BSc Top Up in Animal Management

6

An FdSc is a **Foundation Degree that is the equivalent of two-thirds of a Bachelor's Degree**. A Foundation Degree is a two-year stand-alone qualification. After completing this you can go to the final year of your degree by completing a top-up to gain a full Bachelor's Degree.

A Foundation Degree is a great option if you aren't sure whether you'd like to commit to a three-year course. Most students who've found that they've enjoyed the experience go on to top-up to a full honours degree.

TIMELINE

September 2025

Start thinking about your options.

Grab a School Leavers' Guide and browse through our course offer – also online at www.hadlow.ac.uk

October – November 2025

Time to visit and apply!

Visit our Open Events! Come and talk to tutors and students about life at Hadlow College and your next steps after school.

Explore our campuses, take tours of our state-of-the-art facilities. You can apply on the day! Once you have applied you'll start to receive our VIP e-shots every month to keep you up-to-date with College life.

December 2025 – February 2026

Got any questions? Now is the time to talk and research.

Seen us at your school? Make sure you keep in contact. If you've already applied we'll be in touch with an interview date. Once you've interviewed we'll be in touch with an offer (which ultimately depends on your GCSE results).*

We also offer Campus tours in these months so if you missed our Open Events you can book online.

**APPLY
NOW**



January 2026

Visit us and apply!

Visit our Open Events! Another chance to come along to talk to us. View our state-of-the-art facilities, take campus tours and talk to tutors and students about life at Hadlow College and your next steps after school. You can apply on the day! Once you've applied you'll start to receive our VIP e-shots every month to keep you up-to-date with College life.

March – April 2026

Revision Time.

Exams are approaching and it's revision time! Keep an eye on our website for all the top revision tips and tricks! All your hard work will pay off – so make sure to take time for yourself during this busy period.

Don't forget to come and see us at Lambing Weekend.

May – June 2026

Best of luck!

Good Luck in your exams! Wishing you the very best of luck with your upcoming exams. We're waiting to hear how you got on and will offer any support needed.

Don't forget to come and see us at our Country Fair.

September 2026

Welcome to Hadlow College!

Congratulations you are now a fully fledged Hadlow College student! Its' official and your start date will be given to you at enrolment along with your ID badge. We look forward to welcoming you and the start of your next chapter here with us at Hadlow College. Thanks for choosing us!

August 2026

It's results time! Enrolment – here you come.

Got your results – we hope you got just what you wanted. However, don't panic if you didn't or they weren't quite as expected.

We offer courses that start at entry level, so if you don't quite make the grades you expected, don't worry, there'll still be options for you. Or alternatively if you get better grades than expected we'll look at all the options for you.

July 2026

Summer Time – Go and enjoy yourself.

It's time to go and enjoy your Summer break! During the Summer, you will be receiving a letter inviting you to enrolment in August – exciting times ahead! Remember any questions we're still here to help over Summer. Just give us a call.

HOW TO FIND US



**Hadlow College
Main Site**
Tonbridge Road, Hadlow
Tonbridge TN11 0AL



Blackman's Farm
Blackmans Lane
Hadlow, Tonbridge
TN11 0AX



Grove Farm Fisheries
115 Tonbridge Road
Hadlow Tonbridge
TN11 0JL



**APPLY
NOW**

CONTACT US

www.hadlow.ac.uk



01732 850551

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