

Abingdon School 4th Year Summer Exams

June 2018

4th year results Results

- * Can only have tested part of GCSE – still some way to go.
- * The grades have a (very) tentative predictive value. Spend absolutely no time comparing %s across subjects.
- * Exams form valuable revision document – reveal gaps and issues with technique. **Formative** rather than summative.

Grades

“I am not a number!”

- * All numbers except English & English Literature
 - * 7=A
 - * 4=C (‘standard pass’)
- * 8&9 = A*
 - * Expected % of 9s in first year of new GCSE = 20% of 7-9
 - * Boundary for 8 to be set arithmetically halfway between 7 & 9 boundaries
- * 6=B (strong B?)
- * 5 = ‘strong pass’ (C+/B-?)

4th year profile

- * Summer exam number grades mapped to typical Abingdon 4th year profile
- * This is a typical Abingdon year:
 - * Entrance exam results (pre-test etc.)
 - * MidYIS testing (cognitive ability)
 - * 3rd year exams

Responses to the exams (School)

People:

- Pastoral teams
- Learning Support
- Middle Master(s)
- DHA

Interventions:

- Pastoral team level
- Exam Reviews with LS (+ potential further action)
- Supervised study next term
- Email from DHA over next few weeks

Looking at a number of indicators:

- Performance in exam
- Comparison with previous performance
- Comparison with MidYIS testing

6th form requirement

- * Average of 6 across all subjects (English/Lit A*=8, A=7, B=6 etc)
- * At least a 7 in subject chosen for Sixth Form (8 for Further Maths) or in indicative subject for new courses (e.g. Maths & Science for Psychology)
- * Bar has changed (by necessity) but not risen.
- * Advantage of average is a 5 or 4 performance in some subjects can be compensated by a 7 or 8 others as opposed to previous expectation that at least 7 grades had to be at B or above.
- * 8,8,7,7,6,6,5,5,4,4 = below previous bar but passes new bar
- * 7,7,7,7,7,7,5,5,4,4 = below previous bar but passes new bar

6th form requirement

DON'T PANIC

- * Not expected to be at that level yet
- * Huge improvements will be made over next year (though not necessarily by Jan mocks!)
- * For many years now only a handful of boys have not met the bar by the actual GCSEs

-and we have known that was likely for some time

Towards the 6th form

- * Tutors continue process of getting boys to think about their options
- * Sensible choices, related to interest, ability, future plans etc (tied in with Career Guidance provision)
- * 6th form info evening & tentative preferences in November
- * Mocks in January followed by parents' evening
- * Taster lessons & final preferences in February

Summer work?

- * Some subjects may suggest some reading/consolidating work.
- * No bad thing to go over key weaknesses from summer exams.

BUT

- * No school-wide expectation.
- * They've worked hard and done well.
- * Let them have a holiday.
- * Christmas and Easter holidays are going to be tough – mocks and the real thing.



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