



# Headteacher's Update

No 186 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## Exams 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We wanted to start this academic year by celebrating the success of our outgoing Year 11 cohort with this special edition Newsletter. You will likely be aware that this was the first year of full external GCSE exams since 2019, due to the coronavirus pandemic. Although it was great to get back to some normality after two years of CAGs and TAGs, and we knew the cohort had worked incredibly hard, it was clear that the effects of the pandemic could have an impact on outcomes and there were certainly nerves approaching results day on the 25<sup>th</sup> August.

The official results come into schools the day before we are allowed to give them to students and are restricted to only a few members of staff. Mrs Lancaster, our Exams Officer, used this day to prepare the students' envelopes for the results whilst senior staff had their analysis documents ready to populate. We had already been bombarded with the national media once again scaring parents, students and staff with their rhetoric regarding a reduction in grades compared to last year. The extra pressure on young people is neither wanted nor helpful. So, we pressed the download button with

some trepidation but as soon as we saw the results starting to filter into our system we couldn't wait for students to receive them the following day!

The rain poured heavily on the morning of results' day, yet no spirits were dampened by the onslaught. Students arrived en-masse then made their way to the hall to get their envelopes. Many staff came in to celebrate with students; some had cases packed to leave on a final trip before term started and others had just flown back in to the UK! This cohort did stunningly well. Our best ever GCSE results by some margin.

92% of students gained 5 GCSEs at grades 9-4 including English and Maths, with 71% gaining 9-5. 42.4% of all results were the top grades, 7, 8 or 9 (equivalent to the old Grade A, A\* and A\*\*). We are delighted to say that the first indication of our progress score currently stands at +0.77. This means that this cohort are, on average, over three quarters of a grade up on target (based on their SATS in Year 6, with some King's aspiration thrown in). Students performed exceptionally well across all subjects: English and Maths, Sciences, Humanities, Languages, Arts and other foundation subjects alike. In keeping with our inclusive and aspirational ethos, students from across the cohort

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## Forthcoming Events

<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Year 7 first day of term</li></ul>
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Years 8-11 first day of term</li></ul>
<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Year 11 information evening</li></ul>
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>PTA Colour Run</li></ul>
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Whole school individual photos</li></ul>

all performed well, including our disadvantaged students, and those with SEND.

Students with stand-out results include: Shams B, Lily M, Tabby J, Freya H, Cassius J, Sophie W, Elvan C, Wybie K, Monica S-G, Tess T, Ella K, Abigail R, Ella M-Y, Jonathan R, Evie C, Cameron K, Joe P, Lauren S, Jacob H, Jemima R and Monica G who all gained grades averaging an 8 or above. Most progress was made by the following students who were more than 2 grades above their targets: Monica S-G, Cameron K, Cassius J, Angelina B, Ben H, Elvan C, Wybie K, Sophie W, Lauren S, Freya L, Joe P, Ella K and Jacob H.

We are incredibly proud of this cohort, who endured a great deal of disruption and demonstrated resilience, commitment and kindness throughout their Key Stage 4 years. They worked as a team and proved that hard work really does work. The senior staff team are also incredibly proud of our staff team, teaching and support staff alike, who gave their all to support these students and help them to fulfil their potential in their GCSE exams this year. Team King's continues to go from strength to strength and we remain very proud to serve our community here in Hove.

Wishing you all well for the start of this academic year.

*Mrs Price*

