



Top results and university placement

Super students celebrated top A level results with more than 84% achieving A*- B grades and a good number going on to top universities.

Seventy-nine per cent of all A level exams were graded at A*- A and 26% were graded at A*, which forms part of a 100% A to C pass rate; Abbey College's A level students have successfully been accepted on to degree courses at University of London, City; University of Manchester, University of Bristol and University of Warwick.

Among the high achievers were two students who sat their A level maths exams a year early and achieved an A and A* grade.

The college's two top students were Otabek Tursunov (pictured below right) who achieved A*s in maths, and business and an A in economics; and Bekzod Fayzulloev (left) who managed to secure A*s in business and Russian and A grades in maths and economics.

Vice Principal Wendy Roberts said: "We are absolutely delighted with our students' A level results this year. The fact that every student achieved at least a C grade in every A level exam is something to be proud of and a large number achieved top grades.

"This is a testament not only to our students hard work but also to our excellent teachers. Here at Abbey College class sizes are very small so they receive lots of help and support to ensure they achieve the best grades possible."

It comes after the college's medical foundation students achieved 100% pass rates and placement university following their entrance exams in June.



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This term has got off to a really positive start with a delightfully enthusiastic bunch of new students. The atmosphere is friendly, cheerful and respectful.

Walking around the college grounds, one can notice improvements have been made recently, including improved flowerbeds, a mini golf course and our pond now has fish and water plants to keep the Abbey College elephant company.

Academic numbers at Abbey College in Malvern are on the up this year. We have welcomed back dear students who were with us last year and also new students from (in alphabetical order) Albania, China, England, Egypt, Hong Kong, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Palestine, South Africa, Spain, Syria, Turkey and Vietnam. Our youngest year group is our biggest, including four native speakers of English.

This year has seen the reintroduction of the two-year IGCSE at Abbey College.

This is a very positive step as it will enable students to experience deeper and broader learning over a longer period. The two-year IGCSEs and the presence of a significant number of native English speakers, has made it appropriate to offer a wider range of subjects.

We have been joined by four new teachers this term: Art Teacher - Mrs Elaine



Tomlinson; Biology Teacher – Ms Janika Heyerdahl; Business Studies and Economics Teacher - Mr Rupert Seldon; and last but not least Director of Studies for English - Dr Claire Wijay.

We have also been graced for a few weeks this term by the presence of groups of students from France, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain.

At Abbey College in Prague, where we run our successful foundation course in Medicine, we are experiencing our highest ever numbers.

Summer School 2019 was a great success with lots of happy memories made and our and our highest student numbers for the third consecutive year.

Talented Loujayne secures top award

Hard-working former A level student Loujayne Hadaya has been chosen to receive the Peter Salamon bursary to help with her studies while reading architecture at University of Bristol.

Loujayne, a student from the UK, studied at Abbey College from 2011 to 2018 and has been a keen advocate of the school. During her time at the school she said: "One of the most charming qualities of Abbey College is the variety of nationalities of students. The teachers are great and are always willing to help us reach our full potential. The hills are pretty nice too!"

The bursary is designed for first year architectural students at University of Bristol.





Autumn 2019

Hello from some of our English speakers!



Dr Wijay

Abbey welcomes new Director of Studies for English

Dr Claire Wijayatilake (known in school as Dr Wijay) joined us in September as Director of Studies. She will teach the new first language English and Literature in English courses for Year 10 as well as IELTS preparation for Years 12 and 13.

In addition, she will manage our year round English short courses and summer school.

Dr Wijay has been in the field of English Language Teaching for over 30 years and has taught students from ages five to 80. As well as a first degree in Spanish, she has an MA in TESOL and a PhD in Applied Linguistics from the University of Warwick.

She worked in Sri Lanka for British Council and international schools for many years (in case you were wondering, her husband is Sri Lankan hence her unusual surname) and has also worked in Spain and Bahrain.

She has worked in three UK universities, most recently Westminster University in London.

Abbey College is proud to announce the school's first intake of British students this term. Traditionally known as an international school where English as a Second Language is taught alongside academic subjects at IGCSE, A Level and Foundation levels, this year the school has welcomed four native speakers of English, three British and one South African, into Year 10. These day students join their classmates from Hong Kong, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Spain and Turkey for all their lessons except English language and literature.

After the first five weeks of term, the students were asked how they are getting along at the school.

Heidi Pensom said: "My experience so far has been amazing. I have made lots of friends and I have learnt about many cultures. It is my first term at this independent school and I feel like my education is so much better than state schools.

"I feel like everyone at Abbey College is like family, a large community where you can fit in no matter what. The staff at Abbey College are so helpful and caring: about a week ago, it was pouring with rain and I got absolutely soaked. The laundry lady was so kind and helped me to get dry and be comfortable again.

"The class sizes are brilliant- there are about eight people per class, which is very good because you can get extra help on topics you don't know; also, having a small class means you get work done quicker. "

Tayga Nom Chong from South Africa added: "I joined Abbey College this year and I've been here for just seven days! Since I started, it has been the most amazing experience I've had. The students come from all around the world and are mainly boarders but some, like me, are day students.

"The Abbey College is a very big school land wise: it overlooks the most amazing scenery. They have so many sports to choose from, some I hadn't even heard of before! The staff are so welcoming and very helpful. I remember on my first day how scared I was to be the new girl but they made it so welcoming for me.

"Now to my favourite bit: the cafeteria. They have a wide range of food choices and the food is always the best from breakfast to lunch."

Classmate, Callum Sutherland said: "This is my first term at Abbey College and it's going swimmingly. Well, at first, I didn't know what to do with myself but I have now settled in and know my way around.

"Everyone is really friendly here and it is also really homely with the Principal's and Head of English's dogs: they create a less stressful atmosphere and I always look forward to seeing them.

"For me, personally, this school is brilliant. It has a mix of nationalities who are all keen to learn. I would recommend this school over and over in a heartbeat."



Follow Fergus on Facebook and Instagram and find out where in the world he has gone...



Autumn 2019

Special activities....

Staff and students can enjoy a round of crazy golf after a new course was installed in the grounds this summer.

It means that they can enjoy the challenges of crazy golf on their doorstep while getting out into the fresh air.

Meanwhile, Abbey College has now purchased its own archery equipment making the sport more accessible to academic and short-term students.

Our newly refurbished sports hall and swimming pool have had plenty of use this summer. Other great activities include fencing, hill walking, gym, movie nights and arts and crafts. Watch this space for new additions...





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Autumn 2019

News from Student Services:

The annual Halloween party is set to take place on 31st October. Let's see your scariest costumes and be prepared for a fright, goulish grub, apple bobbing...

We will be going out with a bang for Bonfire night (2nd November). We will be off to Worcester Racecourse for a fabulous fireworks display, soup, hotdogs and hot chocolate.

Anyone up for a visit from secret Santa? Get into the spirit of Christmas and take part in our special gift ceremony. All those interested should go and see Ms Julia in student services.

Calling budding photographers! Send your best pics to sophie@abbeycollege.co.uk if we use your photo on social media or in our newsletter you will get a special prize.

The Abbey Show is officially on!

Can you sing, dance, play an instrument, or perform a comedy routine? Get working on your top talents ready for the big night...

29th November 2019



Got any news? Ask us a question...

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Then and now.... taking a dip more than 80 years apart. The black and white image was taken in 1935 when Abbey College was a catholic girls' school compared to summer 2019.