

RGS  
WORCESTER

## Academic Highlights 2018

*“The respectful relationship between staff and students is reflective of an academic potential that promises to produce”*

- The Good Schools Guide

## Headmaster's Introduction

An education at RGS Worcester is inclusive, challenging and academically stimulating.

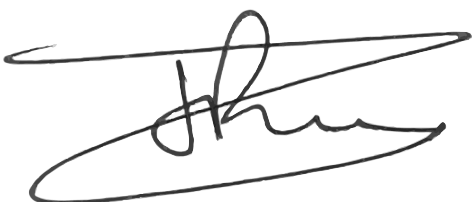
Our aim is to encourage the growth of intellectual curiosity, creativity and a positive attitude to learning, including the preparation of each child for life through a broad, coherent and balanced curriculum, the use of digital technology to enhance teaching and learning, and educational and enrichment opportunities.

The purpose of this 'Academic Highlights' document is to catalogue the academic achievements of our pupils and demonstrate the breadth of academic opportunities at the School.

RGS Worcester achieves impressive results at A Level, GCSE, IGCSE and now BTEC. The pupils go on to the leading Universities in the UK and abroad, including a number to Oxford and Cambridge Universities each year. They also achieve places on other highly competitive courses including Higher Level Apprenticeships at international companies such as Deloitte, the BBC, Aston Martin, Rolls-Royce, HS2 and Jaguar Land Rover.

Above all, our pupils achieve very significant Value-Added scores, demonstrating that teaching and learning at RGS Worcester brings the best out of each child.

The academic success of a school can be read in results tables but these do not demonstrate the love of learning developed in the pupils or the opportunities to be inspired in academic work both in and outside the classroom. This document includes the results but also attempts to demonstrate ways in which our pupils are inspired in their studies. From Science Olympiads, the Maths Challenge and essay-writing competitions to Greenpower racing and Young Fashion Designer UK, our pupils participate in local, national and international competitions and enjoy the academic challenge!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Pitt', enclosed within a large, horizontal, oval-shaped flourish.

**John Pitt**  
**Headmaster**

## A Level

This is the second year of reformed A Levels, after examination boards moved away from coursework and modular examinations to linear examinations after two years of A Level study. Next year, we will see the final set of reforms for A Level subjects taken at RGS.

In a year where nationally the number of students gaining passes at A Level has dropped to its lowest point in eight years following major examination reforms, students at RGS bucked the trend and maintained a 100% pass rate. The proportion of RGS students achieving the highest grades remained consistent with the last five years, whilst nationally there has been a significant drop. The vast majority of students achieved their first choice university place based on their strong examination results.

Subject	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	Entries	A*-A%	A*-B%	A*-E%
Art	3	5	4	1	0	0	0	13	61.5	92.3	100.0
Business Studies	0	1	9	7	1	1	0	19	5.3	52.6	100.0
Classical Civilisation	0	2	8	3	0	0	0	13	15.4	76.9	100.0
Computer Science	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Drama	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	6	50.0	100.0	100.0
DT	2	1	2	1	1	0	0	7	42.9	71.4	100.0
Economics	2	2	4	1	1	0	0	10	40.0	80.0	100.0
English	2	3	9	6	0	0	0	20	25.0	70.0	100.0
French	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	4	25.0	50.0	100.0
Geography	1	3	8	2	1	0	0	15	26.7	80.0	100.0
History	2	3	9	1	0	0	0	15	33.3	93.3	100.0
Latin	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	33.3	100.0	100.0
Mathematics	9	10	7	4	6	0	0	36	52.8	72.2	100.0
Further Mathematics	1	4	2	0	1	0	0	8	62.5	87.5	100.0
Music	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	0.0	33.3	100.0
Physical Education	0	0	0	4	1	0	0	5	0.0	0.0	100.0
Religious Studies	0	4	9	1	1	0	0	15	26.7	86.7	100.0
Biology	3	5	9	5	4	1	0	27	29.6	63.0	100.0
Chemistry	3	7	11	6	1	0	0	28	35.7	75.0	100.0
Physics	3	4	2	5	6	2	0	22	31.8	40.9	100.0
Politics	1	5	4	0	0	0	0	10	60.0	100.0	100.0
Spanish	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	4	25.0	50.0	100.0
Textiles	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	5	80.0	100.0	100.0
Totals	35	66	106	51	26	5	0	289	34.9	71.6	100.0
Cumulative	12.1	34.9	71.6	89.3	98.3	100.0					

Subject	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	Entries	A*-A%	A*-B%	A*-E%
Extended Project (EPQ)	9	10	3	0	0	0	0	22	86.4	100.0	100.0

## GCSE

Following recent national reforms, the vast majority of GCSE specifications have been significantly altered and examinations are now more challenging and rigorous. The A\* to G grading system has been replaced with a 9 to 1 scale, with an A grade roughly equating to a Grade 7, and a Grade 4 equating to a low Grade C. RGS has adapted to these more rigorous examinations and we are very pleased that our students have continued to make significant progress and achieve above their potential, with high Value-Added scores.

