

# Exams' Newsletter

The 22nd August 2019 saw all our boys at Eden Boys' School, Preston receive their GCSE result and wow, didn't they do well!

This was the first cohort of pupils to complete their GCSEs since opening in September 2015. The results were simply outstanding and were a testament to the dedication, hard work and commitment the boys showed.

- 69% of pupils achieved a 'strong pass' in GCSE English and Maths compared to 43% of pupils nationally in 2018
- 81% of pupils achieved a 'standard pass' in GCSE English and Maths.
- 39% of pupils achieved the English Baccalaureate

These results are expected to place the school in the top 5% of schools nationally which is simply exceptional.

All of our staff worked incredibly hard with every pupil. They delivered high quality teaching, personalised intervention and provided high-quality learning materials. Our parents too were an incredible source of support, not only for their son, but also in terms of working alongside staff. They attended curriculum meetings, parents' evenings, performance review meetings and supported our revision strategies. We thank them for all their efforts which have, without doubt, paid off.

We wish each of our outgoing Year 11 boys every success as they progress onto the next stage of their education. We now look to the future and are determined that our current year 11 pupils learn from the experiences of their predecessors and perform equally as well.

**Miss A Middlemass**



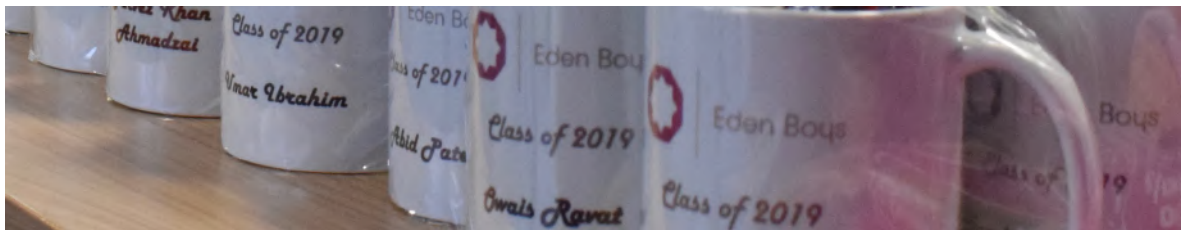
## English

### English Headline Figures

41% Grade 9-7

82% Grade 9-5

91% Grade 9-4



Pupils were entered for two GCSCs in English this year: English Literature and English Language. Studying English at GCSE allows pupils to become critical and confident readers who can communicate clearly to their audience. Pupils develop the skills to produce clear and coherent texts, writing effectively about literature but also in real life contexts. Pupils rose to the challenge in both elements of the English exams and achieved results, which were well above national average with 91% of the boys achieving a standard pass of at least a Grade 4. A large majority of pupils received a strong pass with 82 % of pupils taking home at least a Grade 5. The top grades were achieved by nearly half of the Year 11 cohort with 41% achieving Grade 7-9. There was lots to celebrate in English on results day particularly for five of our pupils who achieved the elusive Grade 9 in either English Language and Literature. With so much success in English, pupils leave the school with the essential qualifications, which will stand them in good stead for whatever career path they choose.

## PE

Our pupils have achieved extremely impressive results in GCSE Physical Education. As a group, the number of pupils achieving grades 9-4 is higher than the national statistics for males (66.9%). In addition, one member of the group achieved a Grade 9 overall which is the equivalent to 5.2% of the GCSE PE group. The national statistics for pupils achieving a Grade 9 in GCSE PE is 2.1%. Therefore, the figure at Eden Boys' is higher than the national data. In relation to the pupils overall performance, 89% of the grades that pupils achieved in GCSE PE positively contributed to their attainment 8 figures. The average grade in GCSE Physical Education at Eden Boys' was a Grade 5 (strong pass).

There were a number of outstanding individual performances from our GCSE PE pupils. Muaaz Kaba achieved a Grade 9 overall, securing 9's in both examination components and a grade 8 practically. Jaafer Kazi achieved a Grade 7 and was only a couple of marks below a Grade 8. Furthermore, Ibrahim Munshi, Umar Faruq Ibrahim and Ahmadullah Wahdati all achieved a Grade 6 which is outstanding. The PE department are also awaiting re-marks for a selection of pupils so the overall grades in GCSE PE could still increase! We would like to officially congratulate our GCSE PE pupils for their hard work and effort.

## Maths

The Maths department are pleased to announce that our pupils' hard work culminated in outstanding results! 87% of our pupils secured the national pass at Grade 4 or above, compared with the national average of 71.5%. Extending further, 70% of pupils secured the higher national pass Grade of 5 or above which far exceeds the national average of 50%.

Our detailed exam preparations and subject specialists allowed the boys to familiarise themselves with higher graded questions, 40% of our pupils secured Grade 7-9 compared with the national average of 20%. The enthusiasm we promote for our subject allowed pupils to excel. we are proud to recognise that some of our pupils have achieved full marks in their maths GCSE papers with over 9% of our pupils securing the Grade 9 compared with the national average of 4%.

A summary of our headline results can be found below:

Headline	Eden Boys' Preston	National Average
Pupils achieving a grade 9 in Maths	9%	4%
Pupils achieving 9-7 in Maths	40%	20%
Pupils achieving 9-5 in Maths	70%	50%
Pupils achieving 9-4 in Maths	87%	72%



In comparison to both local and national performance, our initial analysis indicates that whatever the starting point of the pupil, we will endeavour to ensure outstanding progress is made.



