

I am delighted to celebrate the outstanding success of Gateways' students in the public examinations this summer. These excellent results are a tribute to both their hard work and the dedication of their teachers.

We are immensely proud that all our students have been awarded places at the universities of their choice and that 50% of grades at A2 level were grade As, almost double the national average of 26.7%. In total, 30% of students achieved straight A grades, compared with the national average of 12%. Furthermore, 50% of our grades at GCSE level were A* or A, more than double the national average of 21.6%. As if that were not enough, these results placed the school in the top 5% in the country for value added: in other words, the teaching and learning at Gateways has made a significantly positive difference to our students. In fact, on average, our students achieved almost a full GCSE grade improvement on their predictions. Superb achievements!

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that Gateways, together with a growing number of eminent independent schools, has withdrawn from inclusion in school league tables this year. We have always believed that they provide a flawed perspective of our success, as they fail to capture the school's ethos, which is about intellectual, emotional and social growth. They have been further devalued by the increasing number of examination options that are not recognised in their rankings. However, we have provided our results to the Independent Schools' Council, which will incorporate them into their statistics to measure how the independent sector as a whole has performed at A level and GCSE level.

I am sure that you will join me in congratulating our students on their examination success and wishing our Sixth Form leavers well as they embark on their new lives as undergraduates.



Mrs Y Wilkinson, Headmistress

Top 5% in country for value added

Continuing outstanding value-added results place Gateways in the top 5% of schools in the country for value-added. Durham University's MidYIS (Middle Years Information System) and YELLIS (Year 11 Information System) projects assess pupils at Year 7 and Year 10 respectively in order to predict their GCSE results. We are delighted to report that statistics continue to highlight that Gateways is adding on average 0.7 of a grade to predicted GCSE grades. Furthermore, Durham University's ALIS project (A Level Information System), which predicts students' A level grades from their GCSE results, has recorded value-added scores of at least half a grade on predictions in most subjects – a huge achievement at this advanced level.

Gateways' girls far and wide

Bucking the current trend to study close to home, a number of Gateways' girls are widening their horizons and will attend universities in the south of England and Scotland. Isobel Dixon has chosen University of Southampton to read English and Philosophy. Olivia Watson is going to University of Bath to study Business Administration and Sophie Jupe will attend University of Surrey for Nutrition and Dietetics, while Katie Higgins' choice of Psychology at University of Glasgow means that she will be travelling north of the border. We have every confidence that they will rise to the challenge of their new environments and send them our very best wishes.

Gateways' presence at Durham increases

We are delighted to announce that the colleges of prestigious Durham University will welcome a further two students from Gateways this year. Elizabeth Anderson, Head Girl 2008, will study Mathematics and Emma Williams, a School Prefect in 2008, will read Economics. Both girls achieved straight A grades to secure their places and join last year's leavers, Elizabeth Bamford (Psychology) and Claudia Fellerman (Modern Languages). The university was named as *The Sunday Times* University of the Year in 2005 and consistently ranks amongst the top universities in the world.



Emma Williams



Elizabeth Anderson

Astrophysics for Amber

Amber Boulton's top grades in Physics, Mathematics and History have secured her a place at Sheffield University to study Physics with Astrophysics. The course encompasses a broad and intellectually demanding education across the whole spectrum of modern physics. Research-led teaching provides all the fundamental knowledge essential to the professional physicist. This degree will enable Amber to pursue PhD research, take employment in a physics-related field or take up a career in finance, where her advanced numeracy would be highly valued by employers.

GCSE Results 2009

GCSE results headlines

Percentage of grade A* and A: 50%
(National average 21.6%)

Percentage of grade A*: 20%

Percentage of students achieving five or more passes A* to C: 90%
(National average 67.1%)

Nearly half of all students studying English Language and Literature gained a grade A* or A.

Fifty per cent of all students studying Mathematics were awarded a grade A* or A.

Seventy per cent of the results for Art and Design and Physical Education were at grade A* or A.

Over 84% of the results for Geography, Information Technology, Music and Religious Studies were at grade A* or A.

Girls who took GCSEs demonstrated on average 0.7 of a grade improvement on predicted grades, as assessed by Durham University.



	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F
Art & Design	3	4	1	1	1	0	0
Business Studies	0	2	5	1	1	0	0
D&T: Food Technology	1	3	4	4	0	0	0
Drama	1	4	5	2	0	0	0
English Language and Literature	4	16	13	6	1	0	0
English Literature	4	14	19	1	2	0	0
French	1	0	3	3	1	1	0
Geography	9	6	2	0	0	0	0
German	3	4	5	6	1	1	0
Greek	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
History	5	3	4	3	2	0	1
Information Technology	5	11	1	1	1	0	0
Latin	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mathematics	7	13	13	3	0	4	0
Music	3	4	1	0	0	0	0
Physical Education	3	4	1	0	2	0	0
Religious Studies	2	4	0	1	0	0	0
Science (Double Award)	14	14	18	26	2	6	0
Spanish	3	3	3	1	0	0	0

Gateways improves on last year's success for A* and A grades

The 2009 GCSE results surpass last year's achievement of 48% grades A* and A. This year a total of 50% of Gateways' GCSE grades were A* and A, which is well in excess of double the national average of 21.6%, as well as the national average for girls' schools, which is 24.4%. This is testament to the quality of teaching, the girls' hard work and commitment, and desire to succeed that is instilled

in all pupils at Gateways. Particular congratulations go to Sarah Woon, who attained eight A* grades and two A grades; Amanda Brill and Francesca Jackson-Spence, who both earned eight A* grades and one A grade; Margot Nickels who achieved six A* grades and four A grades; and Caroline Innes and Amy McNamara who both achieved five A* and four A grades.

