

developing compassionate leaders

## Summer 2021 Examination Results Overview

After another year of disruption from the pandemic we congratulate Bexley Grammar students for their resilience through another period of uncertainty and through another process of awarding grades. IB and GCSE combined provide the school's best ever examination results this summer; students have been richly rewarded for their hard work and determination, supported, as ever, by the commitment and dedication of staff and parents.

## Year 13

Year 13 students at BGS set new records in every measure of achievement in the IB with a stunning set of results. These results vindicate all the hard work students have put in since September 2019 through two academic years which have been disrupted by the pandemic.

5 students achieved the perfect score of 45 points. 50 of our year 13 cohort of 185 students achieved 40 points or higher - a staggering success! Just shy of 40% of students gained 38 points or more, a typical Oxford University offer. 62% of all grades were a 6 or a 7 and 92% were a 5 or higher. The whole cohort achieved an average of 5.8 points per subject (world average = 5.1 in 2020), an average of 36.0 total points per student (world average = 31.3 in 2020) and the best progress (value-added) ever. It is remarkable that the average achievement in UCAS points (215 points) of our students is equivalent to 3 A\* and 1 A at A level.

Although students were not able to demonstrate their performance in final examinations due to the pandemic, the IB marked their IAs (coursework) this year in place of examinations. The IB then combined this marking with school predicted grades and used grade allocations for each subject based on previous cohorts to maintain parity with pre-pandemic school results and to maintain parity with students taking examinations in other countries. These results have involved greater scrutiny and moderation than A level results are receiving.

Charlotte Allen, Samuel Gee, Katherine Henderson, Samantha Hayes-Holgate and Danny Phan all achieved the maximum Diploma score of 45 points. (Only 339 candidates achieved this across the world in 2020). 7 students, Yingfei Chen, Bani Kaur Dhoofer, Katherine Henderson, Natascha Loison, Luca Varela, Caitlin Yemm and Kylie Li, scored an incredible 44 points each. 9 students achieved a perfect set of 7s across their six subjects.

Receiving results so early in the summer is a distinct advantage, perhaps more so than ever in these extraordinary times. Over 90% of students gained their first or reserve choice and a record 63% achieved places at Russell Group universities. We have BGS students studying at 23 of the 24 Russell Group universities (only Belfast is without a BGS student) this autumn. We celebrated another successful Oxbridge intake from BGS with 7 places, 4 at Oxford and 3 at Cambridge.

These grades sustain BGS's remarkable success rate in gaining the best university places for our students. Gaining the subjects and universities of choice is our ultimate prize and our students have demonstrated incredible success against the backdrop of so much disruption: BGS remains one of the top-rated schools in the country for securing places in Higher Education for our students.

I am delighted for, and grateful to, our students, their teachers, their families, indeed for the whole BGS community which celebrates these wonderful outcomes from the world-class education they have enjoyed. There has probably never been a more important time for our young men and women to flourish in the IB with its outward-looking, international curriculum.

## Year 11

Despite all the uncertainty and disruption, 190 Year 11 Bexley Grammar School students have achieved record-breaking, outstanding GCSE results! Comparisons cannot reliably be made with previous years but we particularly celebrate the record 41% of all grades that were achieved at 9-8 (the old A\*).

The 9-7 (old A\*-A) measure is 68.5%, an increase of 5% on last year. It is remarkable that over two-thirds of all the grades awarded to our students are in this top category. The average point score for the whole year group is over 7.1 (7.0 is equivalent to the old A grade).

Two students, Emily Dastjerdi and Max Dawkins gained a perfect set of 11 GCSE grade 9s - remarkable achievements! (In 2019, only 123 students out of 17,450 who took 11 GCSEs in England secured all 11 grade 9s.)

An impressive 18 students achieved only 8s and 9s (a full set of A\*s on the old measure). 65 students, over a third of the cohort, secured straight 9-7 grades (old A\*-A grades) and 112 students, nearly 60% of the cohort, achieved 8 or more 9-7 grades.

All BGS students studied the three separate sciences, two foreign languages and at least one humanities subject alongside mathematics and both English and English Literature – the majority took eleven GCSEs.

## Subject highlights include:

- Over 50% grade 9s in: Chinese (64%) (taken by 14 students), Food (60%) (10) and Music (60%) (25)
- Over 25% grade 9s in: Computer Science (taken by 53 students), Japanese (18), Latin (39), PE (16), and Russian (15).
- Over 75% grades 9-7 in: Maths (all students), Chinese (93%) (14 students), Computer Science (53), Design & Technology (90%) (20), Economics (51) Food (100%) (10), Music (88%) (25), PE (16), Psychology (39), Russian (15), Textiles (4).

My congratulations go to all our students who received examination results this summer, to their families and to their teachers who give so much of their time and energy to students to make these achievements possible. These are outstanding results from a deliberately stretching, grammar curriculum which we maintained throughout the pandemic. Our staff are, of course, delighted with the results of our highest achievers but they also take great pride in the results of students lower down ranked lists who have gained results of which they are rightfully proud and who have secured places on the courses they wanted in the Sixth Form or at University or equivalent. I am so proud of what they have achieved and I am deeply grateful for the tireless work of the staff here at BGS in particularly challenging circumstances. Similarly, I am indebted to parents for their support through the years that culminate in these achievements. We are all very proud of our students' achievements.

Mr S Elphick

Headteacher