



**RECORDS
SMASHED AT
WESTHOLME'S
INSPIRED
SIXTH FORM**



INSPIRED A LEVEL RESULTS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is a superb day for academic accolades at Westholme School and we are thrilled with the amazing results which have surpassed previous school records. They are a testament to the resilience of our fantastic students with 90% of our students achieving at least 2 B grades or above. Today we celebrate the diligence, commitment and fortitude our Year 13s have demonstrated after a very challenging and unprecedented A Level experience.

68% of our 'lockdown' graduates leave Westholme with at least 1 grade A or above, and they depart, destination ready, with so much more than outstanding academic results. Their journey through the Sixth Form has prepared them for the next chapter in their lives as well-rounded young people. This year's allocation of grades has been robustly and rigorously based on empirical evidence submitted to, and moderated by, examination boards. With a quarter of our A Level students achieving a clean sweep of all A/A* grades, they have smashed the school records!

This year's grades are indicative of the inspirational teaching that takes place (face-to-face or online!) each and every day at Westholme and the unbelievable commitment from our teachers to deliver 1:1 support and guidance for every student. I would like to thank all the teaching staff for their willingness and adaptability throughout the past two years in making sure our A Level students were fully prepared to achieve the fantastic grades they wholly deserve today.



90%

ACHIEVED AT LEAST 2 B GRADES AND ABOVE

It is a great day for all our Westholmian families: many of you will be coming to the end of a journey that for some of you will have lasted 15 years or more. We would like to thank all our parents for your unfailing support of Westholme and warmly invite you to continue to be part of the school and return to celebrate our centenary with us in 2023. Today we celebrate the unique success of each and every student, so to give you a flavour of a few individual students, we have provided some case studies for your perusal.

It would be remiss of me not to pick out a couple of exceptional academic performances from this year and I am sure everyone will want to join with me to congratulate Anna Heeley and Eloise Lonsdale (both scooped 4 A*s), Jay Fetcher (3 A*s), Yusuf Mumtaz and Nayha Williams (3 A*s and a Distinction 2 in Pre-U Mandarin) and Jenny Young, Harry Smith (all A/A*s). Quite extraordinary.

2021 A Level Results will be forever linked with the Covid-19 Pandemic and becoming an expert on Microsoft Teams! I am sure our students have developed independent skills way beyond their years and will find these eminently applicable to their future destinations. This year these include the University of Oxford, the University of Manchester, The Royal Marines, the University of Newcastle, coveted Level 6 Degree Apprenticeships at Coca-Cola and Jaguar Land Rover, and the University of Durham to name a few. Our leavers' industries of choice include Medicine, Law, Product Design, Business Studies, Criminology, Cognitive Neuroscience, and Engineering.

I was inspired this year by a Year 12 pupil applying for a position on the Student Executive. She quoted Maya Angelou, American poet and civil rights activist, *'My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humour, and some style'* – Maya Angelou. I encourage our leavers to adopt this as a mantra as they embark on their future endeavours. All I ask is that they actively engage with the Westholme Alumni Association, keep in touch, and come back from time to time to tell us all about the wonderful things they are up to and inspire future generations of Westholmians. We will miss you, but remember - purple and green: always!

Dr Richard Robson



ANNA HEELEY



Anna has worked tirelessly in her pursuit of a career in Medicine. Not only has she been an outstanding Deputy Head, she has regularly been the first in and last out of the Sixth Form Centre these past two years, perfecting her craft and ensuring she came away with the results she needed. Congratulations to Anna on her 3 A grades that ensures she now goes on to study Medicine and Surgery at Newcastle University.

ELOISE LONSDALE

Congratulations to Eloise for the outstanding achievement of 4 A* grades in Classics, French, Spanish, and English Literature.

Eloise said that 'one of many highlights was participating in the Spanish spelling bee when I was in Year 7!'

Eloise made it to the national finals of the Spanish spelling bee, having come second in the North West. In her GCSEs, she gained nine 9s and an 8. She has also recently received a merit in her grade 8 flute. In Year 13, she was house captain of Pendle.