## Fine Art

Results in Fine Art showcased the hours of hard work, effort and grit from our first Year 11 cohort, who completed a 2 year course in just under 1 academic year. The determination of our pupils to succeed certainly paid off with over 40% of pupils achieving grades 9- 7 compared to the national average which is 20%. During the last academic year only 11% of boys in Star Trust schools achieved these top grades, which makes our pupils' success even more staggering.

Feedback from the AQA moderator was extremely positive. The moderator stated: "The start of the portfolio course was designed to allow pupils to acquire appropriate skills and techniques through a range of practical experiences". The portfolio aspect of the course showed rapid progress in skills and accounts for 60% of the overall GCSE grade. The moderator commented that the externally set assignment or examination unit allowed pupils to "respond to opportunities in a personal manner" with clear meaningful responses. The Fine Art course allowed for creativity, exploration and resulted in "exemplary presentation" of high quality artwork.

## RS

Our Year 11 leavers were the first group of boys to sit their GCSE exam in RS at the end of Year 10 and the results they produced speak volumes of the hard work and determination of both staff and pupils at Eden Boys. We are extremely proud of the progress our Year 10 (Year 11 leavers) made with 3 pupils achieving a Grade 9 (A\*\*) in the exam (Muhammad Chotia, Umar Faruq Ibrahim, Muhammed Jogiyat).

- A look at the results shows that more than half (56%) of the whole year group achieved a Grade 7 or above.

- Nearly all the Year group (96%) achieved a Grade 4 and above (standard pass) with 87% achieving a Grade 5 and above (strong pass).

- The Humanities department can be proud of these results as we managed to make it in the top 3% of schools nationally with a Progress 8 score of 1.41. This is a measure which shows how our pupils performed compared to national levels which are at 0.

A truly great set of results and something to be proud of. A big thank you and well done to everyone.

## Science

The Science department here at Eden Boys' Preston have plenty to celebrate after achieving one of the best set of GCSE Science results, not just within the school but across all schools within STAR Academies! This has only been achieved through the commitment and dedication of the Science Team, in particular our Principal, Miss Middlemass and Mrs Ismail, Director of Learning for Science. As a result, the year 11 boys were thoroughly prepared and confident when taking their exams. The GCSE results for 2019 saw over 50% of pupils in Science achieve a grade 7-9, equivalent to the old A-A\* , and nearly 20% of the year 11 boys achieve a double Grade 9's as part of the combined science award. The progress and achievement of the boys in the subject has been nothing short of exceptional. Science continues to be the one of the leading Faculties within the school and we continue to strive hard to maintain the status and achieve even better results in 2020!





## History

The entire cohort of 2019 leavers studied GCSE History. As one of the most challenging and robust GCSE subjects nationally, our boys performed admirably on all four papers. Eden Boys' Preston History attainment at Grade 9-5 was nearly 10% better than the rest of the country on average. Furthermore, 70% of pupils in receipt of the Pupil Premium grant gained Grade 9-5 in History. The Paper One exam covered the topic of American history between 1840-1895 and the causes of World War Two. Our boys performed particularly well on these questions, scoring 7-10% more marks than their peers taking the same AQA paper around the country. Paper Two focused on the History of Health and medicine in the UK since 1000 AD and the Norman invasion. The department was particularly pleased with the pupil's performance on this paper. Special mentions go out to Umar Faruq Ibrahim & Muaaz Kaba for achieving Grade 8 and Hasan Ahmed who worked really hard to achieve a Grade 7. Well done to all!

## Computing

Eden Boys' pupils enjoyed a thorough and a challenging course, studying the GCSE in Computer Science. This involved learning about computer systems, computer networks and a programming project to name just a few of the topics studied. The pupils continued to work hard to Eden Boys' standards and reaped the rewards with 79% of the pupils achieving grades 9-4, which exceeds the national average of 61%. This has set a good platform for future Computer Science pupils to work towards.

Creative iMedia is an additional course offered by Eden Boys' School. This is a vocational course for pupils who are assessed throughout the academic school year by controlled assessments. These account for 75% of the course marks, allowing pupils to plan and work through their required tasks. Our year 11 class of 2019 produced outstanding work using their creative skills to produce DVD covers, comics and radio adverts, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

## Geography

The Geography Department is exceptionally proud of student performance in the subject. On average pupils achieved a grade higher than the national average. An amazing 54% of pupils achieved a Grade 7 or above. Stand out performances for individual components were also very pleasing with Mohammed Ali Abdul-Rehman, Umar Ibrahim and Muhammad Chothia all achieving a Grade 9 in Paper One, Paper Two and Paper Three respectively. Geography is a subject which will provide a strong academic footing for pupils as they progress with higher level studies and support them in achieving success in the employment market in the future. We wish the pupils every success in the future and would like to say a huge well done for your hard work!

## French

Pupils achieving 9 - 5 = 42.3%

Pupils achieving 9 - 4 = 57.7%

Pupils achievements in French this year were impressive with a large proportion of boys achieving Grade 7 or above on both their speaking and writing exams. It was a pleasure to conduct the speaking exams for a cohort of boys who's hard work and dedication to the subject shone in the exam. In particular, boys from disadvantaged backgrounds and those who entered the school with lower than average scores at Key Stage 2 performed well. One pupil managed to secure an elusive Grade 9 in French, which are very difficult to achieve! Leaving school with a GCSE in French not only shows future employers that you have excellent communication skills, but also that you are resilient as we all know that learning a foreign language is not easy! Many top universities are now requesting a GCSE in a language in order for pupils to gain a place on prestigious courses such as medicine, law and dentistry, in addition to the traditional language pathways of translation, interpreting or journalism. Learning a new language really does open doors!

