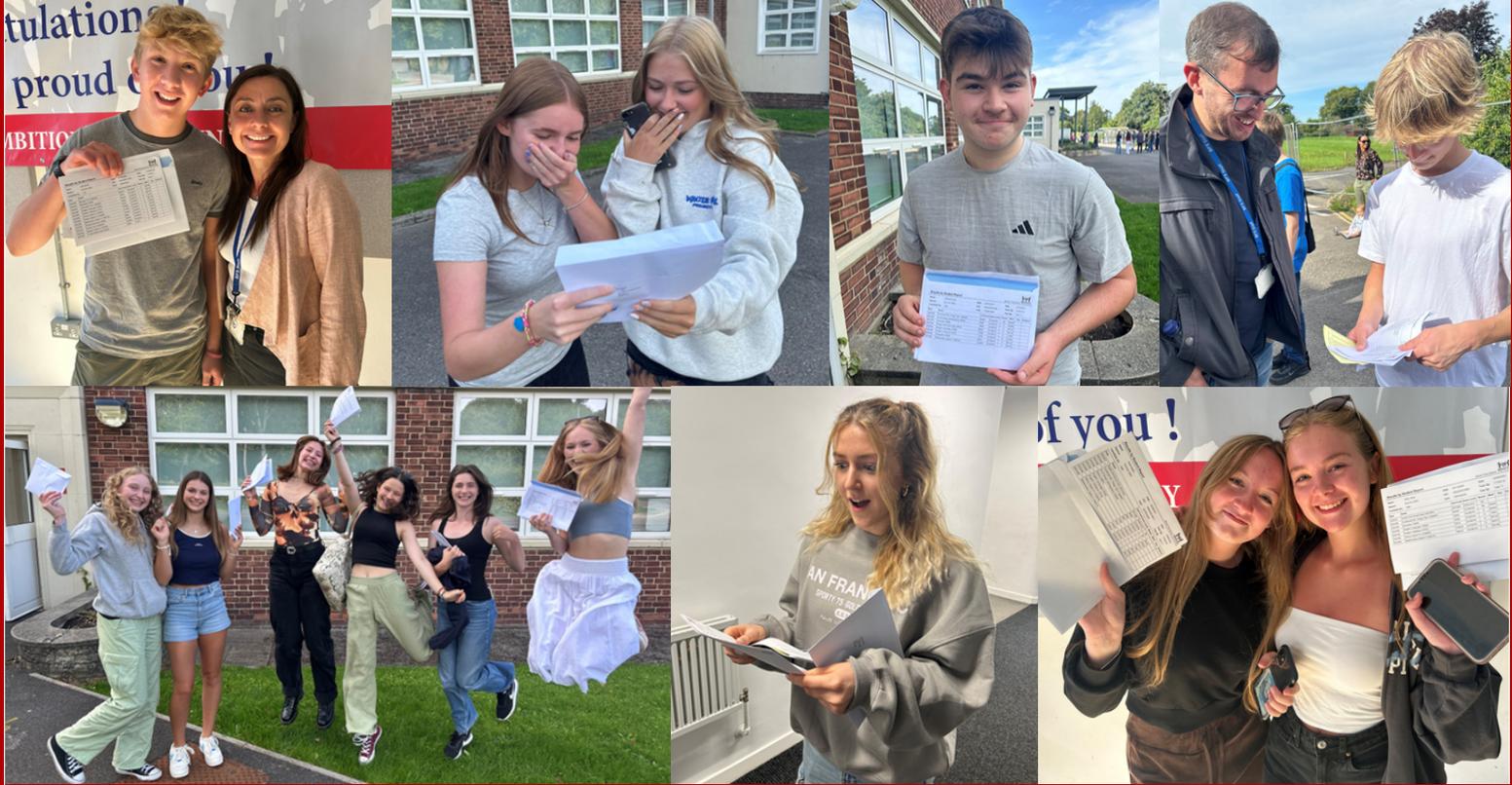


# Bulletin

**BACK TO**  
**SCHOOL**



## GCSE AND A LEVEL RESULTS DAY

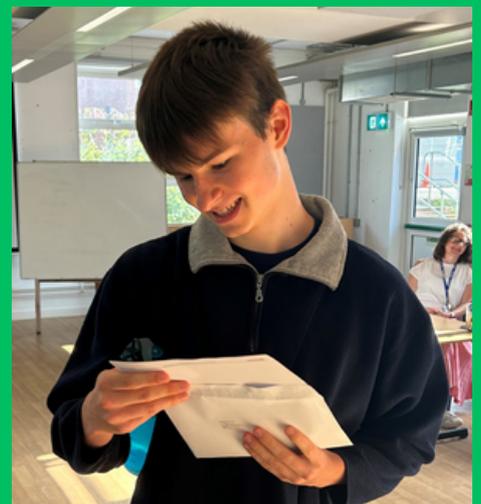
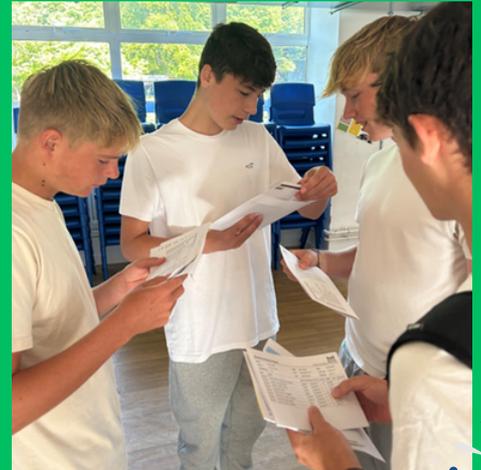


# GCSE RESULTS DAY

Bristol Free School is celebrating a superb set of GCSE and Level 2 Vocational results. Despite significant disruption by the pandemic, and a return to a full exam season, Year 11 have demonstrated high levels of resilience and dedication.

82% of students achieved a standard pass (grade 4+) in English and Maths and 29% attained a grade 7+. The proportion of students achieving five grades at 4+ exceeded the national average despite a nationally reported dip in results from 2022. Most of our cohort will remain with us to study in our Sixth Form.

Mrs King (Headteacher) said - 'I am absolutely delighted with this year's GCSE and BTEC results - it is the best GCSE results in the school's history! We are all so proud of how hard this cohort have worked in very challenging circumstances. The number of students