

RESULTS AND INDIVIDUAL SUCCESS STORIES REFLECT HARD WORK

A young man with dark hair, wearing a black polo shirt, stands outdoors on a paved path. He is holding a white envelope in front of him.

**RESULTS BUILD ON 'GOOD'
OFSTED**

A young woman with long, wavy blonde hair, wearing a white sleeveless top, stands outdoors on a paved path. She is smiling and holding a blue envelope in front of her.

**HELPING THE HOMELESS AND
CANCER SUFFERERS**

**FAMILY FUN DAY IMPACTS
FAMILIES**

**ACADEMY EXHIBITS OVER 100
PIECES OF ART**

PRINCIPAL'S VIEWPOINT

“HARD WORK AND DEDICATION RECOGNISED AND VALUED”



In times of uncertainty in education it is refreshing to see that hard work and dedication is still recognised and valued. These are the attributes that every student has shown at Grace, and are reflected in the results we have achieved. The results and individual success stories we have had this year do not happen by accident, and are the result of many factors including committed students, supportive parents and carers, outstanding teachers and self-belief.

I would like to recognise the staff in the Academy who gave so much for the students. Their passion for the students to be the best they can and achieve the results they deserve, is palpable. Yet again we have had some amazing individual results which compete with the best in the country. While there were many tremendous results across the curriculum, notable successes included English Literature, Media Studies and Triple Science.

We have spoken many times about the ‘Grace Way’; a sense of independence and belief in achievement where every student gives their best. We ask this of our students from their first day in Year 7 to the last day in Year 13. We will continue to develop the ‘Grace Way’ and ensure we maximise every opportunity to enhance our students’ life chances. Can I once again thank you for your commitment, support, and belief in making Grace Academy the best educational provider in the area.

Darren Gelder
Executive Principal

RESULTS BUILD ON ‘GOOD’ OFSTED

- 100% of students applying to university gained places in their chosen universities.
- 19% increase in the number of students achieving at least 3 A Level passes.
- Average Applied A Level grade the highest possible Distinction*.

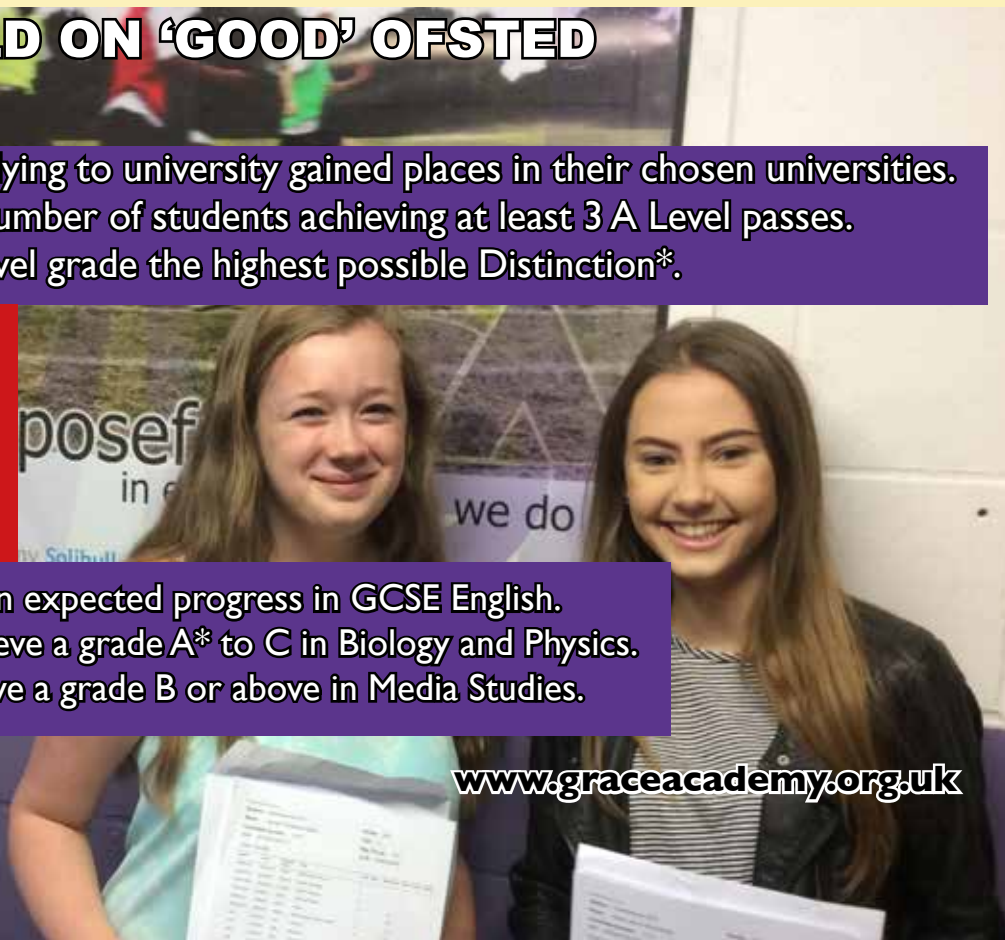
81% of students achieve the new grades 4 to 9 in English (A* to C equivalent)

