

## Record Breaking GCSE RESULTS 2018 – An Overview

Outwood Academy Bydales can, for the fourth successive year since opening, can report the best ever set of results in the history of the school!

This is the second 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 **89%** of students achieved a grade 4 or above in both GCSE English and maths, breaking our record **85%** figure from 2017. This year, all headline figures have reached new highs. A staggering **93%** of students passed English at a grade 4 or above, up 3% on 2017. Maths results were also outstanding with **91%** attaining a grade 4 or above, up on 2017 when the department was named in the top 2% nationally for progress.

A staggering **77%** of students achieved the new, higher government threshold of a 'strong' GCSE pass in both maths and English with grade 5 or above, up from 75% in 2017, a figure that placed the school top in the North East of England. Maths achievement in this respect was outstanding, with **85%** of students achieving a grade 5 or above and this was replicated in brilliant English results with **83%** of students achieving a grade 5 or above. **An outstanding 11% of the year achieved the top '9' grade in Maths, and the same percentage in English Language. In English and Maths, almost half of students achieved a 7, 8 or 9 grade, equivalent to the old A\*/A grades.**

Other highlights across subjects in both Year 10 and Year 11 are as follows: 99% grades 4-9 in Y11 Biology and Chemistry, and 94% in Physics GCSEs, with two thirds of students studying these challenging subjects, many more than in previous years. Overall in Science, 92% of students achieved at least 1 GCSE at grade 4 and above, and 89% at least 2 GCSEs at grade 4 and above, up 8%. In French 100% of students secured at least a grade 5, and 72% secured a grade 7-9 (A/A\*). History GCSE results were record too, with 85% achieving a grade 4 or above, and 54% a 7-9 grade! In Geography, 87% achieved a grade 4 or above.

Business students in Y11 achieved 89% A\*-C, and 45% A\*/A! GCSE Computing students managed 82% at A\*-C and in ICT, 92% achieved A\*-C, Engineering students achieved 96% A\*-C and an incredible 50% A\*/A. Catering students managed 87% A\*-C and in Art 95% secured an A\*-C.

Andrew Wappat, Executive Principal, said: *"Students, with their great results, have secured a superb range of post-16 courses and apprenticeships. The determination of students to aim for academic excellence, as well as building their confidence, self-belief and teamwork skills, has again made all the difference. The maths and English results, with 89% achieving what would have been the old A\*-C measure, surpassing last year's record 85% is fantastic. But with 77% of students to achieve the harder measure of a grade 5 or above is outstanding. Massive successes were also recorded in all other elements of the curriculum and there are simply too many to mention in huge detail. I would like to say a huge '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:

Ellie Pegden (7 grade 9s, 1 grade 8, 2A\*s and 1A)  
Holly Doe (6 grade 9s, 2 grade 8s, 2 A\* and 1 A)  
Felix Brown (6 grade 9s, 2 grade 8s, 1 grade 7 and 1 A\*)  
Izaak Lojko (5 grade 9s, 2 grade 8s and 4 A\*s)  
Adam Williams (5 grade 9s, 2 grade 8s, 1 grade 7, and 1 A\*)  
Jakob Yau (5 grade 9s, 1 grade 8, 2 grade 7s, and 2 A\*)  
Natasha Whalley (4 grade 9s, 3 grade 8s, 1 grade 7 and 1 A\*)  
Josh Hirschinger (3 grade 9s, 3 grade 8s, 1 grade 7 and 2 A\*s)

We are particularly impressed by the progress made by Felix Brown, Molly Gibbin, and Ben Peel. They achieved the highest progress scores in the Academy. On average, they exceeded their challenging targets by more than 2 and a half GCSE grades in EACH subject, compared to what was expected nationally.

Special mention to Josie Steel in Year 11, who struggled with serious medical issues during the GCSEs. Despite the challenges, she managed to smash her targets by over one and a half a GCSE grades on average across all her subjects, securing great progress through utter sheer determination!

We are incredibly proud of our students and wish them every success for their futures.



Ellie Pegden, celebrating the highest number of grade 9s. She secured 7 grade 9s, 1 grade 8, 2A\*s and 1A! Holly Doe and Felix Brown, who each managed to achieve 6 grades 9s, 2 grade 8s, alongside A\*s too!

Josie Steel in Year 11, who struggled with serious medical issues during the GCSEs. Despite the challenges, she managed to smash her targets by over one and a half a GCSE grades on average across all her subjects, securing great progress through utter sheer determination!

