

Abingdon School 4th Year Summer Exams

June 2019

4th year results Results

- * Can only have tested part of GCSE – still quite a way to go.
- * The grades have a tentative predictive value only.
- * 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
 - * 7=A
 - * 4=C (‘standard pass’)

 - * 8&9 = A*
 - * 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)

Interventions:

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

People:

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

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 (used to be 3A, 4B)
- * At least a 7 in subject chosen for Sixth Form (8 for Further Maths) or in indicative subject for new courses (e.g. History/English for Politics)
- * 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!). +1 grade per subject is normal by actual GCSE
- * 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 re-examination for some boys in September
- * 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 generally worked hard and done well – especially if their average is already a 6 (75% of them). 85% at 5.6 or above – ought to be ok. If below 5.6 now – work to be done.
- * Let them have a holiday.
- * Christmas and Easter holidays are going to be tough – mocks and the real thing.



Graeme May – Deputy Head (Academic)

gm@abingdon.org.uk