

Haggerston Recorder

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Exam Special 2022



Students celebrate news of their results with Headteacher, Ms Emmerson

Hard work pays off!

Staff and students praised after great exam results...

GRADES at the school rocketed in both GCSEs and A Levels this year.

Despite being the first cohort to take exams in three years, our students bucked the national trend with top marks.

At GCSE, 77 per cent of students at Haggerston achieved a good pass in English – higher than last year’s teacher assessed grades. Sixty-nine per cent of students achieved a good pass in Maths, a six per cent increase from 2019 examinations.

The proportion of students achieving the top grades — seven and above — in Maths, increased by 10 per cent.

At A Level, Haggerston has seen a huge amount of students receive A*-C grades, with a high percentage securing their first-choice university places.

An impressive 22 per cent of A Level students attained an A* to A, while 57 per cent achieved

an A* to B grade, 85 per cent achieved A* to C grades. All students achieved an A* to E grade.

Headteacher, Ms Emmerson said: “We are so proud of our 2022 GCSE and A Level cohort this year who have achieved the best results the school has ever had.

“Students have worked so hard and shown remarkable resilience in the face of a very challenging few years.

“At A Level, we are so pleased that students have been awarded the results they deserve and will progress onto degree courses.”

She added: “Our sixth form has been on a strong trajectory of improvement over the last four years and we are so proud that 57 per cent of awarded qualifications were the top A*-B grades, with a 100 per cent pass rate overall.

“We are delighted for our hardworking staff, too. We wish our students every success in the next stage of their education.”

“Students have worked so hard and shown remarkable resilience in the face of a very challenging few years....”

Headteacher, Ms Emmerson

Great grades see students step closer to their dreams

Bright future ahead as focus turns to the next phase of education...

A DEDICATED student has secured her dream university place despite struggling with her studies due to Autism.

VENIQUA thanked staff for helping obtain a diagnosis and offering extra support with her studies.

She achieved an A in Spanish, B in Economics and an A in History, which means she will now go to her first-choice university, The University of Sheffield.

Veniqua said: "The teachers were incredible. They asked me how I learnt best. Most of the time that was the same as everyone else, but sometimes I would need help.

"Prior to being diagnosed I suspected I had Autism as I had all of the signs. It was a huge relief to get the diagnosis and get the support I needed.

"I am so pleased to be going to my first choice university and pursuing my dream. I want to study law so I can battle injustice against young people."

Headteacher, Ms Emmerson, said: "Veniqua is an exceptional student who over the past few years has struggled with aspects of her studies and found some courses more challenging".

"These results are a testament to her hard work and determination, and we have no doubt she will excel in Sheffield studying Law,"

Head of Sixth Form, Mr McArdle, said: "She's a very bright and able student and she worked incredibly hard to get the results that she achieved.

"As a school and sixth form, it was about trying to support her as much as possible and accommodate her so she could showcase her ability."

Fellow student **NINA** scored top marks in her A Levels to confirm her place at Manchester University to study Physics.

She achieved an A* in Maths, A in Further Mathematics, A* in Physics and an A in Computer Science. Nina is hoping to use her Physics degree to get into mechanics.

She said her teachers were great when it came to "emotional support", which she said is

"most important".

She said: "I believe I'm pretty well motivated but sometimes it can be hard and the teachers were great at making sure I stay motivated.

"They also helped with exam prep and the resources they gave us were just unbelievable. They helped us and really ensured we did our absolute best."

Meanwhile, high achiever **JAKE** secured his first-choice university place at Goldsmiths in London where he will study his favourite subject, Drama Theatre Studies.

Although he auditioned for drama schools, he is pleased to have secured a place at the prestigious Goldsmiths and said his teachers supported him throughout his studies to ensure he achieved great grades.

He said: "The school pushed me in the direction of acting, and the drama department has heavily influenced who I am.

"Haggerston offered a lot of opportunities such as when I performed in the National Theatre with the school and done a lot of productions and I love the drama department and all the teachers."

I am so pleased to be going to my first choice university and pursuing my dream. I want to study law so I can battle injustice against young people...