Eloise's proud parents told us, 'Eloise has had a great time at Westholme, both from an academic and a co-curricular perspective. From choir and languages trips abroad, to competing for school in cross country and athletics matches (1500m and 800m), to participating in drama showcases and orchestral concerts, Eloise has been given a wealth of diverse experiences. The small class sizes mean that her teachers know her very well, and we would like to thank them for the fantastic pastoral care she has received.'

“

Westholme has given her the opportunity to find and develop her strengths, and to **CHALLENGE HERSELF.**

Eloise's parents

”

Eloise added, "I am going to read English literature and French at St Hugh's College, Oxford University. I am really looking forward to the course and to meeting new people. I will miss my Westholme teachers!"

"Having taught Eloise in Classics, I know how much time and effort she has put in over the two years to achieve these results, whilst also contributing to school life as a leader and role model to others."

Mr Oracz

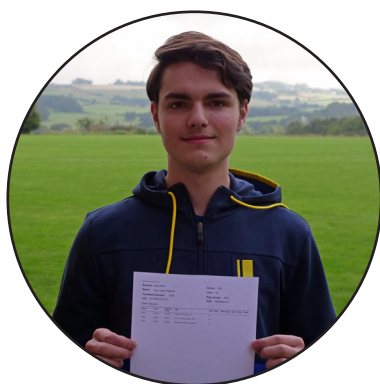
JAY FLETCHER

Well done to Jay for achieving 3 A* grades in Classics, History, and Product Design.

Jay joined Westholme in Year 7 and expressed that he felt very welcome joining Westholme. The highlight of his time at school was the Rome trip taken by Mr Oracz.

Jay added that he will miss his teachers *who understood him* and the many debates he would have in his lessons, and his advice to Westholme students is to to *'enjoy your time at school, it goes quickly. Once you leave you have to start living in the real world and pay bills!'*

The next step of Jay's journey is a gap year where he is looking to establish his own business. He is excited to work for himself and see his hard work pay off.



"Take all the opportunities you are given and go on as many trips as you can"

Tom's wise words!

TOM DUCKWORTH

Good luck and congratulations to Tom, who is about to embark on the next stage of his life with the Royal Marines!

Tom's parents remarked, *'Tom joined in Year 6 - and Mr Haworth was instrumental in restoring Thomas's self-esteem. Being captain for the football and cricket team, representing the school at sports, experience in cross country and then representing the district in these sports would not have happened if he had not gone to Westholme.'*

Of the many memories made at Westholme, Tom lists being captain of the football team and making *longstanding friendships* as his highlight. *'I will miss the PE staff, my mates, and the catering staff!'*

Jay's parents

"We loved the family feel to the school and the small class sizes. We will remember Westholme fondly."

94%
B GRADE
AND ABOVE

100%
SUCCESS RATE FOR 1ST
CHOICE APPRENTICESHIPS

68%
A GRADE
AND ABOVE

DEPUTY HEAD ACADEMIC

A lot of hard work by students and teachers alike during both their Lower and Upper Sixth years, has ensured that the grades awarded, based on evidence collated over the course, provide a fair and robust assessment. We are delighted by the efforts made since the return to school, both in “mock exam” settings and in class to ensure that students have been able to demonstrate their potential and are in receipt of the excellent grades they deserve. Most students will be going on to their first choice university places, apprenticeships with global corporations or to carefully planned gap years.

We understand that dealing with a global pandemic, changes to their education and worries about their futures have created a wide range of challenges for young people across the country, and we are rightly proud of Westholme's class of 2021, whose resilience and determination to succeed have been outstanding. We congratulate them on their success and wish them well for a bright future.

Miss Francine Smith



Over the last two years, our students have endured much disruption due to the pandemic, however, due to a combination of their **UNYIELDING ATTITUDE TO THEIR STUDIES** and the dedication and professionalism of their teachers, students never lost ground. Many had their eyes set on their **ASPIRATIONS** and **WORKED HARD** to ensure they would leave Westholme with their heads held high and in the knowledge that they were going on to their chosen places of Higher Education and Apprenticeships.

HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

As the Head of Sixth Form, it has been my great pleasure to observe the exemplary work ethic, commitment and dedication to their A Levels exhibited by our Upper Sixth students, in the face of such adversity. It now gives me great pride to congratulate them on a set of outstanding results.

