



BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

Week ending Friday 14 September 2018

From Jonathan Maddox, Headteacher

STUDENTS' PROGRESS IS EXCEPTIONAL, AS WELL AS THEIR RESULTS

Readers of the *Bulletin* will know about the marvellous GCSE and A-Level results that our students achieved in the summer. We have had a really positive start to the new school year as students and staff reflect on what was achieved and begin to build on it as last year's Year 11 students move into their A-Level studies.

I am delighted now to report on the release of provisional official data (the final figures come later once the full checking process is complete) regarding our students' *progress* throughout their time between joining our School and obtaining their GCSE results. The Government's favoured measure is called *Progress 8*. It was introduced in 2016 as the headline indicator of school performance and is therefore probably the first piece of our data which is scrutinised by the authorities. It aims to capture the progress a student makes from the end of primary school to the end of Key Stage 4. It is a type of value added measure, which means that students' results are compared to the progress of other students nationally who achieved comparable results at Key Stage 2, i.e. at the end of their primary education. In the words of the Department for Education, the Progress 8 measure for each school 'gives an indication of whether, as a group, pupils in the school made above or below average progress compared to similar pupils in other schools.'

Two years ago our Progress 8 figure was just under 0.5, which is impressive in the context of a selective school, where a significant proportion of students is expected to achieve very high grades at GCSE. Last year the figure came right down, but this was because of a technical issue and was in no way due to any issue regarding our students' performance and progress. The difficulty arose because last year's cohort of Year 11 students were entered for IGCSE English Language, not the GCSE version, and, for some reason, the DfE chose to disregard that qualification for all schools for the purposes of calculating Progress 8. So with the entire cohort regarded by the calculation to have achieved no grade in English Language, it was no surprise to see a significant fall in our Progress 8 figure.

But this year, following on from the summer's wonderful news, our students' astonishing progress has been properly and correctly reflected in our provisional Progress 8 score. The figure, just published, is 0.7, which is a truly impressive confirmation of the extent to which our students made progress here. The DfE state that 'a score above zero means pupils made more progress, on average, than pupils across England who got similar results at the end of key stage 2'. Ours made *much* more progress. Again, congratulations to last year's Year 11 and good wishes to the students as they settle in to their Sixth Form studies.

FIND YOUR VOICE SUCCESS

Some students at our School take *Find Your Voice* lessons with a specialist tutor, former BGS parent Cathy Mellor. Over the summer, they entered LAMDA exams and achieved the following results:

Exam	Level	Name	Year	Award
Speaking in Public	1	Aoife Glasswell Emily Gosling Sebastian Kaberry Kirsten Moyle Amelie Murphy Isaac Norcliffe James Pembury Jignasa Sanga Ned Walker	8	Merit

Exam	Level	Name	Year	Award
Speaking in Public	1	Lewis Collins Charlotte Cullen Abigail Ferguson Jake Fraser William Gardner Nandhitha Guhan Amnah Haque Rhea Joshi Libby Reid Katherine Taylor Will Walker	8	Distinction
	2	Benedict Everist Roman Everist Callum Marshall Mia Pietrzak	9	Merit
		Harikrishna Elakoochy Kaavya Guhan Aaron Risk Grace Swindell		Distinction

FIND YOUR VOICE - NEW YEAR 7 STUDENTS

There are still a few places available for the after-school course starting w/c 24 September. If you are interested, please contact Cathy Mellor at cathyfyv@gmail.com.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Don't forget to book your seats for the forthcoming information evenings:

Monday 17 & Tuesday 18 September – Year 7 Curriculum Evening

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/event/267872>

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Music

The following students recently achieved success in their music exams. Congratulations to all:

Courtney Pudney (Year 7) - Grade 1 Piano

Aoife Glasswell (Year 8) - Grade 4 Clarinet with Distinction

Emma Cowell (Year 9) - Grade 4 Clarinet

Ellie Langman (Year 9) - Grade 4 Clarinet

Jess Briggs (Year 10) - Grade 6 Clarinet with Merit

Alexandra Parker (Year 10) - Grade 5 Saxophone

Sophie Bannister (Year 11) - Grade 5 Clarinet

Theatre

Courtney Pudney (Year 7) has been offered a part in the Youth Chorus team in the 2018 pantomime production of *Peter Pan* at the Key Theatre in Peterborough.

LAMDA

Congratulations to Amelie Murphy (Year 8) who, in addition to the LAMDA success recorded above, has passed her Grade 4 LAMDA exam in Musical Theatre, with Distinction.