

Fantastic GCSE RESULTS 2019 – An Overview

Outwood Academy Bydales can, for the fifth year since opening, report that students and staff have achieved another set of fantastic GCSE results!

This is the third year of the new GCSE grades in some subjects, where for example the new grade 4 is comparable to the 'old' grade C. We are delighted to report that **86%** of students achieved a grade 4 or above in both GCSE English and maths, coming close to record **89%** figure achieved in 2018. This year, all headline figures continue to be very high, reflecting as across the current, great student and teacher commitment. A superb **89%** of students passed English at a grade 4 or above. Maths results were also outstanding with **91%** attaining a grade 4 or above, the same as 2018 when the department was named in the top 2% nationally for progress.

69% of students achieved the new, higher government threshold of a 'strong' GCSE pass in both maths and English with grade 5 or above. English achievement in this respect was outstanding, with **80%** of students achieving a grade 5 or above, and in Maths results with **75%** of students achieving a grade 5 or above. In English, **39%** of students achieved a 7, 8 or 9 grade, equivalent to the old A*/A grades.

Other highlights across subjects in Year 11 are as follows: 92% grades 4-9 in Y11 Biology, 91% and Chemistry, and 88% in Physics GCSEs, with three quarters of our students studying these challenging subjects, many more over the last two years. In French 94% of students secured at least a grade 4, 82% at least a grade 5, and a third achieved the top grades 7-9, with many more studying the subject this year. Geography GCSE results were very strong too, with 80% achieving 4+, and 70% 5+, and 43% grades 7-9. History GCSE results were good too, with 86% achieving a grade 4 or above, a new record, and 67% a grade 5.

Computer Science students in Y11 achieved 77% grades 4+, and 66% grades 5+, in this new, tougher qualification.

Seana Rice, Principal, said *"We are once again delighted with the recognition students have achieved through their national GCSE qualifications, a testament to their working so closely with teachers and parents to try their very best. Our 2019 leavers joined the school in Year 7 as it became Outwood Academy Bydales, and have gone from strength to strength in their time with us, we couldn't be prouder of them."*

Andrew Wappat, Executive Principal, said: *"Students now have the very widest choice of A-level, vocational and apprenticeship opportunities with these excellent GCSE results. We are grateful as ever of student determination to aim for academic excellence, but as importantly their willingness to work on their self-belief and ability to work well with their peers. It makes all the difference. The maths and English results, with 86% achieving what would have been the old A*-C measure, just shy of last year's record, is fantastic. A giant 'well done' to all of our students and thank you to staff, parents, governors and colleagues from across Outwood Grange Academies Trust."*

Every Year 11 student has achieved personal success but to highlight just a few:

Nathan Dales (9 grade 9s, and a Distinction), Kiera Watson (8 grade 9s, 1 grade 8 and a Distinction*), Ellie Scates (7 grade 9s and 3 grade 8s), Laura Hardaker (7 grade 9s, 1 grade 8 and 2 Distinction*s), Joseph Lawton (4 grade 9s, 1 grade 8 and 4 grade 7s), Scarlett Kacperski (4 grade 9s, 4 grade 8s and 3 Distinctions) and Madeleine Wook (3 grade 9s, 4 grade 8s, 1 grade 7 and a Distinction*)

We are particularly impressed by the progress made by Sophie Kirtley and Abi Sills, who achieved the highest progress scores in the school. On average, they exceeded their challenging targets by more than 3 GCSE grades in EACH subject, compared to what was expected nationally. Ellie Scates and James Westwick achieved more than 2 and a half GCSE grades on average above challenging national targets too!

Special mention to Nathan Dales in Year 11, who coped with the brain condition narcolepsy during all his time with us, in part leading to his being awarded the annual 'Georgina's Star for Strength'. He managed to secure the very top grade 9 in every single one of his GCSEs. What an achievement, through sheer determination! We were delighted that the Teesside Gazette published an article on results day that you can read here: www.gazettelive.co.uk/news/teesside-news/narcolepsy-meant-nathan-nodded-class-16799979

We are so proud of our students and wish them every success in the future.



Nathan Dales, who achieved the top grade 9 in all of his GCSEs despite a complex medical condition during his five years with the school. He also received the 'Georgina Star for Strength' award, as a result of his resilience and determination.



Sophie Kirtley, who's incredible efforts meant she achieved the highest progress in the school, beating her challenging targets on average by three grades in every one!