To the year group as a whole, congratulations, not only on your results and the wonderful futures you have in store, but also for the last two years. You have demonstrated all of the **charisma, dynamism, good humour and exceptional quality that define a Westholme student**. We wish you the best and look forward to following your success as you now become a member of our Alumni Network.



Mr Jonathan Oracz



“
*I couldn't be prouder
 of the **WONDERFUL
 WESTHOLME
 EXPERIENCE** that
 Yusuf has had.*
 ”

Yusuf's parents

*“I am delighted to have received and accepted one of three places on a **PRESTIGIOUS DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP** program with Jaguar Land Rover in Computer Science. My role is a Data Analyst, where I will prepare and organise data using complex algorithms to help my team make crucial business decisions.”*

YUSUF MUMTAZ

Congratulations to our departing Head Boy, Yusuf, who has achieved all A/A* grades across Mathematics, Computer Science, and Economics.

Yusuf's parents commented, 'being part of the Westholme family for almost 15 years, there have been many experiences that our family have to remember. During his GCSEs period, where he was diagnosed with a lifechanging disease of Type 1 Diabetes. He sat a full week of his GCSE exams in hospital without the ability to write with either of his hands. However with the support of the Westholme community, the disease didn't define Yusuf, but instead he embraced it and achieved brilliant GCSE grades, which led him on to study at Westholme Sixth Form, where his commitment to Westholme life awarded him the role of Head Boy.

We asked Yusuf about the many memories he has made at Westholme: 'Practising my duties as Head Boy has been the highlight of my time at Westholme. Being elected as Head Boy has further allowed me to support my school and lead by example, whilst personally improving my character and refining highly sought-after skills



that universities and workplaces are looking for. The **RESPONSIBILITY** and **TRUST** put in me has allowed me to **MAKE A DIFFERENCE** and inspire the children in the younger years. students to do the same.

I'm going to miss the personal connection that I have with Westholme. The holistic approach to my education transforms everyday lessons into inspired discussions unlike any other lesson at any other Sixth Form, **WESTHOLME SCHOOL IS LIKE A FAMILY**, it's that I'll miss the most about Westholme.'

My advice to Westholme students is that your years at Senior School are one of the most important periods of your life, and with that can come lots of pressure and stress. However, remember that Senior School is a time to be enjoyed as much as it's a time to study!"





NAYHA WILLIAMS

Congratulations to our departing Head Girl, Nayha, who has achieved 3 A* grades in Psychology, EPR, and Business, as well as a Distinction 2 in Mandarin.

*I've been a student at Westholme since I was in Year 3 and throughout my 11 years at Westholme **I THREW MYSELF INTO WESTHOLME LIFE** both academically and through choirs, school plays, sports teams, musical ensembles and other clubs. I was a prefect in Year 6 and eventually became Head Girl in Year 13, **MAKING COUNTLESS FRIENDS AND MEMORIES ALONG THE WAY.***

The main highlight of my time at Westholme was being able to celebrate the end of our time together at Westholme as a year during our Leavers Ball. It was a culmination of all my hard work as Head Girl and an opportunity to



look back on and celebrate our time at Westholme as a year group.

I'm looking forward to going on to study International Business and Mandarin at the university of Manchester in September, a unique course which allows me to spend a year studying abroad while working towards my degree.'

AMAAN HAFIZ

Congratulations to Amaan on securing a sought after apprenticeship in Supply Chain and Logistics at Coca Cola.

A key moment for Amaan during his time at Westholme was the careers event at Old Trafford, this allowed him to confirm what career path he wanted to take in the future. 'My next step is to work for Coca-Cola Europacific Partners in Supply Chain and Logistics and I am looking forward to progressing within this role and travelling around different countries for work.'

Amaan added, 'the main thing I will miss the most is my Economics lessons, they were extremely funny. I will also miss the atmosphere within the common room and the buzz around the school.'

*"The **1-TO-1 SUPPORT OF STAFF IS INVALUABLE** and I know without the support, encouragement and guidance of Westholme I would not be as ready or as confident to go out into the wider world and make my mark on society."*

Nayha



"I personally believe that Amaan started as a young boy and Westholme have allowed him to grow into a mature young man."

-Amaan's Dad