

# PRESS RELEASE



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## STUDENTS CELEBRATE OUTSTANDING A LEVEL RESULTS!

After months of hard work and waiting, nearly 400 Yeovil College AS and A Level students received their results today.

Students on Full-time A Level courses have achieved an outstanding pass rate of 99%. 78% of passes were A\* to C grades, an increase of 4% on 2010 results, while an outstanding 24% of passes were graded A\* to A. To achieve an A\* grade at A Level, students must receive an A grade at AS Level and a mark of at least 90% in their second year.

100% pass rates were achieved in 19 of the 24 subject areas, including Biology, English Literature, Mathematics, Chemistry, Sociology, Psychology, History, English Language and Geography. High pass rates were also achieved in Business Studies (95%), Law (95%) and Physics (91%).

This year's star students included David Burns (18) of Yeovil, who achieved an outstanding three A\* grades in Maths, Further Maths and Physics. He said "*I'm going to Birmingham University to do Physics. I've always been interested in Physics and the course at Yeovil College helped me develop my interest a lot. The lecturers didn't just teach the syllabus, they went further to encourage us to have a genuine interest in the subject. It made you want to find out more.*" David is a former pupil of Buckler's Mead Community School.

Jack Chant (18) of Martock achieved A\* grades in Maths and Further Maths, as well as an A in Physics. The former Stanchester School pupil said "*I'm going to Birmingham University to study Maths. Yeovil College prepared me well for university. It was largely the reason why I chose a Further Education college rather than a sixth form. It's an independent environment and better preparation for university. I'm really pleased with my results. I've no plans to celebrate yet, but I'm sure I will do!*"

Katie McCallum (18) of Yeovil gained an A\* in English Literature and A grades in Biology and Psychology. The former Preston School pupil said "*I am going to SOAS [the School of Oriental and African Studies] in London to do Arabic and Development Studies. Before then, I'm taking a gap year to do work related to my degree. I will be volunteering for a government organisation called the Centre for Social Justice and Tear Fund, where I will be part of the disaster management and advocacy team. I hope to work for a relief organisation after I finish my degree, maybe even overseas.*"

Former Preston School pupil Holly Milner (18) of Yeovil achieved an A\* grade in Maths along with As in Further Maths and Business Studies. She said "*I'm going to Southampton University to study Maths with Finance because I hope to work in the financial sector one day. I'm really pleased with my results, I was so worried that I wouldn't get on my course, so it's really nice that I've got the grades. I've decided to treat myself to a MacBook to celebrate! My younger sister has one, so I kind of need one too! I'm really excited about going to uni.*"

Matt Nixon (18) of Yeovil gained three A grades, in Maths, Further Maths and Law. He said "*I'm going to study Maths with Economics at Exeter University. I was quite calm when I collected my results because I'd already had a text from Exeter University saying that I'd got in! I've always been good at Maths and wanted to do it at a higher level. I didn't know a lot about Economics until I started studying it at Yeovil College, but I found it really interesting and particularly relevant at the moment. It's a great way to apply Maths to Business and a practical environment.*" Matt is a former Westfield Community School pupil.

Nick Bromfield (18) of Misterton is a former Wadham School pupil. He achieved an A\* grade in Maths, A in Physics and B in Further Maths. He said "*I'm going to the University of Sussex to study Theoretical Physics. I like Physics and Maths and Theoretical Physics combines the best of both worlds. I've really enjoyed my time at Yeovil College. The teaching was impeccable – I really can't think of anything bad to say about my experience!*"

Former Westfield Community School pupil Liz Chapman (18) of Yeovil has a place to study Biology at Birmingham University. She said *"I got an A\* in Maths, A in Biology, B in Physics and an A\* for my Extended Project Qualification. I chose to do a degree in Biology because it's a wide ranging subject dipping into lots of different, interesting areas. I've decided to do a sandwich year working in industry. It's optional, but I hope doing it will aid my employment opportunities and give me the edge over other candidates. I hope to work in cancer research or genetics."*

Former King Arthur's School pupil Frank Boyce (18) of Milborne Port received A grades in Business Studies and Maths, as well as a B in Physics. He said *"I'm going to Birmingham University to study Civil Engineering. I'm really interested in the subject because it uses a mixture of Maths and Physics, but is practical. It came out of my areas of interest and I'm very happy that I've got the results to go and study it. I hope to become a Civil Engineer."*

Jack Boughton (18) of South Petherton is a former pupil of Stanchester School. He said *"I got As in English Language and History and a B in Law. When I chose my AS Levels, I chose two subjects that I enjoyed and two that sounded interesting. After that, I chose the ones I liked best to do at A Level. I've called my mum about my results and she's very pleased."*

