

# 2018 Examination Report

## Overall Results

The most striking change was the rise in the number of top grades achieved by students at the Gryphon. The percentage of exams awarded level 7 or above (equivalent to an A or above in previous years) rose to over 25% against a national average of 21%, and the proportion of grades at level 4 and above was 79% against a national average of 69.2%.

The introduction of the new grade 9 for most of this summer's GCSE's provided extra challenge for students and the school was delighted with some outstanding results from students. Oskar Maitland achieved a phenomenal 11 grade 9's and a grade 8 and said he was "utterly speechless". Two other students Ali Macey and Hetty Richards gained 8 grade 9s and 4 grade 8s. Hetty said "I am incredibly happy and very surprised, and I'm looking forward to staying on at The Gryphon Sixth Form to study for A levels". 12 students gained 8 or more level 7 or above grades.

Headteacher Nicki Edwards, said "The Gryphon School is very proud of its reputation for providing a well-balanced and rich curriculum that prepares its students for life in the 21st century. These excellent outcomes are a testimony to the hard work of our students and the commitment of our staff. In a year of turbulence, as staff and students worked together to tackle the new linear courses with tougher content, real team work has produced these excellent results."

## Progress 8 at GCSE

The main way by which the government now assesses schools is via the Progress 8 measure. The measure counts a student's best 8 results with Maths and English (the better of a student's Language and Literature grades) being double-weighted.

Progress 8 is a measure of value added i.e. it compares how students achieved at the end of Year 11 compared to the results from primary school that they entered the Gryphon with.

The measure for the Gryphon school came out as 0.12 which is in line with the 0.17 achieved in 2017 and the 0.09 achieved in 2016. The figure of 0.12 means that, on average, students achieve 12% of a grade more highly at the Gryphon than they would in a school performing at the national average.

In term of groups of students the Gryphon achieved Progress 8 scores of -0.18 for students with low prior attainment, +0.21 for students with middle prior attainment and +0.10 for students with high prior attainment.

## English and Maths at GCSE

In Maths 77.5% of students achieved a grade of 4 (equivalent to the old C) or higher. The figure last year was 79.3%. Our Progress 8 score for Maths was negative at -0.08 i.e. students at the Gryphon achieved fractionally below what might have been expected.

In English 78.0% of students achieved a grade of 4 (equivalent to the old C) or higher. The figure last year 81.0% Our Progress 8 score for English was negative at -0.08.

Overall 69.5% of the cohort achieved a grade of 9-4 in both Maths and English. The score in 2017 was 74.3%.

## Other subjects at GCSE

The most amazing results were in History GCSE where 176 students took the qualification and 22 achieved a grade 9 and 20 achieved a grade 8. This means that almost a quarter of students achieved grades equivalent to the old A\*

## Detailed Breakdown of GCSE results

Vocational Courses	D*	D	M	P	L1P	F
BTEC ICT Practitioners	3	8	5	25	1	0
BTEC Sport	21	12	15	4	2	0
Food and Nutrition	8	4	9	17	8	0
Health & Social Care	2	4	6	16	2	0
<b>Summary</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>

GCSEs on the 9 to 1 scale	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U
Art	1	3	2	14	5	6	5	4	1	0
Art 3D	2	1	0	5	11	5	25	18	4	2
Art Photo	0	0	2	28	12	8	5	0	0	2
Biology	9	17	14	20	23	16	2	0	0	0
Chemistry	10	11	13	18	18	22	8	0	0	0
Computing	1	4	4	7	14	8	9	4	4	0
Drama	1	2	3	5	6	5	5	0	0	0
English	4	22	22	35	41	43	52	8	2	0
English Literature	10	18	24	30	41	39	43	16	6	1
French	3	4	5	5	10	10	11	3	0	1
Geography	5	8	9	10	6	6	7	3	0	0
German	2	2	2	3	3	7	6	5	0	0
Greek (Classical)	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
History	22	20	29	33	22	22	26	16	6	0
Mathematics	5	17	28	32	41	60	21	14	10	1
Music	3	3	4	2	4	4	2	1	0	0
Physics	13	10	17	20	20	16	4	0	0	0
Religious Education	5	3	7	6	8	5	1	0	0	0
Spanish	2	2	7	6	8	6	5	2	0	0
<b>Summary</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>7</b>

Double GCSEs on the 9 to 1 scale	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U
Science Combined	1	1	5	13	67	86	58	17	8	0
<b>Summary</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>

GCSEs on the A* to G scale	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
Business and Economics GCSE	0	7	15	11	7	3	0	0	0
Business Studies	1	7	9	17	13	10	3	2	0
Classics (Ancient History)	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Extra Languages	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Latin	4	2	3	1	1	0	0	0	0
Leisure & Recreation	0	0	1	0	3	1	1	0	0
Media Studies	2	14	21	15	7	4	2	0	0
Spanish	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Textiles Technology	1	0	3	2	5	0	0	0	0
<b>Summary</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

## A-level Examination Results

Gryphon students celebrated a record year of A level results with 32% A\*-A, smashing the national average of 26.4%. The top A\* grades also outperformed the national average with The Gryphon achieving 9.4% compared to 8% nationally.

