

PRESS RELEASE



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MORE YEOVIL STUDENTS THAN EVER SET SIGHTS ON UNIVERSITY!

The waiting was over for Yeovil College AS and A Level students today as they collected their results from the College's Learning Centre.

Students on full time A Level courses achieved an outstanding 99.5% pass rate this year. 79% of students achieved A – C grades. Meanwhile, students on equivalent vocational courses achieved a 97% pass rate.

The College currently offers 30 different A Level subjects and saw particularly high achievement in certain areas. 100% of students studying A Level Physics gained A-C grades, as did 92% of English Literature students, 93% of English Language students and 82% of Chemistry students. A-C grades were also achieved by 86% of Law students and 85% of History students. 81% of Psychology students also gained A-C grades.

Richard Juggins (19) of Yeovil was offered a place at Oxford University after receiving excellent results last year. He said *"Today I got two As in Further Maths and English Literature and a B in Music. I also got three As last year in Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics. I'm going to study Physics at Oxford."*

Natalie Hutchings (18) of Yeovil achieved three A grades in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics and previously went to Preston School. She said *"I'm going to Nottingham University to study Biochemistry. I've always wanted to be a biomedical scientist. I will definitely be celebrating tonight – not only did I get my results, but it's also pay day!"*



Natalie Hutchings



Hassan Tahir

Hassan Tahir (18) of Yeovil was so nervous about his results that he roped his brother, Hammad, into opening the envelope for him. Hassan said *"My brother opened my results because I was so scared! I was thinking 'what if I don't get into uni?' He was creating so much suspense as he read my results out. Once I knew I had three As, I was jumping around though!"* Hassan's A Levels are in Mathematics, Chemistry and Biology.

James Atkins (19) of Yeovil had already gained BTEC vocational qualifications in Music Practice and Music Technology at Yeovil College, before deciding to stay on for A Levels. He was also part of the Melancholy Moose Society, the student band which played the Glastonbury Festival last year. He said *"I got three As, in English*

Language, English Literature and Philosophy. I'm going to the Royal Holloway to study English and plan to keep up my music too."

Kat Coates (18) of Wincanton got three A grades at A Level and an A at AS. She said *"My A Levels were in Mathematics, Chemistry and Physics and my AS in Biology. I feel absolutely stunned at the moment, but I'm sure I'll do a little bit of celebrating later! I'm going to take a year out and work at a school."*

Laura Entwistle (19) of Yeovil, who previously went to Buckler's Mead Community School, said *"I got three A Levels, two As in Geography and Sociology and a B in History. I'm taking a gap year next year and going travelling. I'm hoping to go around Europe and also to Dubai."*

Zoe Davis (21) of Yeovil gained straight As in all of her A Level Communication Studies units. She said *"I will be coming back to college next year to do Photography and Performing Arts. I hope to go to the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff after that."*



Zoe Davis

Ben Venus (17) of Yeovil achieved four As at AS Level and also went to Buckler's Mead Community School. He said *"I'm really, really pleased and shocked. I hoped for it, but I wasn't sure how I had done, but it's turned out really well. I'm staying at Yeovil College for the second year and hope to become a teacher or journalist."*

Amanda Lisle (17) of Yeovil got four As at AS Level in Maths, Further Maths, Chemistry and Biology. She said *"I'm very pleased and surprised. I'm definitely going to continue my subjects next year at Yeovil College. I really want to be a midwife. I did a careers questionnaire which suggested it as an option. I researched it and really liked the sound of it. Since then, I've done work experience in New Zealand and Cardiff and it's really inspired me to pursue it as a career."* Amanda is an ex-student of Preston School.



Yeovil College Principal James Hampton with some of the celebrating students.

James Hampton, Principal of Yeovil College said *"This is another great set of results for students at Yeovil College, but the most important fact is that it means our students have the very best start to their university life or career. We've had more students than ever from across Yeovil College applying to university and we are delighted to have supported them and wish them every success for the future."* The Principal also praised staff at the college for their tireless dedication to students.

Students from A Level and Level 3 Vocational courses, such as BTEC National Diplomas and Certificates and CACHE Diplomas, have applied to university this year. Last year, a total 250 students made applications. This year the figure has increased by 12.8% to more than 280 students. Applications were made to prestigious universities including Oxford, Cardiff, Nottingham, Manchester, Bristol, Birmingham, Sheffield, Southampton, Warwick and Leeds, as well as University College London.

Students also applied to the University Centre Yeovil (UCY), a partnership between Bournemouth University, the University of the West of England and the University of Gloucestershire, which provide professional and degree courses locally in Yeovil. The UCY recently celebrated excellent results of its own, including 26% of its part and full time Honours degree students gaining firsts, well above the national average of 12%*.

Andy Perlejewski, Director of the 14 – 19 Curriculum at the College, said “*Yeovil College students have achieved excellent results again this year and the fact that more of them than ever are able to progress to university and good employment is very encouraging. Many people don’t realise that 53% of university applications made by Yeovil College students are from those on Level 3 Vocational courses, highlighting that A Levels are not the only route to university and Higher Education.*”

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Notes to Editors

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*Statistic derived from the Higher Education Statistical Authority.

University Centre Yeovil (UCY) is a partnership with Bournemouth University, the University of the West of England, the University of Gloucestershire and Yeovil College. It provides university-level and professional courses in the heart of Yeovil. Noted for its supportive and friendly atmosphere, the UCY’s campus lies on Preston Road and offers a 100 seat lecture theatre, 17 teaching rooms, an AppleMac design suite, three state-of-the-art PC suites and an open study area with ample computer access and café. Additional resources, including extensive library, fitness centre and sports hall, are available at the nearby Yeovil College campus. The UCY aims to provide people with the opportunity to fulfil their potential locally. Our courses allow students to meet childcare commitments and retain significant levels of employment whilst studying, keeping debt low and ensuring that theory is always related to practical work experience. UCY aims to make a difference: to the students who come here and to the employers and communities which will benefit from the knowledge and skills our students develop.