

15th August 2019

Dear Parents

A Level Results 2019

Once again, I am delighted to write to you with news of the excellent A Level results for our Upper VI. We pride ourselves on our strong community identity at St Augustine's Priory and this pays dividends not only in the way we operate as a school but also in our approach to public examinations. They say it takes a village to raise a child: our Upper VI have worked hard and to their strengths, they have followed advice from teachers and their parents and we are extremely proud of them.

National trends have been bucked and girls have achieved outstanding results in STEM subjects. Whilst nationally English Literature is declining, at St Augustine's Priory the opposite is true. 3 in 5 girls have achieved their first place at university against 1 in 5 nationally. Among other destinations, girls are headed to Nottingham for Veterinary Science, Manchester for Mathematics & Actuarial Science, Edinburgh for English and also for History & Classics, Exeter for Natural Sciences, for History and also for Law with Business, King's London for Spanish and English, Reading for Architecture, Loughborough for Politics & Economics, Sheffield for Politics & Modern Languages and the University of the Arts, London for Animation.

34% of all A Level grades are A* - A (up from 32% in 2018), surpassing national results where 25.5% grades were A* or A, down on 26.4% in 2018. 73% of all A Level grades are A* - B. With 100% A* and A grades in Biology, Physics, Russian and Spanish and 100% A* - B grades in Chemistry, Maths, History, Art, Classical Civilisation, Drama, German and Music, the breadth and range of the St Augustine's Priory pupils' A Level success is something to celebrate. For example, three A Level students gained A*s and As in a range of subjects: English Literature, History, Spanish, Chemistry, German, Maths, Physics, Business, Geography and Sociology. In the EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) more than three quarters of grades achieved were A* - A. The EPQ is highly valued by all the high- ranking universities. Sixth Form pupils who undertake an EPQ are prepared intellectually for study at university through rigorous and scholarly independent research which enables them to hone their skills of academic writing and referencing, equipping them to hit the ground running at university in a way that A Levels alone do not.

In addition, in Upper V, 100% of Cambridge IGCSE History candidates achieved the grades 9, 8 and 7 with 54% of pupils achieving the top grade of 9 and 23% achieving grades 8 and 7 equally. This is the equivalent of 100% A-A*. Also in Upper V, in the FSMQ Additional Maths qualification, which stands as a bridge between GCSE and A Level, 60% of candidates achieved the top grade of A. One aspect of this success is that we make sure girls keep their eyes on the outside world. As important to us are the stories of Sixth Form girls currently travelling in Vietnam and Russia, making the most of their Sixth Form travel scholarships. St Augustine's Priory is not defined by examination board boundaries. We are human beings first and foremost.

These results yet again confirm the power of an education at St Augustine's Priory. I would like to thank all of our teachers, some of whom have taught girls like Katya Beniatian and Banu Ali since Prep I. Banu achieved 4 A*s (English, History, Spanish and the EPQ) and Katya, our outgoing Head Girl, who goes on to Nottingham to study Veterinary Science. The UVI parents have been part of our community for many years and I also pay tribute to their support and great-heartedness not to mention their karaoke talents – we will miss them as much as we miss the girls.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Raffray". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Mrs Sarah Raffray MA NPQH
Headteacher