

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION RESULTS AND UNIVERSITY SUCCESSES 2017

Dear Parents

It has been a fantastic summer at BGS. I am absolutely thrilled for all our pupils who have achieved such magnificent successes in their GCSEs and A Levels and delighted for their teachers who have worked so hard to put everything in place to enable our young people to shine. Many of our pupils have exceeded expectations and to see BGS bucking national trends at both GCSE and A Level is very pleasing. Our winning combination of high aspirations, excellent teaching, a warm and positive environment and strong home-school partnerships has struck gold again this summer.... and long may this continue!

A Level Results and University Successes 2017

We were delighted for our outgoing Y13 girls with A Level results which have opened many doors to the future and secured them places on courses at top universities. This year saw a **100% pass rate** in a year of more challenging A Level examinations; **28%** of grades were at the **elite A/A* level**, **64%** of grades were at **A* to B** and many students exceeded expectations, improving considerably on their performances at AS Level.



- Rebecca Yates achieved A*AAB and is going to The University of St Andrews to read History;
- Head Girl, Livia Hutchings, obtained A*AA and will be reading Geography at Durham University;
- Head of Events, Amber Lowe, achieved AAA and is going to The University of Bristol to read Economics;
- Iona Smith's grades were at A*AB and she will be reading Psychology at The University of Nottingham;
- Nikita Shroff obtained AAA in her A levels and an A in the EPQ and is going to The University of Leeds to read Classics.

In all, sixteen students – a third of the year group – obtained a string of grades at A*-B.

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Outstanding success in the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) – a prestigious qualification which prepares students extremely well for higher education and is well-regarded by universities - is fast becoming one of our hall marks as a school and this year was no exception. Improving upon last year's marvellous achievement of 92% A grades, this year a **perfect 100% of EPQ grades** were at the **top A grade**. All our sixth formers have the opportunity to study for an EPQ and I do hope our new Y12s will strongly consider this.

University Successes

We measure our university success on the extent to which our girls have obtained a place on *the course they want to do at the university of their choice*.

Every single one of our students has secured a place on one of their top two choices this year; a marvellous **75%** of those students have been accepted by their **first choice university** and **55%** of students will be attending **Russell Group** Universities this autumn.

The unbeatable combination of students' hard work, careful guidance from the Sixth Form Team and the personal approach we take to UCAS applications, gives our sixth formers the best possible opportunities in the competitive arena of Higher Education and beyond.

It has been a pleasure to work with the Class of 2017 and all of us at BGSG wish them the very best for the future – and look forward to Old Girl reunions!

AS Results 2017

AS results represent interim grades on the path towards full A Levels. We were very pleased that grades at AS were **up on last year**, particularly at **the top 'A' end**, and would like to congratulate our Y12s as they go into Y13s...although they will be aware there is still a lot of hard work to be done. We are right behind you, so aim high, girls!

GCSE Results 2017

We were absolutely thrilled with our Year 11 girls' GCSE results, which represent **an improvement at every level** on last year's results and make BGSG the leading school in the area at GCSE. A truly impressive **65%** of BGSG grades were at the coveted **A*/A** level in a year in which there has been a fall nationally in the number of top grades awarded, and an astonishing **90%** of grades were at **A*-B**. There were exceptional achievements across the board, including results in the reformed GCSEs in Maths, English Language and Literature in which grades are awarded from 9 to 1, with Grade 9 the highest and regarded as an **A* Plus**. We are over the moon for the **14 girls** who achieved this prestigious **Grade 9**, and the **five pupils** who went even further and achieved **two Grade 9 scores** in their results: these are outstanding achievements.

In all, a fabulous **60%** of girls have a GCSE profile with an **average of A grades** and performances across the year group were superb. These talented girls have worked so hard and their teachers and I very much look forward to welcoming them into Sixth Form.



We are thrilled for pupils, parents, teachers and everyone who has played a part in inspiring and supporting our young people this year. It is clear that bright futures await not only this summer's exam students but younger generations who are coming through: we are proud to be doing the right things for our pupils and taking the School from strength to strength with your support.

It is important to finish by saying that we go into teaching because we want the very best for our pupils as individuals, and while many girls and results have deservedly made the headlines, we have many pupils whose successes have not been so high profile during the exam season but for whom we are equally thrilled.

I offer my warmest congratulations to all our wonderful pupils, teachers, support staff and parents.

Mrs J Anderson
Headmistress