



PRESS RELEASE

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GCSE Results

The new specifications in the majority of subjects at GCSE have resulted in an increase to both the breadth and depth of study, with teachers, parents and students highlighting the increased difficulty and added pressure that these changes have caused.

Despite this, students and teachers have risen to the challenge with a total of 170 grades at level 9 being obtained, 58 at Bayside and 112 at Westside. More impressive are the 1927 grades 9-1 obtained by students out of a maximum of 1935 representing a 9-1 pass rate of 99.6%.

As with the old grading system every grade in the new 9-1 grading system is considered a pass, with a grade 4 being designated in the UK as a “Good” pass. The new grade 4 is the benchmark that students would need to attain in order to continue their studies onto A Level, with specific subjects having specific entry criteria. This year the Department of Education will be reporting the 9-1 and A* to G pass rates as opposed to the traditional A* - C benchmark. It is important for students, parents, prospective employers and members of the public to recognise that every grade is valuable in the context of the student's education. Every grade attained by our students during their examinations represents a learning journey and it is important that we celebrate the successes of all of our students and their grades.

The good performance has extended to the subjects which have not yet been sat under the new grading system with an overall A* - G / 9-1 pass rate of 98.5% being obtained.

The Designate Director of Education Jackie Mason commented, “We would like to congratulate all students and parents on their efforts during this learning journey. Every grade is a reflection of students' and teachers' efforts throughout the year and the Department of Education, schools and the Gibraltar College will be here to support and advise students on the next stage of their learning journey.”

Minister for Education John Cortes said, “Once again those of us who work in Education are very pleased indeed at the levels achieved, and more importantly, the commitment that this reflects from students and teachers. I want to add my own congratulations to all students, teachers, and families, who also suffer the stress of exams. My thoughts today also go to those young people of



that year group who did not get results not having sat exams, or who perhaps did less well than they expected or than they would have liked. I would encourage them to also look at the future with confidence. The changes we are about to bring about in Education will greatly increase the opportunities available to young people, as we will see when the new schools kick into action next year.”