

## Press Release - The Ashcombe School

### PUBLIC EXAMINATION RESULTS - SUMMER 2019

#### GCSE RESULTS

After a number of years of substantial change to the examination system, this has been a year of relative stability at a national level, albeit with some small changes. The national process of "comparable outcomes" has meant that the percentage of grades awarded in each subject has remained reasonably constant through this period of turmoil, and equally as we enter relative calm. The Headteacher, David Blow, welcomed the results: "We are delighted that the hard work and commitment shown by pupils and staff has resulted in excellent results across a wide range of subjects."

- Outstanding individual results:

- **48 out of 213 pupils gaining 4 or more "top" grades: (9 or 8).**

**11:** Jonas Nohturfft, **9.5** Amelie Harding, **9** Kate Hodges, Clare Maxwell-Timmins, Skye Moran, **8.5** Alex Dobson-Pleming, Josie Phillips, **8** Zoe Burton, Harry Manning, Zakiya Rahman, Tessa Shaw, **7** James Barker, Joe Bruce, Bella Butcher, Joe Cadman, Millie Craddock, Margot Howell, Kayley Mullen, Cece Onwere, Holly Smith, Livvy Walker, Matthew Watts, Raphael Xelot-Wilson, **6.5** Erin Baldwin, Eve Parnham, Daniel Pohlman, **6** Sophie Barton-Wood, Kitty Ducker, Samuel Fuller, Paddy Henderson, Harry Hewing, Nathan Hunter, Georgia Jarvis, **5** Lily James-Knight, Adam Jarvis, Ollie Raderecht, Joshua Taylor, Peter Wild, **4.5** Chloe Cox, **4** Ben Allen, Rémi Bressler, Skye Evans, Jemma Glass, Louis Herbert, Esmond Hopkins, Eleanor Morgan, Conor Paddy, Max Sharp

These pupils have demonstrated an exceptional level of achievement across a broad range of subjects.

Other headline figures include

- **All pupils gained at least one 9-1 (formerly A\*-G) grade.** This is particularly pleasing because we are a comprehensive school taking the full range of ability with no selection or filtering.
- **% 9-4 (formerly A\*-C) in:** Maths was **76%**, English Literature **72%**, English Language **69%**. In Science, **76%** gained **9-9 to 4-4 (formerly A\*A\*-CC)** with around **30%** getting **9-7 (formerly A\*-A)** grades in Maths and also in Science.
- **Over 90% of pupils gained at least 1 "9-4" grade** showing that the curriculum is sufficiently broad and flexible so that virtually all pupils can gain a "9-4" grade in at least one subject.

#### Outstanding subject results included

- **16%** of all students getting a **9-9** (equiv to upper A\*) in **Science**
- **Over 30% achieving grade 9-7 (equiv to A\*-A)** in Art, Computer Science, Geography, History, Maths, DT (Product Design), RS, Spanish and Science
- **39%** of students gained at least one **"top" grade (9 or 8 or A\*)**

These are outstanding results which have been achieved by a complete cross-section of young people. The Ashcombe School is a mixed comprehensive which offers places to all young people living within the area regardless of academic ability. Examination achievement is regarded as an important aspect of the education we provide but not necessarily the most

important aspect and we do not manipulate entry to either courses or exams to improve the statistics. We have continually placed the pupils at the centre of our curriculum and tried to alleviate stress for them when tackling the major curriculum changes.

Mr Blow said "We believe that a number of factors have contributed to all this success of which the hard work of the pupils themselves, the support of their parents and the skill and dedication of our teachers are the most significant. In addition however, for several years, we have used a system of target setting and monitoring at GCSE in which pupils are given clear indication very early in their course as to the results we expect. This is based on a subject by subject analysis of their previous performance. At the same time pupils are challenged to exceed these targeted expectations. Many pupils have risen to this challenge magnificently. Within this process, regular monitoring allowed us to give encouragement throughout and to address the issues of those who were in danger of underachieving before it became too late."

Chris Panting, currently Joint Head of School and from September 2019, Headteacher, said "These excellent results demonstrate the effectiveness of high quality teaching coupled with strong management systems and team work. The Ashcombe School has achieved a consistently high standard of examination results for many years now, but it is not complacent and will seek to build on this achievement."