

# **Bulletin**

6 September 2022









# Headteacher Update

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

### **WELCOME BACK!**

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all students back to BFS for the start of the academic year 2022-23.

Before the term starts, we have created this special edition bulletin to update our community on the fantastic exam results and destinations we celebrated with Year 11 and Year 13 students in August.

### A LEVEL RESULTS



A Level results were outstanding again with 43% of all grades being A\* to A and 90.5% of all grades being grade C and above. This would compete favourably with the independent sector. Most importantly Sixth Form students have secured prestigious and varied destinations which we have shared with you in this bulletin. Our students have shared their plans for next year in more detail, which I am sure will inspire our young students reading this bulletin.

### **GCSE RESULTS**

GCSE results were also very strong with some stunning individual performances. Once again BFS has a very strong EBACC success rate with 45% of students achieving grade 4 and above in a language and humanities alongside CORE subjects. The great news is over 100 BFS students have met entry requirements to study at the BFS Sixth Form. Other students will be continuing their studies in local sixth form colleges and we wish them the very best in this next exciting chapter.





### HUGE CONGRATULATIONS

We must remember both these cohorts studied their GCSEs or A Levels under unprecedented circumstances which included school closures, the challenges of learning virtually and the constant uncertainty surrounding exams.

We applaud their maturity, resilience and hard work. I am confident that this unique experience will prepare them for the inevitable highs, lows and challenges life will throw at them. They will have the inner confidence that comes from working through adversity and being rewarded for their hard work.

I hope you enjoy reading this bulletin and you can share in some of the joy our students and families have had this summer.



MRS S KING





# **GCSE RESULTS**

#### **MR FERNANDES**

Bristol Free School is celebrating another year of fantastic GCSE results. We are delighted that a record number of students have met entry requirements for our sixth form and will be studying with us for A Levels and Level 3 courses in September.

Students should be congratulated on making it through an incredibly tough two years, in preparation for GCSEs and vocational qualifications. They are now seeing the results of their hard work and resilience. We are delighted that so many can continue with the next stage of their education and that a sizeable proportion are remaining with us to study at BFS Sixth Form. Top courses chosen for Sixth Form this year are: Maths - 37 students, Economics - 36 students, Biology - 26 students, Psychology - 25 students, Sociology - 18 students.





### STUDENTS WITH TOP GRADES

Lucy (11 x Grade 9, 1 x Grade 7) Emily (11 x Grade 9) Sophie (10 x Grade 9, 1 x Grade 7) Felix (7 x Grade 9, 4 x Grade 8) Olly (9 x Grade 9, 2 x Grade 7)

Amber (7 x Grade 9, 3 x Grade 8, 1 x Grade 7)

Anna (8 x Grade 9, 1 x Grade 8, 2 x Grade 7)

Eloise (8 x Grade 9, 2 x Grade 8, one grade still pending!)

Ben (6 x Grade 9, 4 x Grade 8, 1 x Grade 7)

Agnel (7 x Grade 9, 2 x Grade 8, 1 x Grade 7, 1 x Grade

6)

Matt (8 x Grade 9, 2 x Grade 7, 1 x Grade 6)

Eva (4 x Grade 9, 6 x Grade 8, 1 x Grade 7)

Lauren (4 x Grade 9, 5 x Grade 8, 2 x Grade 7)

Elliott (3 x Grade 9, 5 x Grade 8, 2 x Grade 7, 1 x Grade

Matthew (4 x Grade 9, 3 x Grade 8, 3 x Grade 7, 1 x Grade 5)

# STUDENTS MAKING MOST

# PROGRESS FROM KS2

Mobina
William
Azin
Roisin
Joseph
Simona
Bradley
Ollie
Eron
Erin
Lola
Tahira

William William Eden

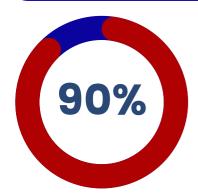


# **A-LEVEL RESULTS**

Pupils from Bristol Free School will be leaving here to enrol at university courses from Plymouth to Glasgow and in a diverse set of fields ranging from Computer Science to Criminology to Engineering. Two of our university applicants have been accepted on to courses at the prestigious Oxbridge universities. A number of students are also taking up lucrative apprenticeship and employment opportunities. We wish all students the best of luck as they embark on their new ventures, and we hope that they will stay in touch with the BFS family through volunteering and alumni activities

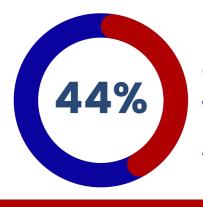






of grades awarded were a C or higher





of grades awarded were either an A or

**Distinction\* Grades at BTEC** 

#### How did you feel in the run up to Results Day?

• I felt quite calm in the general lead up however got much more nervous two days before results day and I couldn't sleep very well.