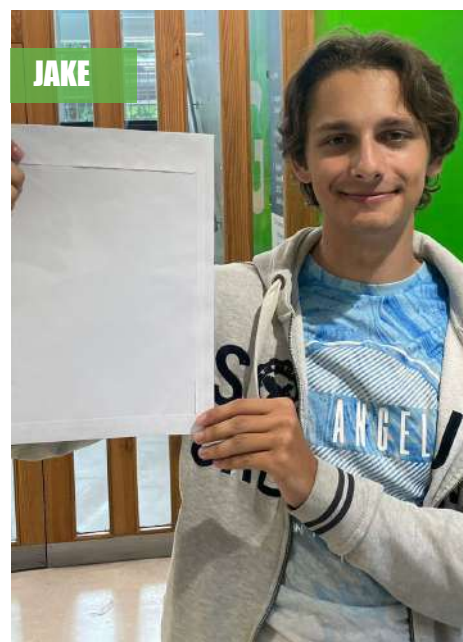
Student, Veniqua



VENIQUA



NINA



JAKE

Stage set for success

Our talented students set to flourish in chosen fields...

STUDENT **JASS**, achieved a B in Drama, D in Spanish and a D in Philosophy, but has managed to secure a place at Bristol Old Vic to study Acting.

He said the Old Vic is a top five UK drama school and he is “ecstatic” with himself and the grades he has achieved.

He said Drama was his favourite subject to study at Haggerston and he praised his teachers for pushing him to get the grades he wanted.

He said: “They kept pushing me to get the grades I wanted and to go to drama school, I appreciate them.”

Ms Emmerson said: “We are so proud that the strong Creative Arts provision here enables students to enter into professional training for careers in the Arts, especially at such prestigious institutions.

“It is also great to see that elite universities are now recognising the excellence and talent of students from diverse backgrounds.

Student **ZELAL** is thrilled with her top marks and will now go on to study at Queen Mary University of London where she will study Psychology.

She said her teachers supported her “a lot throughout the year, and would go into great detail with everything to cover all the content.”

She said: “Out of all the subjects that I’ve done, the three I chose to study were my top three that I would want to do at university. I enjoyed Psychology the most.”

BTEC Sports student **UZEYIR** got an impressive 285 out of a possible 288 points available, which he said was a “decent” achievement.

Uzeyir will go on to study at his first-choice university, the University of Birmingham where he will study Sports Science.

He said: “I can’t really describe how I feel, it feels a bit surreal just finishing school and not being able to come back and going off to university.”

“If it wasn’t for my teachers, I don’t think I’d be here and I appreciate them, all of them.”



Proud of achievements

STUDENT **DEXTER** achieved 10 GCSEs, all grades eight and nine. He now plans to go on to sixth and study A Levels in maths, biology, chemistry and further maths.

He said: “I’m proud of the two nines I got in English, because I struggle with my handwriting. I was worried I’d get Grade Us because they wouldn’t be able to read my writing.

“I also got a nine in physics which I wasn’t expecting, as I got Grade 7s in my mocks.

“The school have been very good, these grades wouldn’t be possible without the help of the teachers and the support they’ve provided over the years.

“Also, me and my friends did group calls every day after school to revise and all the work paid off.”

Fellow student **DYANI** achieved five grade nines, five grade eights and one grade seven – 11 GCSEs in total. She received the top mark in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, English Language and Design and Technology.

She said: “I’m really happy with my results. I’m definitely most proud of my sciences,

because you think the exams will be a memorisation game, but there’s so many other skills involved.

“I’m also proud of Maths, which requires so much practice. I put so much practice into those subjects.

“The process was so much more stressful than I thought it was going to be. You want to give up so many times.

“When you’re at your worst and you see others doing their best it can be demotivating, but it’s all worth it in the end. It requires lots of discipline, even when you really don’t feel like it.

“The school offered a lot of after school classes for teachers to support you. The fact that we continued PE really helped as well, because the physical exercise is really good for your mind.”

Dyani will attend sixth form to study Biology, Chemistry and Art. She hopes to balance her creative endeavours with her interest in science and, in time, is interested in attending Edinburgh University.

Results are well worth waiting for

STUDENT **VADIM** gained 11 GCSEs, all grades 7 to 9. Vadim, who arrived in the UK from Russia in Year 7 with little English, received Grade 9s in English Literature, Business, Chemistry, History, Maths and Russian.