achieving a grade 4 and above in English and maths is fantastic this year and despite the national news reports of a reduction in Grade 7 and above BFS has seen done well above national levels in this measure. Due to this success, we are seeing record numbers enrolling into our Sixth Form - the future is bright for this cohort!

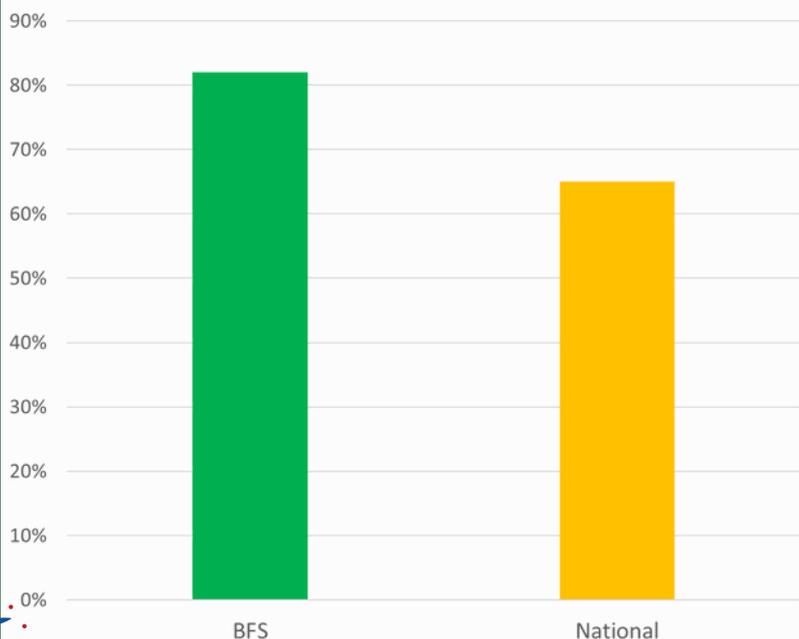


**Summer 23 was BFS' best Year 11 Results. Can the class of 24 do better?**

**82% of all students achieved a grade 4+ in English and maths. Class of 24 your target is 90%**

**121 students remained in our Sixth Form. Will you secure your place next year?**

Percentage of students with a grade 4+ in English AND maths - Summer 2023



# A LEVEL RESULTS DAY

Bristol Free School is celebrating another terrific set of A Level and BTEC Results. Despite these students being significantly disrupted by the pandemic over a number of years, they demonstrated exceedingly high levels of resilience and dedication and have been amply rewarded for their efforts.