### **EMILY**

#### Can you describe your feelings during results day itself?

• I felt nauseous the morning of results day because I was so anxious. I was really scared of going into school and getting my results but saw on UCAS I had been accepted into my firm university so was very happy after that!

#### What were your results?

• A\* in Psychology A in PE and A in English Literature (A in EPQ).

#### Was there a particular result that you were proud of or surprised by? Why?

• On the whole I was really pleased with my results and especially chuffed with Psychology! I would have liked an A\* in PE but was still pleased with an A and was over the moon with an A in English because I did not think I had done very well in the last exam at all and was seriously worried about even passing it!

#### Where are you going next? What will you be studying? Why have you chosen that university and that subject?

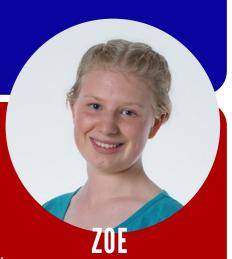
• I'm going to Cardiff University and am studying Criminology and Sociology. I chose Cardiff because it is such a vibrant cosmopolitan city with so much to offer and really reminds me of Bristol. Also it isn't too far away from home so I'll be able to potentially nip home for a roast every so often. I've decided on my course because I am really interested in social issues and regretted not doing it for A Level (although I did love Psychology), and I decided to pair it with criminology because I thought that would be really interesting: looking at the social impacts that may cause different crimes. Overall I'm really excited to go to Cardiff and can't wait to see what Uni life has to offer!





#### How did you feel in the run up to Results Day?

• In the run up to results day, I wasn't too concerned. I knew I'd worked hard, and given my mock grades, was very likely to get into the uni I wanted. But I like to do the best I can, so the grades I really wanted to get were higher than those I needed. I think I mostly avoided stress by keeping busy - meeting friends, doing things with my family, working and generally packing my time with activities.



#### Can you describe your feelings during results day itself?

• The morning of results day, I suddenly woke up super stressed. Before I'd even eaten breakfast, I got a confirmation email from my first choice uni saying that they did want me. This should have helped my nerves - it no longer mattered what grades I got - but it didn't. The grades were still important to me, even though I knew that they didn't matter, and I was really jittery all the way to school.

#### What were your results?

• 4 A\*s in Physics, Chemistry (the best subject), Maths and Further Maths (the most interesting A level).

# Was there a particular result that you were proud of or surprised by? Why?

• I was delighted by all of my results - maybe Chemistry most, since its what I'm most passionate about, or maybe Further Maths, as it was hardest.

## Where are you going next? What will you be studying? Why have you chosen that university and that subject?

• From the end of September I will be studying Chemistry at Durham. Its a beautiful city; the University has lots of sports clubs for me to try and practice rooms at my college so I can play the piano occasionally, but best of all is their chemistry department which is ranked among the best in the UK. I can't wait!



# Durham University



#### How did you feel in the run up to Results Day?

• Unlike a lot of people I had spoken to I was not too nervous. I had already applied to the apprenticeship and had completed an interview that I felt went well. This particular apprenticeship was not dependent on my grades so while I of course wanted a decent set of grades I was not overly worried. It was bit sad to be saying a final goodbye to a lot of teachers who helped me develop and grow as a person, in particular Mr Smith and Mr MacBlain. The idea of starting the next chapter of my life was both very scary and exciting.

#### Can you describe your feelings during results day itself?

• The nerves did start to kick in as I was about to open my envelope and there were a lot of emotions going on around me so it was quite stressful. I had met up with my friends and discussed their results so opening my results in a group was not too bad. Seeing all the teachers and other students asking around to see what people got definitely put the pressure on but also added a level of excitement. I was very happy with my results, especially with the amount of effort I had put into revision.



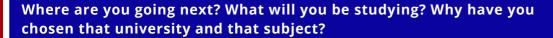


#### What were your results?

• Psychology: A, Politics: B, Computer Science: B, Extended project qualification: B

Was there a particular result that you were proud of or surprised by? Why?

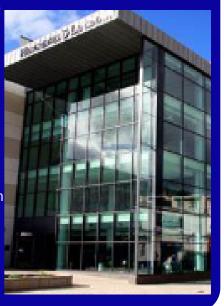
• I was very surprised with Politics as i had been predicted a C and it was the subject I struggled the most with. The idea that the marking was much more subjective than a subject like maths for example was quite daunting, as I knew my grade could be influenced either way. My mock grades were disappointing but I am sure it was this that gave me the motivation to reach my potential for the final exam. My EPQ was another result I was pleasantly surprised with, I had really struggled with time management during this task and it resulted in a lot of late nights so it was good to see that they paid off.