## Reformed GCSE results

Subject	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	Entries	9-7 %	9-4 %
Art	9	10	5	2	0	0	0	0	26	92.3	100.0
Computing	0	3	2	0	2	0	0	0	7	71.4	100.0
Drama	2	3	2	6	0	0	0	0	13	53.8	100.0
Geography	11	10	18	10	5	2	0	0	56	69.6	100.0
History	12	14	10	4	5	3	5	0	53	67.9	90.6
Latin	8	5	1	2	1	0	0	0	17	82.4	100.0
English Language	2	11	13	29	31	9	5	0	100	26.0	95.0
English Literature	6	7	20	25	34	5	3	0	100	33.0	97.0
Mathematics	17	19	18	22	16	4	2	1	99	54.5	97.0
Music	2	2	1	2	0	1	0	0	8	62.5	100.0
Religious Studies	5	3	13	8	6	0	0	0	35	60.0	100.0
Combined Award Science	6	6	22	19	27	9	1	0	90	37.8	98.9
Biology	15	12	14	10	3	1	0	0	55	74.5	100.0
Chemistry	16	17	7	12	3	0	0	0	55	72.7	100.0
Physics	14	12	15	12	2	0	0	0	55	74.5	100.0
French	1	6	3	9	3	3	7	1	33	30.3	75.8
German	3	2	4	2	3	0	0	0	14	64.3	100.0
Spanish	2	5	4	1	3	7	7	0	30	36.7	73.3
Totals	131	147	172	175	144	44	30	2	846	53.2	96.1
Cumulative %	15.5	32.9	53.2	73.9	90.9	96.1	99.6	99.9			

## Unreformed GCSE results

A small number of GCSE subjects have been reformed, but will not be examined using the new grading criteria until 2019. The results of these subjects are recorded below using the A\* to G grading.

Subject	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U	Entries	A*-A%	A*-C %
Classical Civilisation	1	5	12	5	0	1	0	24	25.0	95.8
DT Resistant Materials	1	5	6	0	2	0	0	14	42.9	85.7
DT Systems Control	4	9	4	1	0	0	0	18	72.2	100.0
DT Textiles	2	8	6	1	0	0	0	17	58.8	100.0
Chinese	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100.0	100.0
Maths	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100.0	100.0
French	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100.0	100.0
Totals	11	27	28	7	2	1	0	76	50.0	96.1
Cumulative %	14.5	50.0	86.8	96.1	98.7	100.0	100.0			

## GCSE Press Release

*“At a school where the STEM subjects are always strong it was particularly pleasing to see such success in Art and Textiles with 92.3% of all Art pupils achieving 9-7 grades and over 94% of all grades at A\*-B in Textiles. 31 pupils achieved 9-7 or A\*/A grades in 8 or more subjects and should be congratulated including Aodren Clemit who achieved 11 grades at 9/8 or A\* and Alex Owen, Lydia Faizey and Alex Peake who achieved 10 GCSEs graded 9/8.*

*John Pitt, Headmaster, commented, “Very well done to the Year Eleven RGS pupils and their teachers for working so hard and responding so positively to what are different and challenging examinations. The pupils have set themselves up extremely well for the new A Levels and I am sure they will go on to further success in the Sixth Form here. This year group has achieved so much in the classroom and outside the classroom – they were National Semi-Finalists in Hockey and Rounders while also taking part in so many other areas of school life. It is very pleasing to see that they have done so well academically and taken full advantage of the academic and all-round education that RGS Worcester provides.”*

*Tazmin Barnes, whose EP was launched earlier in the year and reached Number 16 in the Charts achieved a superb set of results, with all 9 of her GCSEs graded 9-7. She had already achieved an A\* in Chinese GCSE. Tazmin’s music career has really taken off and she has performed at a large number of festivals and events over the summer. Tazmin’s brother, Jordan, completed his A Levels at RGS this year with 3A grades so she is looking forward to following him into the Sixth Form, whilst continuing to pursue her music career.*

