



Central Foundation Boys' School

Headteacher's Newsletter

20th August 2013



Central Foundation students received their A level and BTEC results last Thursday and they are celebrating outstanding results. The pass rate at A level was 100%, with 55% of those grades at either A or B grade, and 78% being at A* to C. You will see from the table below, showing the last three years of results, that there is significant improvement in higher grades achieved. The school has now achieved a 100% pass rate for the last three years.

	2011	2012	2013
A* to B pass rate(%)	34	36	55
A* to C (%)	57	64	78
A* to E (%)	100	100	100

Despite a national decline in top grades awarded the school has seen a very significant increase in students achieving top grades with 25% of all grades being either A or A*.

The students performed particularly strongly in the 'harder' subjects favoured by universities especially the Sciences and Maths. In Maths A level over 50% of the grades

achieved by the students were either A or A* with the 9 of the 16 students achieving the top grades.

A number of students are off to top universities including Russell Group Universities. These include the following students who all met their offer for their chosen university.

Tahmid Chowdhury achieved 3 A grades and will be studying Law at New College. New College is a university that was set up two years ago by a group of top academics to rival Oxford and Cambridge, last year only 12 state school students managed to secure a place.

Adrian Hracki achieved an A*, A and a B grade and will be studying Pharmacology at UCL.

Mohammed Hussan achieved an A*, A and a B grade and will be studying Civil Engineering at Durham University.

Tahmid Islam achieved 2 As and a B grade and will be studying Biochemical Engineering at University College London.

Mariam Mahmoud achieved 2 As and a B and will be studying Maths at Queen Mary College.

Raizan Kasham achieved an A* and 2 Bs and will be studying Maths at Queen Mary College.

Shahan Lake achieved 2 As and a B and will be studying Economics at York University.

Salman Rahman achieved an A and 2 Bs and will be studying Biomedical Science at St George Medical School.

The students who followed a BTEC vocational course in the Sixth Form were equally successful. The pass rate on these courses was also 100%. Four students achieved triple distinction in their BTEC which carries the same UCAS points as 3 A grades at A level. Mark Branton, Tynan Calderazzo and Nooruzzaman Chowdhury achieved this on the Business BTEC course and Connor Gardner achieved this outstanding result on the BTEC ICT course. Many of the students completing these vocational courses are going onto university. Nooruzzaman, on completing his BTEC Business course, will be studying Accounting and Finance at Middlesex University.

The School has experienced a significant increase in the number of students achieving places at the top universities. The A level students were supported throughout their A levels by being part of the 'Key Project'. This project is a partnership between the school, the international law firm Slaughter and May and the charity, Access. The students are provided with individual tutors for their subjects and are supported in the application process for university.

In line with the national trend, a number of students have decided to take up apprenticeships after Sixth Form study rather than go onto university. The School runs a programme called 'Central Futures' that supports these students to find high quality employment and training. Connor Gardner, who achieved three distinctions in his IT BTEC has secured an apprenticeship through the Tech City Stars apprenticeship programme. This programme provides employment and vocational training with some

of the many technology firms that have set up in the last five years in the area of Old Street Roundabout.

Central Foundation operates within the Islington Sixth Form Consortium with Highbury Grove, Highbury Fields and St Aloysius College. Central Foundation students can access subjects offered in the other schools and the schools work together to share resources and improve the quality of provision. The quality of the student outcomes were good across the Consortium.

Equipment

Having the right equipment for learning is essential for the students. All students should have a school bag in which this equipment, books and sports kit can be carried.

The students should have the following learning equipment with them each day:

- School Bag (large enough to hold an A4 Folder)
 - Transparent pencil case
 - 4 pens (black or blue only)
 - 1 highlighter
 - 2 pencils
 - Pencil sharpener
 - Rubber
 - 30cm ruler
 - Protractor
 - Compass
 - Scientific calculator (preferably with natural display)
 - Colouring pencils (minimum 6)
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Uniform

With the new term only two weeks away many parents will be finalising orders for

uniform. We have found our uniform providers to be very efficient and cost effective. A couple of changes this year are:

- If a jumper is worn it must be the crested school jumper
- No hoodies will be able to be worn on the school site

In respect of the jumpers, we have now had the crested jumper for three years so we feel that it is the right time to allow only this jumper as part of the uniform.

In respect of hoodies, the students are only allowed to wear over-garments over their blazer outside of the school buildings. We believe that the students require a weather proof jacket for this purpose and for walking to and from school. In addition, hoodies detract from the smart impact of the students' uniforms.

Our Trustees provide a grant for uniform for any family who are unable to meet the cost of any aspect of the uniform. Requests for this support should be made to Heads of Year.

cludes a Post 16 seminar room, 30 PCs and 70 notebooks for use by the students. The sixth form team will also have office space in the Learning Centre. The new Learning Centre will in turn increase the space available for the students in the main Learning Centre. In addition to the Learning Centre the school has made the following investments:

- Two new computer suites
- All existing suites increased to 27 workstations to avoid students having to share workstations
- Replacement of 40 teacher workstations.
- Upgrades to switches and fibre-optic cables
- Upgrades to the server

Our aim at Central Foundation is to provide students with access to the latest technology, both for them to develop computing knowledge and skills but also the subject specific use digital technology.

Investment in ICT

Over the summer the school has invested £180,000 in new computing and ICT learning facilities. With the success and expansion of the Post 16 education at the school we needed a new Learning Centre for the Post 16 students. This has been created in the '1970s Building' which is returning the building its original purpose. The Centre in-