- I am going into a software engineering apprenticeship with the financial company Hargreaves Lansdown. It is an 18 month apprenticeship with 3 months of training and 15 months working as part of an agile production team delivering software.
- I chose to do an apprenticeship over university for a number of reasons. Primarily it was better suited to my goals, I knew I wanted to start earning money as soon as possible in a stable work environment. With computer science in particular, work experience can be valued over a degree in a lot of work placements. I also avoided the debt problem, living at home will help me save a lot of money and with the flexibility of the role I can chose to work from home if i wish. I think I am much better suited to the hands on, work experience than academic study. The combination of saving a lot of money while earning and building my skills in an industry that is very well respected seemed like a great move to make.



### HARGREAVES LANSDOWN



#### STUDENTS WITH ALL A\*/A GRADES



CONGRATULATIONS
TO OUR YEAR 13S

DANIEL (A\*A\*A\*A\*)

ZOE (A\*A\*A\*A\*)

EMMA (A\*A\*A\*A)

POLLY (A\*A\*A\*A)

BRACE (A\*A\*A\*)

JOSEPH (A\*AAA)

WILLIAM (A\*AAA)

BEN (A\*A\*A)

LILY (A\*A\*A)

THEO (A\*A\*A)

EMILY (A\*AA)

ALEX (A\*AA)

ANNA (A\*AA)

ZENA (A\*AA)

# STUDENTS WHO MADE THE MOST PROGRESS FROM

KS4

CONNOR, LILY,
 DAVID, PIP,
 JACKSON, TOM,
 MADDIE, ARAD, SAM
 DAISY, ALEX,
 NEAVE, WILLIAM,
 EMMA, EMILY



University of Birmingham

University of Manchester University of Exercising the Resident University of Exercising the Resident University of San University of Nottingham University of Plymouth University of Liverpool Bath Spa University Royal Veterinary College University of Plymouth Lancaster University University of Plymouth caster University University ersity of Plymouth

Manchester Metropolitan University University of Bath University of Susset University On University of Susset University On Univ University of Manchester University of Exeter University of Exeter telerUniversity of Bath Aberystwyth University ■ Cardiff University

 University of Bristol Cardiff University Swansea University University of Oxford Swansea University University of Sussex University of Cambridg University of Exeter Lancaster University University of Oxford University of Exeter

University of Kent University of Cambridge

Cardiff University	Business Management
Cardiff University	Optometry with a Preliminary Year (4 years)
Swansea University	Geography
University of Sheffield	General Engineering with a Year in Industry
University of Nottingham	Economics
University of Oxford	Geography
University of Manchester	Computer Science with Industrial Experience (4 years)
Manchester Metropolitan University	Sport Coaching and Development
University of Exeter	Biological Sciences with Professional Placement
University of Birmingham	Modern Languages (4 years)
Manchester Metropolitan	
University	Human Geography
University of Kent	Biomedical Engineering
University of Nottingham	Biochemistry
Newcastle University	Psychology
University of Birmingham	History
University of Plymouth	Computer Science
Cardiff Metropolitan University	Psychology (3 years or 4 years including Foundation)
Swansea University	Law with Criminology
University of Liverpool	History with Spanish
Royal Veterinary College, University of London	Bio veterinary Sciences
Bristol, University of the West of England	Business Management and Marketing
University of Bath	Mathematics and Statistics
Durham University	Chemistry (International)
University of Hertfordshire	Physical Geography
University of Cambridge	Natural Sciences
Bath Spa University	Film, Television and Digital Production
Bristol, University of the West of England	History
Oxford Brookes University	Biomedical Science
University of Bristol	BA History with Study Abroad
University of Glasgow	Finance and Mathematics
Bristol, University of the West of England	Law
Bristol, University of the West of England	Psychology

University of Exeter	Mathematics and Data Science
University of Sussex	Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence
Bristol, University of the West of England	Business Management and Marketing
Bristol, University of the West of England	Aerospace Engineering (with Foundation Year)
University of Plymouth	Marketing
Cardiff University	Sociology
University of Sussex	Biomedical Science
Bristol, University of the West of England	Politics and International Relations
Cardiff University	Nursing (Adult)
University of Surrey	Economics with Foundation Year
University of Plymouth	Biomedical Science with Foundation Year
Leeds Beckett University	Psychology
University of Exeter	History and Politics with Employment Experience
Cardiff University	Criminology and Sociology
	Computer Science (with integrated foundation year)
University of Bristol	Computer Science
Bristol, University of the West of England	Computer Science (with Foundation Year)
Cardiff University	Architecture
Cardiff University	History and Economics
University of Bristol	Accounting and Finance
University of Bath	Mathematics
University of Birmingham	Business Management with Marketing
University of Plymouth	Marketing
University of Nottingham	History
Lancaster University	Business Analytics
	Primary and Early Years Education (with Qualifie Teacher Status)
University of Manchester	Modern History with Economics