Vadim said: "Obviously waiting for my results was very stressful and nerve wracking, because you revise so hard and then have to wait, like waiting for a Christmas gift.

"Russian is my first language, English is my second. My English was nowhere near as good when I came to England in Year 7. Speaking a foreign language is one thing, speaking it when you go to that country is different.

"I've studied for five years here and perfected my skills. When I first came it was very hard, every morning I went for an English lesson before school started, which really helped. The school gave great support, which was important.

"Learning over Covid was dreadful. Studying at home, nobody wants to do that, but the schools support was helpful. They communicated well and organised assemblies and helped us study, but without teachers it's not easy."

Vadim will now go on to sixth form to study Chemistry, Maths and Physics. He said: "I'm excited and nervous, as I was today, as it's uncharted territory.

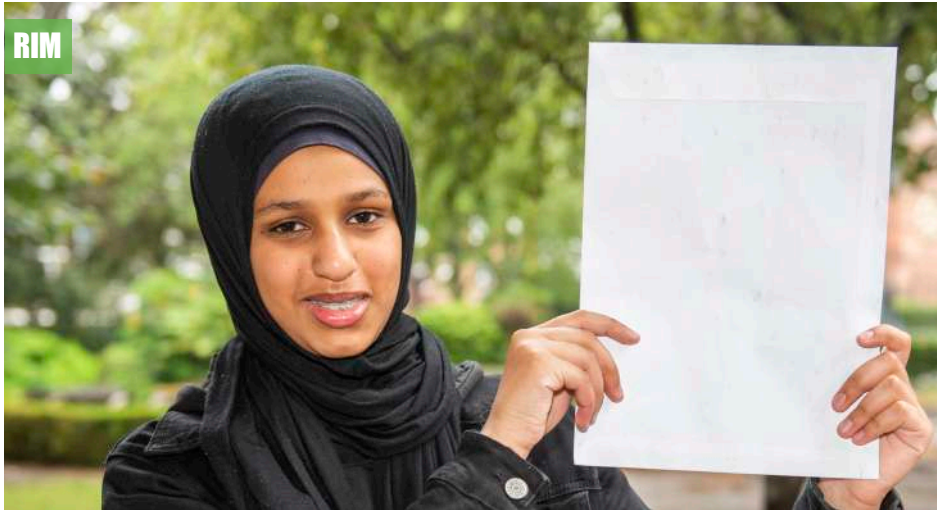
"Everybody wants to go to Cambridge or Oxford. I'd like to go to a top university to study sciences or law, something I'm passionate about."

PETER, received 10 GCSE's, all grade nine. He will now go to sixth form where he'll study Photography and Media, with the hope of a career in writing or design.

Peter, who is particularly proud of his English grade, said: "I'm really pleased, I think I worked very hard in the exams and I had a good feeling as I came out of them. I was hoping that I would get this result.

"I worked so hard during lockdown. I really enjoyed Year 11 and balanced my work with being social and seeing my friends.

"My teachers have really helped me, I think they're really great. They gave feedback when we got things wrong, which was really important in helping me to grow and improve all the way up to my GCSEs."



Pair breaking down barriers

Students overcome huge hurdles to record excellent exam grades...

STUDENT **RIM** moved to Haggerston School at the end of Year 10 and has received 11 GCSEs, including Grade 9s in Arabic, Biology, Chemistry, Maths and Physics.

Rim said: "I'm feeling great. I started revising two months before GCSEs started, two – four hours per day.

"I started a French GCSE at my old school, but it's not taught here, so I had to study on my own with just a teacher.

"My last grade was a four and this time I got a six, so I feel amazing about that.

"I made a prediction list before my exams and most of my results were a lot higher than what I predicted.

"It's a great achievement. I didn't expect to get these grades two years ago."

Fellow student **MARISSA** arrived in England from Italy in September 2018. She received 11 GCSE's, including a nine English Literature.

With her new grades, Marissa will continue to sixth form to study Computing, Maths and Biology. She hopes to become a forensic scientist.

Marissa said: "It was hard to fit in as I didn't have many friends until Wenxin [another international student] arrived.

"Academically, I found it difficult in the beginning, but as time went on, it became easier. The school provided extra English lessons, which really helped me.

"I struggled for motivation through Covid, but I read a lot, which helped my English."