53 students received at least one A\* or A, with 4 students receiving 4A\*, 6 more receiving all A's, 6 achieving at least 2 A\*, and another 7 receiving all A\* or A's. Three students have places at the University of Cambridge, one at Oxford University, with another going on to study medicine at the University of Birmingham.

Headteacher Nicki Edwards said "This is a record-breaking year for us in terms of top grades and I am absolutely thrilled at the results our students have achieved. This is a testament to the hard work of both students and staff, and is even more impressive considering we have now moved to linear courses. We are incredibly excited about seeing the next steps our students will be taking in their lives and we are proud of all their individual achievements.

Emma Dawson received A\* in Biology and Maths and an A in Physics, and will be going to Oxford University to study Biology. Emma said "I am really, really happy! I didn't know what to expect and had a sleepless night but I'm incredibly excited to be going to Oxford".

Student Elmo Barrett said "I am very happy indeed with my marks, I've got an A\* in Maths and Physics and an A in Further Maths and I'll be going to the University of Bristol to study Maths."

Callum Henry said "I'm happy and relieved, it's been good fun over the last couple of years but also a lot of hard work". Callum received A\* grades in Maths, Chemistry and Biology and achieved an amazing 100% in his additional Extended Project Qualification (EQP). He will now go on to the University of Birmingham to study medicine.

Student Leoni Fretwell was also delighted with her A\* grades in Drama, History and English and said "I'm incredibly surprised, I didn't think it would happen! I'm really excited to be going to Exeter University in October to study English".

And Lois Hill was also celebrating after receiving Distinction\* (equivalent to A\*) in both Travel & Tourism, and Hospitality and a Distinction in Business for her BTEC courses. She said "I've done better than I expected! This means I will be going to Bournemouth University to study Tourism".

120 students applied to university and of these a staggering 104 got into their first choice of university. 37% of these will be heading to prestigious Russell Group universities, while a number of other students are going on to apprenticeships.

## Individual subject breakdown of A-level results

Qualification Name	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U
Art A2	5	2	3	6	7	0	0
Biology A2	3	4	7	7	6	5	0
BTEC Health and Social Care A2	0	1	0	3	1	0	0
BTEC Hospitality A2	0	5	0	0	2	1	0
BTEC ICT(Practitioners) A2	0	0	0	3	1	0	0
BTEC Sport A2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
BTEC Travel A2	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
AGQ Applied Business	0	5	0	12	10	1	0
Chemistry A2	1	3	6	3	4	1	0
Classics (Ancient History) A2	0	2	2	3	0	0	1
Computing A2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Design and Technology (product) A2	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
Drama A2	2	3	1	0	0	0	0
Economics A2	1	6	9	1	2	0	1
English Language A2	0	0	6	8	5	1	0
English Literature A2	3	4	7	10	0	1	0
Extended Project Qualification A2	8	15	8	7	1	0	0
French A2	3	1	2	2	0	0	0
Further Mathematics A2	0	4	3	0	2	2	0
Geography A2	1	3	6	7	3	0	0
German A2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
History A2	3	6	17	9	3	0	0
Law A2	1	2	1	2	0	1	0
Mathematics A2	7	15	9	7	3	2	2
Media Studies A2	0	1	9	3	5	2	0
Modern Foreign Language A2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Music A2	0	1	3	1	0	0	0
Photography A2	2	2	4	5	4	2	3
Physics A2	1	7	5	3	4	1	0
Psychology A2	1	4	9	3	5	1	0
Religious Education A2	2	3	2	4	2	0	0
Science A2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Spanish A2	2	1	4	0	0	0	0
Sport Studies A2	1	0	3	2	0	0	0
<b>Summary</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>8</b>

\* The grades for BTEC courses are D\*, D, M and P. They have been mapped to the equivalent A-level grades here for ease of presentation.

We are also continuing our coaching initiative whereby high-performing teachers undergo specialist training and then coach other teachers who wish to strengthen their skills

There is significant additional work going on at departmental and individual teacher level. We have identified departments who require additional support and are using, amongst other initiatives, members of the Extended Leadership Group to work with these Heads of Department. In the case of underperforming teachers we are using Personal Improvement Plans to develop and refine their practice until it meets our expectations.

However, the overall picture is of a good and improving school. The Gryphon adapted successfully to the challenges of the new 9 to 1 specification in English and Maths. We are confident that under new leadership, and as part of a Multi Academy Trust, that we can go from strength to strength over the coming years.