

PRESS RELEASE



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ANOTHER TOP YEAR FOR FULL-TIME A LEVEL STUDENTS

The wait is over for nearly 500 Yeovil College AS and A Level students as they collected their results today.

Students on Full-time A Level courses have achieved an outstanding pass rate of 99.1%. 74% of A Level students received A to C grades. 94% of AS Level students also gained passes, along with 95% of vocational course students on Level 3 courses.

Yeovil College offers A Levels in over 30 subjects, most of which had high pass rates at A to C grade. Some of these included Photography (100%), Psychology (61%), Business Studies (73%), English Language (69%), English Literature (68%) and Sociology (100%).

Yeovil College students also continued to achieve particularly well in the Sciences and Maths. 79% of Biology, 85% of Chemistry, 67% of Further Maths, 86% of Mathematics and 88% of Physics students gained A* to C grades.

A number of students also achieved the new A* grade, meaning a pass mark 90% or more in their second year exams, plus an A grade at AS level.

This year's top student was Amanda Lisle (18) of Yeovil, who earned a total of four A* grades in Biology, Maths, Further Maths and Chemistry. She said *"I'm very excited. I've chosen to go to Cardiff University to study to become a midwife. I started looking into it after doing a questionnaire at Preston School which highlighted it as a possible career. I looked into it a bit more and did some work experience in New Zealand and Cardiff and just fell in love with every aspect of the role. I loved doing the work experience in Cardiff and can't wait to go back there."* After her three year course at Cardiff University, Amanda will be a qualified midwife and able to pursue her future career.

Chris Langdon (18) of Yeovil achieved three A* grades in Maths, Further Maths and Chemistry, along with an A in Physics. He said *"I feel pretty good – the number of A*s was a nice surprise! I loved doing my subjects at Yeovil College and am particularly grateful to lecturer Andrew Bradley. I really wanted to carry my subjects forward to university, so I will be going to Durham University to study Natural Sciences."*

Bethan Stevens (18) of Odcombe also gained three A* grades in English Language, English Literature and Art. She said *"I'm feeling really good now that I've collected my results. You never know what to expect from exams, so I'm quite pleased! I'm going to stay at Yeovil College to do an Art Foundation course before going to university. I've absolutely loved my time at the College and have always wanted to study Art further."*

Former Buckler's Mead Community School student Ben Venus (18) of Yeovil gained an A* in English Literature as well as A grades in English Language and History. Praising staff at Yeovil College, he said *"I was taught by Sue O'Rourke – she's brilliant! I'm very pleased with my results and am going to Cardiff University to study English Language and Communication. I want to be a journalist in the future, but today I will be celebrating!"*

Julie Fudge (18) of West Coker achieved an A* grade in Maths, A grades for Biology and Chemistry and a B grade in Geography. She collected her results with mum Anne and sister Sarah (16). Mrs Fudge said *"We're all very proud. Now we're just waiting for Sarah to collect her GCSE results from Preston School next week. Hopefully it'll be a double celebration then!"*

Other star students included Katie Brady, who studied five subjects at A Level, gaining A grades in Law, Psychology and Sociology and Bs in Biology and History. Chanchuprasad Mohan achieved three A grades in Biology, Chemistry and Maths and a C grade in Physics.

University applications from Yeovil College students have increased by nearly 20% this year. 336 students have applied to university, including top Russell Group members Oxford, Cambridge, Cardiff, Bristol, Edinburgh, Leeds, Nottingham, Newcastle, Liverpool, Sheffield, Southampton, Warwick and University College London. Students have also applied to the University Centre Yeovil (UCY), which offers HE courses validated by Bournemouth University, the University of the West of England and the University of Gloucestershire. Several UCY courses, including BSc (Hons) Sustainable Graphics & Packaging and FdSc Garden History and Heritage Horticulture, are unique to the Centre. Also on offer this year for the first time is FdSc Forensic Science, BSc (Hons) Modern Materials and BA Creative Practices.

Yeovil College Principal James Hampton said *"We're delighted that our students have continued to shine by achieving high pass rates in all areas and wish them the very best for the future. Yeovil College aims to give all students the best preparation for work and future study by providing opportunities to work with employers, fantastic facilities and excellent enrichment activities and trips. These results are the icing on the cake which will give them every chance of accessing their chosen academic or career path in the future. Congratulations to them all."*

Director of 14-19 Curriculum Andy Perlejewski said *"We're very proud of our students at Yeovil College and it's fantastic that they've continued to earn high results year on year. Today's outstanding A Level results join a 94% pass rate at AS Level and a 95% success rate in vocational qualifications. This adds to Yeovil College's growing reputation as a centre of excellence and a valuable opportunity for students in Somerset and Dorset to achieve their personal and professional goals. It's not surprising that we have received more applications than ever to study at the College this year."*

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Notes to Editors

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A Levels – Yeovil College offers AS/A Levels in 30 different subjects, including Business, Communication & Culture, Computing, Economics, Environmental Studies, Health & Social Care, History, Law, Philosophy, Psychology and Textiles. In recent years, students have had particular success in Biology, Chemistry, English Literature, English Language, Mathematics and Physics.

Vocational Results – This year, an overall pass rate for Level 3 vocational courses was approximately 95%. 100% pass rates were achieved by students on BND Business, BND Art & Design, BND Media, BND Sport & Exercise Science, BND Graphic Design and Travel & Tourism courses. Students on the CACHE Level 3 Diploma in Childcare & Education also gained a 100% pass rate, as did students on the Level 3 NVQ Beauty Therapy course.

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.