34% of students have been accepted on to courses at Russell Group universities (a group of the most academically selective universities in the country) compared to a national average of 27%. 35% of students achieved at least one A\* or A grade and all three of our students who applied for Medicine were successful in taking up their place. It was also another excellent year for performance in the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) with 100% of students achieving between an A\* and a B. Finally, we are particularly proud of the significant number of students who will be in the first generation of their family to go to university or to study for a degree apprenticeship.

Head of Sixth Form, Mr Smith, commented that 'Pupils from Bristol Free School will be leaving here to enrol at university courses from Exeter to Edinburgh and in a diverse set of fields ranging from Architectural Engineering to Ecology to Aerospace Engineering. A number of students are also taking up lucrative apprenticeship and employment opportunities. It has been a privilege to witness the enthusiasm, passion and drive which has been applied by this cohort of students and we wish them all the best of luck as they set out on pastures new'.

## Some highlights include:

**Gwen and Juliette** – Gwen achieved three A\* grades and Juliette three A\* and one A. Both students are now off to Exeter to study Medicine. Gwen and Juliette have been part of our aim higher programme and praised the fantastic support from their subject teachers and the Sixth Form team. A fantastic achievement!



**James** – James achieved two A\* grades and two As. He will be going to Exeter to study Computer Science. James said he was thankful for the guidance of his Computer Science and Maths teachers who helped him achieve such fantastic results. Well done, James!

**Dan** – Dan attained two A\* grades and one A. He is heading to the University of Leeds to study Architectural Engineering. Dan said he has had a fantastic seven years at BFS. Congratulations and Good luck!



**Hebe** – Hebe attained two A\* grades and two As. She has secured a place at Birmingham University to study Chemistry. Hebe was thankful for the support of her amazing teachers and the Sixth Form team. Well done, Hebe!

**Leaha** – Leaha achieved Merit grades in BTEC Level 3 Applied Science and Health and Social Care. She is thrilled to have secured a place studying Forensic Science at UWE. Superb achievement!



# KEY DATES

- Wednesday 13 - Thursday 14 September - Access Arrangement Y10 - Y13
- Thursday 14 - Saturday 16 September - Y13 Gold Practice Expedition
- Thursday 14 September - Y12/Y13 How to support my child online workshop afterschool
- Wednesday 20 September - U14 Netball team (National Cup) v Millfield School - 11:00am - 5.00pm



## IMPORTANT!

A reminder to parents, carers and visitors to be considerate when parking on Concorde Drive and to make sure you are not blocking a residential drive.

## BREAKFAST CLUB



Breakfast Club will be starting on Monday for students who are a recipient of Free School Meals, and will run every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning.



## FRIENDS OF BRISTOL FREE SCHOOL

Welcome to the 2023/24 Academic Year. A special welcome to our Year 7 parents and carers. We are the Friends of Bristol Free School. First off, we would like to say that coming along to our gatherings is by no means a commitment to bake cakes, make fancy dress costumes or run a school disco.

We are a group of parents with children in different year groups. Over the next academic year, we would like to raise funds for this wonderful school of ours. Most importantly, we want to strengthen the school community so just coming along and introducing yourself is enough. We would love to meet you.

Our first meeting this term is **Thursday 14 September at 7.30pm** in the **Black Swan, Stoke Lane, Westbury on Trym**. We have a table reserved in the back bar, please do come along.

### DATE FOR THE DIARY

**Friday 13 October** – BFS Quiz night.

Get together with friends to create a team or just come along and meet new friends. Please do spread the word and look out for further details on Facebook/WhatsApp.

### EASYFUNDRAISING

Do you enjoy Online shopping? The EASIEST way of supporting FoBFS is by using [Easyfundraising](#)

It's a hassle-free way of earning extra money for our school. Please use the link below or install the

Easyfundraising App on your phone.

All you must do is assign BFS as the place you want funds to go to. There are lots of online shops on there and it's straightforward to use.