- 45% achieve more than expected progress in GCSE English.
- 100% of students achieve a grade A* to C in Biology and Physics.
- 84% of students achieve a grade B or above in Media Studies.



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HELPING THE HOMELESS AND **CANCER SUFFERERS**

A team of eleven students from the Academy walked over five miles in one evening to feed more than 60 homeless people on the streets of Manchester.

In a week-long community project in the City, the students also helped to renovate the homes and gardens of four people suffering from cancer, and served food at a homeless drop-in center at Audacious Church on Trinity Way.

Talking about her experiences of serving the homeless community and those suffering from cancer, student Rebecca Wynn, Year 10, said: "When I signed up I expected it to be quite hard but, in reality when I did it, it was so much harder. Part of the trip was feeding the homeless and it was really emotional because it made me think that we don't go through what they go through. It opens your eyes and makes you quite thoughtful about the world around you. In the future, when I see homeless people, I know I will be more helpful and I'll be more thoughtful about it."

One woman suffering from cancer thanked one of the student teams for doing her garden and added: "It was amazing what the girls did over two days and I am very grateful. The school and the parents should be very proud. The girls are the future and thank God we have them."

Matt Spina, Assistant Principal for Ethos and Student Life at Grace Academy Solihull, accompanied the students on the trip and said: "We do a lot of charity and community work at the Academy, bringing people in but also going out. Visiting Manchester, and going somewhere different, has given the students a different perspective on the world around them and the challenges people face every day."





ART EXHIBITION

Over 100 pieces of high quality artwork were put on display for the local community to view in an art exhibition at the Academy. Students from year groups 7 to 13 showcased their hard work and dedication, and Acting Head of Art, Nicola Russell, said: "Exhibitions like this give the students' work real validity, and show them they are appreciated. It also encourages children from the younger age groups as well to pursue art and be creative. A lot of hours have gone into this work and I think it's brilliant. The students have produced work to a really high standard."

'CRAFTERNOON'

Around 25 elderly residents came together at Grace Academy Solihull for a 'crafternoon' and cream tea with students and staff. In a unique take on a traditional cream tea, guests were invited to learn the art of book folding, taking second hand books and folding them to create vases and decorative ornaments. Resident Beryl Keating, aged 84, said: "I had quite a surprise and didn't expect this. I was just expecting a cream tea, but it's lovely to be together. It's a wonderful school and we were just saying that we wish we were starting senior school now."

FAMILY FUN DAY IMPACTS FAMILIES



Grace Academy would like to say a massive thank you to all those who supported the Family Fun Day. Visitors were treated to an action-packed afternoon of animals, summer food and fun, with an inflatable assault course, bouncy castle, donkey rides, petting zoo and arts and crafts. Any money raised from the event will go towards the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) which will be used by the local community.