Sam Cleal (18) of Yeovil gained A grades in Fine Art and English Literature and a B in Business Studies. The former Preston School pupil said *"I'm going to do a BA in English at the University of Exeter. I definitely couldn't have gone to a sixth form to do A Levels. I needed to have the opportunity to manage my work myself. The lecturers at Yeovil College are fantastic, I got on with all of them. They were interested in me, not just the grades I could get, but me personally, what I could achieve and what I wanted to do. I also got an A for my Extended Project Qualification. I'd recommend doing the EPQ if you're good at managing your time. It's something different, your own project, and can be very rewarding."*

More than 270 Yeovil College students have applied to university this year, including top Russell Group members Oxford, Cambridge, Cardiff, Bristol, Birmingham, Leeds, Nottingham, Manchester, Sheffield, Southampton, Warwick, Imperial College London and University College London. Students have also applied to the University Centre Yeovil (UCY), which offers Higher Education courses validated by Bournemouth University, the University of the West of England and the University of Gloucestershire at its campus on Preston Road. Several UCY courses, including BSc (Hons) Sustainable Graphics & Packaging and FdSc Garden History and Heritage Horticulture, are unique to the Centre.

Director of 14-19 Curriculum Andy Perlejewski said *"Although today is focussed on A Level students, it's also important to highlight the excellent achievements of Vocational students. A growing number of Vocational students in different subject areas are accessing Higher Education following on from their outstanding achievements at Yeovil College. Once again this year, there is a relatively even split between the students taking an academic or vocational route to university and we're proud that we produce students of such high calibre across the board."*

Yeovil College Principal James Hampton said *"I am truly delighted that our students have continued to shine by achieving exceptionally high pass rates in so many areas and wish them the very best for the future. Yeovil College aims to give all students the best possible preparation for university and work by providing outstanding opportunities to work with employers, fantastic facilities and excellent enrichment activities and trips. These results are the icing on the cake which will give our students every chance of accessing their chosen academic or career path in the future. Congratulations to them all."*

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## **Notes to Editors**

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**A Levels** – Yeovil College offers AS/A Levels in 28 different subjects, including Business, Communication & Culture, Computing, Economics, Environmental Studies, Health & Social Care, History, Law and Psychology. In recent years, students have had particular success in Biology, Chemistry, English Literature, English Language, Mathematics and Physics.

**University Centre Yeovil** (UCY) is a partnership with Bournemouth University, the University of the West of England, the University of Gloucestershire and Yeovil College. It provides university-level and professional courses in the heart of Yeovil. Noted for its supportive and friendly atmosphere, the UCY's campus lies on Preston Road and offers a 100 seat lecture theatre, 17 teaching rooms, an AppleMac design suite, three state-of-the-art PC suites and an open study area with ample computer access and café. Additional resources, including extensive library, fitness centre and sports hall, are available at the nearby Yeovil College campus. The UCY aims to provide people with the opportunity to fulfil their potential locally. Our courses allow students to meet childcare commitments and retain significant levels of employment whilst studying, keeping debt low and ensuring that theory

is always related to practical work experience. UCY aims to make a difference: to the students who come here and to the employers and communities which will benefit from the knowledge and skills our students develop.

### **Photos**

**Photo 1** – A group of top students celebrate with Yeovil College Principal James Hampton.

**Photo 2** – Star student David Burns (18) of Yeovil, who achieved three A\* grades.

**Photo 3** – Jack Chant (18) of Martock, recipient of two A\* grades and an A grade.

**Photo 4** – Katie McCallum (18) of Yeovil, who got an A\* in English Language and A grades in Biology and Psychology.

**Photo 5** - Holly Milner (18) of Yeovil, who achieved an A\* in Maths and two A grades in Further Maths and Business Studies.

**Photo 6** – Matt Nixon (18) of Yeovil, who gained A grades in Maths, Further Maths and Law.

**Photo 7** - Nick Bromfield (18) of Misterton with his A Level results of A\* Maths, A Physics and B in Further Maths.

**Photo 8** – Liz Chapman (18) of Yeovil, who achieved A\* in Maths, A in Biology, B in Physics and an A\* for her Extended Project Qualification.

**Photo 9** – Frank Boyce (18) of Milborne Port, who got A grades for Business Studies and Maths, as well as a B in Physics.

**Photo 10** – Jack Broughton (18) of South Petherton celebrates achieving A grades in English Language and History, along with a B in Law.

**Photo 11** – Sam Cleal (18) of Yeovil, who received A grades in Fine Art and English Literature and a B in Business Studies.