All A*s in classical languages

A 100% pass rate at A* grade was achieved in both Greek and Latin. Congratulations to Alice Spencer and Sarah Woon, who studied Greek, and Amanda Brill, who studied Latin, as part of Gateways' Stella Programme. This programme ensures that academically able or creatively talented students are developed to their full potential.



A2 Level Results 2009

	A	B	C	D	E	U
Art & Design	0	2	3	0	0	0
Biology	3	0	2	0	1	0
Business Studies	1	2	0	1	0	0
Chemistry	2	2	0	0	0	0
Drama	4	0	0	0	0	0
Economics	4	1	1	0	0	0
English Lit	4	4	3	1	0	0
Geography	2	0	0	0	0	0
History	0	1	0	0	0	0
ICT	0	2	1	0	0	0
Latin	1	0	0	0	0	0
Mathematics	5	1	0	0	0	0
Further Maths	2	0	0	0	0	0
Media St	2	3	0	0	0	0
Physics	1	0	0	0	0	0
Psychology	3	2	1	2	0	0
Religious Studies	7	2	0	0	0	0
Sport/PE Studies	0	0	0	0	2	1

Gateways is adding value in Sixth Form

Once again, Gateways AS and A level results exceeded nationally recognised statistical predictions. Durham University's ALIS (A Level Information System) project predicts how a student should perform at AS and A level based on their average GCSE score. This year's ALIS results

indicated that all AS and A level subjects at Gateways are showing positive value-added scores, and that students are achieving in excess of half a grade above their predicted grade in most subjects at AS level and an average of half a grade was being added at A level on expected results.

Celebration of Sixth Form successes at Graduation Dinner

The annual Graduation Dinner was held on results day, 20th August, when we welcomed many of the girls and their parents to celebrate their A level successes; the culmination of their educational journey at Gateways. It was a night of jubilation with the girls' achievements so fresh in everyone's minds. Whilst future plans were widely discussed we hope they will remember that our gates are always open and keep in touch.



A2 level results headlines

Percentage of students achieving straight A grades: 30%
(National average 12%)

Percentage of grade A: 50%
(National average 26.7%)

All Drama, Further Mathematics, Geography, Latin and Physics candidates were awarded a grade A.

Percentage of grades A and B: 77%

All Chemistry, History, Mathematics, Media Studies and Religious Studies students were awarded a grade A or B.

Girls who took AS and A level examinations recorded at least 0.5 of a grade improvement on predicted grades in most subjects, as assessed by Durham University.



Destinations of Sixth Form Leavers

Elizabeth Anderson (Biology, Mathematics, Further Mathematics)
Durham University – Mathematics

Lois Hill (Chemistry, Geography, Mathematics, Further Mathematics)
Nottingham University – Mathematics

Amberzine Boulton (History, Mathematics, Physics)
Sheffield University – Physics with Astrophysics

Sophie Jupe (Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics)
Surrey University – Nutrition/Dietetics

Amy Brown (Drama and Theatre Studies, English Literature, Psychology)
University of Manchester – Drama

Annabelle Leung (Economics, Latin, Religious Studies)
University of Manchester – Religious Studies

Hannah Buck (Business Studies, Drama and Theatre Studies, Media Studies)
Manchester Met University – Fashion Buying

Laura Marsh (Art and Design, English Literature, Religious Studies)
York College of Art – Art Foundation

Emily Cannon (Biology, English Literature, Sport and PE)
University College Lincoln – Primary Education (English)

Hadas Morris (English Literature, Psychology, Religious Studies)
University of Manchester – Psychology (after Gap Year in 2010)

Dalya Cramer (Art and Design, ICT, Media Studies)
Leeds Metropolitan University – Marketing and Advertising

Katie Robinson (Business Studies, ICT, Religious Studies)
University of Leeds – Management

Isobel Dixon (Drama and Theatre Studies, English Literature, Religious Studies)
Southampton University – English and Philosophy

Anisha Showan (English Literature, ICT, Psychology)
Manchester Metropolitan University – Business ICT

Eleanor Doyle (Drama and Theatre Studies, English Literature, Psychology)
University of Manchester – Psychology

Natalie Simpson (Biology, English Literature, Psychology)
York St John University – Psychology

Caroline Drake (Art and Design, Business Studies)
Leeds Metropolitan University – Business Management

Sophie Simpson (Chemistry, Economics, Mathematics)
Nottingham University – Economics

Charlotte Eastwood (Art and Design, Economics, Psychology)
Northampton College of Art – Art Foundation

Emma Thornton (English Literature, Psychology, Religious Studies)
University of Manchester – Management

Amy Elliot (English Literature, Media Studies, Psychology)
Sheffield Hallam University – Marketing Communications

Michelle Thurston (English Literature, Religious Studies; Sport and PE)
Huddersfield University – Business Management

Natasha Esofsky (Business Studies, Media Studies, Religious Studies)
Manchester Metropolitan University – Retail Marketing Management

Olivia Watson (Economics, English Literature, Religious Studies)
Bath University – Business Administration

Francesca Green (Art and Design, Geography, Media Studies)
University of Leeds – Geography

Emma Williams (Biology, Economics, Mathematics)
Durham University – Economics

Katie Higgins (Biology, Chemistry, Economics)
Glasgow University – Psychology