*Brandon Sarfo, who is a leading golf player and was featured in the Worcester News in May, also did exceptionally well, achieving 9 GCSEs graded 9-7. Brandon has played golf for Worcestershire Under 18 and England Under 16 and is hoping to go on to a career as a professional golfer after studying for his A Levels in the Sixth Form at RGS Worcester.*

*Alex Owen achieved 10 GCSEs graded 8 or 9 and has been offered a RANK Foundation Scholarship for the Sixth Form at RGS. This is a National Leadership Award and recognises Alex’s contribution to his Academic studies and to the wider life of the School including Drama, Music, Debating, DofE and Sport.”*

# Mathematics

## **Senior Maths Challenge (Sixth Form)**

All pupils in the Upper Sixth sitting the Challenge achieved an Award

4 Gold Awards including Amy Rogers and Alec Berry who also sat the British Mathematics Olympiad. Three pupils qualified for the Kangaroo Competition

11 Silver Awards

20 Bronze Awards

## **Maths Olympiad for Girls (Sixth Form)**

Amy Rogers: Distinction and pre-Qualification for the British Maths Olympiad 2019

Imogen Sinclair: Distinction

Megan Wang: top 50% of 1400 students

## **Intermediate Maths Challenge (Years Nine - Eleven)**

73 awards in total were awarded to Middle School Pupils

12 Gold Awards with one pupil qualifying for the Olympiad and thirteen pupils for the Kangaroo Competition

Edward Smith was awarded a Merit in the Olympiad and 2 merits were awarded in the Kangaroo

29 Silver Awards

32 Bronze Awards

## **Junior Maths Challenge (Years Seven - Eight)**

8 Gold Awards with three pupils qualifying for the Kangaroo Competition

19 Silver Awards

33 Bronze Awards

## **Maths Team Challenge**

Senior Team: 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Region

Intermediate Teams: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in the Region

Junior Team: 10<sup>th</sup> in the Region

## Science

### **Biology Olympiad, Intermediate Olympiad and Biology Challenge**

5 Gold Awards including Ben Elgar who reached Round 2 of the British Biology Olympiad

9 Silver Awards

20 Bronze Awards

2 Highly Commended

### **Chemistry Olympiad and AS Challenge**

5 Silver Awards

3 Copper Awards

### **Physics Olympiad and AS Challenge**

6 Bronze

7 Commendations

### **Engineering Education Scheme**

Emma Brinkley, Robert Hallam, Jonathan Burman, Mohammed Iqbal, Daniel Fellows and Lily Dugdale all awarded Engineering Education Scheme Awards, Gold Crest Awards and Gold Industry Cadet Awards

## Economics

National Student Investor Challenge team 'Too Shrewd to Collude': Top 8% in the country

Nadiath Choudhury, Holly Chance, Anand Patel and Ruby Potts

## Modern Foreign Languages

European Week of Languages Poster Competition Runner-up: Linus Hercules

Exchange to Nantes (France) celebrating 30 years in 2017-18

Correspondence Exchange with Sixth Form in Bagnères-de-Bigorre

Trip to Cologne Markets (Germany)

## Textiles

RGS Worcester hosts Young Fashion Designer UK each year:

Young Fashion Designer UK (A Level) Runner-Up 2018: Estelle Welch

Fashion Icon NEC Competition, 3<sup>rd</sup> place Anna Berry

Wool 4 School Competition Highly Commended: Jessica Oldhall

Highly Commended (GCSE): Isobel Dipple

Highly Commended (age 11-14): Anna Berry

## Design and Technology

Nine Arkwright Scholarships awarded in the last five years

Fraser Sparks, 2018

Greenpower Challenge Racing

Rockingham Race: 11<sup>th</sup> nationally

Croft Circuit: 5<sup>th</sup> nationally

## Land Rover 4x4 Challenge

'Team Pinnacle': Lower Sixth team of Amy Murphy, Harry Chaplin, George Beardmore,  
Fraser Sparks, Suvi Pathania and Joshua Warner

National Finals: Qualified for the World Final in Yas Marina, Abu Dhabi  
for the second consecutive year

7<sup>th</sup> in the World Final

## English

English Speaking Union Public Speaking Regional Finalists

Taunton School Dickens Prize awarded to Aodren Clemit, Year Eleven



# Debating

## National success achieved in 2017-18

English Speaking Union Public Speaking Worcestershire Cup (Year Eleven)

