

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE OF ISSUE: THURSDAY 14TH AUGUST 2008

BEST EVER 100% PASS RATE FOR YEOVIL COLLEGE STUDENTS!

Yeovil College is celebrating a 100% pass rate for students on full-time A Level programmes, an increase of 1% on last year's results and 3% above the 2008 national average*.

Students took A Levels in 29 subjects across a full range of academic areas. 84% of students achieved A-C grades and 23% A grades, both significant increases on the 2007 results.

Particular success was noted in a number of subjects this year. 100% of students gained A – B grades in Fine Art and Communication Studies with 33% gaining A grades in Fine Art and 40% in Communication Studies. Computing achieved an impressive 75% A - B grades and 50% A grades. Photography gained 40% A-B's and also 40% A grades and Biology gained 69% of A-B grades and 28% A grades. Maths students achieved particularly high results this year with 59%, achieving A and B grades and 45% A grades, whilst Further Maths students achieved 67% A - B grades.



College Principal James Hampton said *"A 100% pass rate for full time A Level programmes is outstanding and we are all delighted that our students have achieved such a stunning set of results. Across the board in both academic and vocational subjects, Yeovil College has surpassed all expectations and is far ahead of the national averages this year. The students' hard work and the dedication of our staff has meant they have built on the excellent work of their secondary schools to achieve these results. We are immensely proud of our students' success, as I am sure they are too."*

Individual successes were gained by various students including Jade MacDonald, formerly of Bucklers Mead School who gained an outstanding 4 A grades in English Literature, History, Law and Government and Politics and will now go to the University of Birmingham to read Law. Jade said today; *"I can't believe it! I felt like I might have done well, but this is amazing, it feels like I've saved the best results until last! I'll definitely be going out tonight to celebrate!"*

A further 9 students achieved 3 A grade A Levels, including Samuel Taylor, formerly of Westfield School, who has applied to study Business and Computer Science at Aston University, and James Hunns, who gained results in Maths, Chemistry and Biology and will be taking a gap year before studying Chemistry at university.



Emma Lawrence, who gained 3 A grades in Psychology, English Literature and English Language, said *"I'm going to go to the University of Plymouth to study to be a primary school teacher. It's something I've wanted to do ever since I can remember and now I have the grades to do it! Thank-you so much to everyone at Yeovil College, especially Sue O'Rourke, the Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator, she's been great. I'm so relieved and happy."*



Imaobong Umoren also praised the College's provision for gifted and talented students. She achieved 3 A grade A Levels and will be going to Kings College London. She said *"It was hard work, but worth it. I'm shocked and delighted. I really enjoyed my time at Yeovil College, the Gifted and Talented programme was very hard work, but fun!"*

Students Martin Gaston and Rose Boyce enjoyed double celebrations today, by achieving 5 A s and a B between them and enjoying their eighteenth birthday even more! Martin achieved As in Chemistry, Biology and Maths and will be going to the Cardiff University, to study Pharmacy, while Rose, who received As in Communication Studies and English Literature and a B in English Language, will be going to Newcastle University to study Art.



Martin said *"This feels as good as it can be. I was hoping for good results and kind of expecting it, but you can never know for sure. Its amazing news and I'm just completely stunned!"*



In all, approximately 250 Yeovil College students have applied to university, the majority achieving the grades they need to fulfil their ambitions.

Excellent AS results were also achieved with a 94% pass rate for students on full time A Level programmes. 8 students achieving at least 3 A grades and 2 students, Laura Hinder and Eleanor Osbourne, gaining 4 As, both former pupils of Preston College.

31 AS subjects were studied in total with some outstanding results. A 100% pass rate was achieved in 21 subjects and particular success was noted in Fine Art, with 88% of students gaining A or B grades and 25% gaining A grades, and Classical Civilisation 100% with As or Bs and 50% receiving A grades. In addition, high proportions of students in many other subjects received As or Bs, including English Literature (83%), Law (75%, with 50% receiving As), English Language (50%, with 27% As), Geography (67%, with 60% gaining As) and Biology (65%).

Head of Sixth Form Andy Perlejewski *"The success of our students academically and in vocational studies, as well as in the fields of sport and performing arts, demonstrates why Yeovil College has become so popular with students from South Somerset and North and West Dorset. Applications have reached an all time high and continued investment in resources means that Yeovil College is becoming **the** destination for students keen to realise their full potential."*

... ENDS

Notes to Editors

All press enquiries to Lisa Pyrke, Marketing Manager Tel: (01935) 845428 Fax: (01935) 845360
Email: lisa.pyrke@yeovil.ac.uk

*As quoted on the BBC Education website 14/08/2008 (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/7559063.stm>)