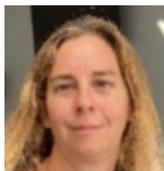
### INTRODUCING THE FOFBS COMMITTEE:



**MEL HACKER**  
CHAIR



**HELEN HOLLICK**  
SECRETARY



**JANET LEAR**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**SUE BELL**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**JAN CLARK**  
TREASURER



**LAURENCE LAMINIE**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER



**JEN ASHTON**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER

**SALLY COOKE**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER

**FI HESTER**  
COMMITTEE MEMBER

# ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Daily attendance at school ensures that students achieve their full potential. At Bristol Free School, we are very keen to work with parents and students to maximise attendance and attainment in school. In order for an attendance record to be deemed good it must be 96% or above. We would like to congratulate all the students who achieved this level last year.

**An attendance record of 90% might seem good but is equal to one day missed per fortnight. If this continues from year 7 to 11, a total of six months' education will be lost.**

**An attendance record of 80% might seem acceptable but is equal to one day missed per week. If this continues from year 7 to 11, a total of one year's education will be lost.**

To allow students the best chance to achieve their potential, our school expectations are that:



- Holidays are not taken in term time



- Medical appointments are, where possible, booked outside of school hours



- Students arrive promptly at 8.25am, ready for Tutor at 8.30am. Students arriving late will be issued with a detention. Students arriving late after 9.30am will receive an unauthorised absence mark for the morning.



- Illness is reported before 9am by ringing the absence line 0117 9597200 and selecting option 1 or by using the free StudyBugs app. Illnesses lasting more than one day must be reported daily.

The following link can give helpful advice on illnesses and school attendance - [Is my child too ill for school?](#)

For medical appointments that are unavoidably within school hours, we ask that proof of the appointment is emailed to [admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk), along with the time that the student will be collected and returned to school. Students are responsible for signing out at Student Services at the time of their collection and signing in on their return.

For unavoidable planned absences, such as religious observances, funerals, external exams and county-level sporting events, please email [admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk) for a leave of absence form. When this form is filled in and returned, your absence request will be considered by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Please also see the general advice about [school attendance](#) and [absence](#), published by the government and Bristol City Council. This includes information on the penalties for unauthorised holidays and poor school attendance. As a school, we prefer to work with parents rather than using penalties; however, **we will issue Penalty Notices for unauthorised holidays and poor attendance, or pursue prosecutions if necessary.**

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

## SHAPE MY CITY

### PROGRAMME

Shape My City is a free programme for young people between 15-18 years of age from Diverse Backgrounds, as part of the 'Design West' programme. Shape My City runs 2 hours, once a month (in person) getting to go on site visits, learning to have a voice and creating better places for people in our cities.

The programme adds value to CVs, boosts UCAS and personal statements, and gives young people the chance to meet other young people across the city.

Young people can [sign up here](#) or [see the website](#) for more information. The deadline for applications is Friday 15 September.



# BFS SEND



MISS JOHNSON

## USEFUL LINKS FOR SEND FAMILIES



**WECIL**  
Supporting  
Independent Living

WECIL



Life Cycle  
**UK**

LIFE CYCLE



**Sibs**  
for brothers and sisters  
of disabled children & adults

SIBS



**RDA**



Bristol  
Parent  
Carer  
**Forum**

BPC

If you care,  
we care.

**THE CARERS  
CENTRE**



**YOUNG  
CARERS**



# BFS SPORT



MRS WYNNE-JONES



## U16 RUGBY SUCCESS!

Angus, Sam & Isaac all played - and won - for Bristol Bears U16 against RGC (the regional representative team for North Wales) in Colwyn Bay last week.

This followed a 3-day residential camp in Bridgwater for these 3 and Felix. Well done!



Would you like to be more confident with numbers, and work towards a Maths qualification?

**Multiply**  
can help you!

get **maths**  
get **on**



Free course, Brush Up Your Maths starting every Tuesday from 19th September from 9.00am -11.30am  
Badocks Wood School BS10 5PU

Free for anyone aged 19+

Free creche available  
See you there!

**Multiply**

**WEST OF ENGLAND**  
Combined Authority



07721589956

To book a place please contact:  
[Sarah.freeman@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.freeman@bristol.gov.uk)

**COMMUNITY LEARNING**

The Multiply programme is funded and managed by the West of England Combined authority, led by Metro Mayor Dan Norris and delivered by Bristol City Council.