Qualified for EU Mock Council as the Czech Republic

University of Bristol Schools - Best Speaker Award

English Speaking Union Mace West Champions

Qualified for Oxford Union Finals Day - 3 pairs

Qualified for Cambridge Union Finals Day

Cardiff Schools Novice Champions

University of Bristol Schools - 2<sup>nd</sup>

Nottingham Schools Novice Finalists

Cardiff Schools Competition - 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>

University of Birmingham Schools Champions

Solihull Schools Competition (Years Ten-Eleven) - 3<sup>rd</sup>

Solihull Schools Competition (Years Nine-Ten) - Best Speaker

English Speaking Union Debating Culture Award 2018: Commendation

Qualified for the International Competition for Young Debaters Finals Day (Years Nine-Ten)  
at Oxford University

# Drama

## School Productions

West Side Story (Senior School)

Flash Gordon (Years Eight and Nine)

Lord of the Flies (DIY Theatre Company)

Shakespeare Schools' Festival - King Lear

National Trust Summer Reading Challenge - The Beano Performance (Year Seven  
Drama Club)

Year group productions

## **A Level Productions**

Endgame

Speechless

Marat Sade

4:48 Psychosis

Things I know to be true

Macbeth - Antonin Artaud

A Streetcar named Desire

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime

The Picket Line - Which side are you on? - Devised

## **GCSE Productions**

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

Things I know to be true

Antigone

1984

Two

Up n'under

Taken - Devised

Emergency Room 5 - Devised

You'll never walk alone - Devised

## **Year Nine Productions (scripted)**

Lest we forget

Waisted

ASBO

# LAMDA Speech and Drama Awards

Grade 8 Acting Gold Medal: Jessica Healey

Grade 7 Acting Silver Medal with Distinction: Beatrice Price

Grade 7 Acting with Merit (Silver Medal): Abigail Marsh and Harriet Rimmell

Grade 7 Speaking in Public with Distinction (Silver Medal): Robert Atchison

Grade 6 Acting with Merit (Bronze Medal): George Caldwell

Grade 5 Acting Combination with Distinction: Florence Hobson and Freya Simpson

Grade 5 Acting with Distinction: Ethan Farmer

Grade 5 Acting with Distinction: Alexa Pinches

Grade 5 Acting with Distinction: Eva Barry

Grade 5 Speaking of Verse and Prose (Distinction): Isabel Pepperall

Grade 5 Devising Duo with Distinction: Lillian Heyburn and Madeleine McLeod

Grade 5 Devising with Merit: Abigail Lamb

Grade 4 Acting with Distinction: Lilia Young

Grade 4 Combination Acting with Distinction: Lily Waites and Amelie Heyburn

Grade 4 Acting Duo with Merit: Niamh Murphy and Florence Farrington-Griffiths

Grade 4 Miming Duo with Distinction: Orla Cole and Samantha Ralph

Grade 4 Devising duo with Merit: Ben and Casson Holland

Grade 3 Acting with Distinction: Martha Hobby

# Music

## Concerts

Chamber Choir: St Richard's Hospice 'Lights of Love Service' (Worcester Cathedral)

Choral Concert: Haydn Nelson Mass (Worcester Cathedral)

Chamber Choir: Evensong (New College College, Oxford)

Lower School Prize Giving (All Junior Ensembles)

Chamber Choir: Evensong (Worcester Cathedral)

Chamber Choir: Evensong (St Paul's Cathedral)

Commemoration Service (Worcester Cathedral)

Piano Concert with visiting artist Myra Svetliva

Carol Service (Worcester Cathedral)

Tea Time Concert (Year Seven)

Tea Time Concert (Year Eight)

Tea Time Concert (Year Nine)

Tea Time Concert (Year Ten)

Tea Time Concert (Year Eleven)

Big Band Christmas Concert

Sixth Form Music Showcase

Jazz on the Lawn

Cabaret Evening

School Autumn Concert

33 pupils sat Music examinations, 11 at Grade Five or above

# Careers

Award winning Careers provision: Stage One successfully completed of the Quality in Careers Standard Award

Annual Careers and Higher Education EXPO: Lead exhibitor: Army Careers (over 100 exhibitors with over 300 external visitors, the largest in Worcester, including a designated apprenticeship area)

Work Experience placements varying from Mazak, HS2, Hotels, Sealife centres to hospitals for prospective medical students

Lower Sixth Entrepreneurship and Employability Course in association with Smile Education, University of Worcester Business School and the Careers and Enterprise company  
Work experience week at Yamazaki Mazak for Year Eleven and Lower Sixth pupils.

- All pupils gained Industrial Cadet awards

Morrisby Careers Guidance for all Year Ten pupils

Year Nine COA Probe Careers Profiling

## **Lunchtime seminars: highlights include**

Webinars - Applying to Languages at University, Computing & IT

Routes into Radio Broadcasting

Be a Lawyer for the day

Web Design in Industry

Armed Services - Army

Accountancy

Submariners

## **Careers Trips and Engagement Activities**

Years Ten and Eleven: Worcester Skills Show, National Apprenticeships Service, Girls in STEM Birmingham University

Year Eight: Malvern Innovators, Dragons Den Enterprise Day

Years Eleven to Sixth Form: Dyson STEM lecture

Upper Sixth: UCAS conference / NEC Skills Show

Lower Sixth: Next Step Day / Study Abroad Fair

Year Nine: Qinetiq Insight Day / Girls in STEM day

Year Seven: Energy Quest

# Enrichment

## **The Billingham Society: Twilight Discussions**

The Evolution of Language: Hieroglyphs to Emojis

Homo Economics: a Question of Rationality

Microbeasts: It's a Bugs Life

Why do they do that?

Beautiful Maths

Imagine If...

Moral Dilemmas

Top Trumps: Kings

The History of Money

Anatomy Dissection: Rats

Introduction to Human Anatomy

Brassed Off: The History and Geography of Brass Bands

Cyber Security and Cryptography: The Past, Present and Future Communication

### **Extended Sixth Form Enrichment Options**

Synaesthesia: Seeing Sound, Hearing  
Colour

Behavioural Economics

Planetary Geoscience

Musical Mystery Tour

Medieval Britishness

Presentation Skills

Film Appreciation

Sew Handy

### **Sixth Form Enrichment: courses provide an introduction to**

Community Sports Leadership Award  
(CSLA)

Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)

Enterprise and Employability

The RGS Community

Watt Fest

# University Destinations

In 2018, the majority of Upper Sixth students went on to the leading top 25 universities, including Russell Group Universities.

Below is a full list of the Universities that our students chose for a very wide-range of courses.

## Destinations

University of Oxford  
University of Cambridge  
Aberystwyth University  
Aston University  
University of Bath  
University of Birmingham  
University of Bristol  
University of East Anglia  
University of Edinburgh  
University of Exeter  
University of Leeds  
University of Liverpool  
University of Manchester  
University of Newcastle  
University of Nottingham  
University of Plymouth  
University of Reading  
University of Sheffield  
University of Southampton  
University of Sussex  
University of Warwick  
University of Wolverhampton  
University of the West of England  
University of York  
Bangor University  
Cardiff University  
Loughborough University  
Manchester Metropolitan University  
Nottingham Trent University  
Sheffield Hallam University  
Swansea University  
Goldsmiths, University of London  
Royal Holloway, University of London  
Worcester University  
Florida State University  
Plymouth College of Art  
Academy of Contemporary Music

## Apprenticeships

In 2018, several pupils were awarded prestigious apprenticeships, with placements including Rolls-Royce, BMW, High-Speed Rail and Aston Martin.

# Scholarships

## Aims

The School wishes to recognise outstanding academic, musical, sporting and artistic ability and potential, and scholarships are awarded for this purpose.

## Scholarships

- Scholarships are awarded to individual pupils to encourage excellence across a range of academic and co-curricular activities in keeping with the aims of the School.
- 11+ and 13+ candidates are automatically considered for Academic Scholarships when they sit the RGS entrance examination. There are separate assessment processes for all other types of Scholarship, including Sixth Form Academic Scholarships.
- All Scholarships may be supplemented by Bursary funding of up to 100% remission of fees.

## Leader Arts and Technology Scholarships

These Scholarships are named in honour of Sir Edward Leader Williams and his brother Benjamin Williams Leader RA. Both were born in Worcester and educated at RGS Worcester.

Scholarships are available for:

Art  
Drama  
Design Technology  
Music  
Textiles

## Sports scholarships

Godfrey Brown Sports Scholarships, named after AGK Brown a former Headmaster and Olympian, are available.

**For more information about Scholarships please see the Scholarships brochure or contact the Registrar.**

*“RGS Worcester does what it does with a vision and a panache that not many can match”*

- The Good Schools Guide