

GCSE and A-Level Results on the up!

Team Wexham have had another year of continued improvement in both our A-Level and GCSE results. This is excellent news for Wexham and reflects the hard work and determination of the entire school community, especially given the difficult circumstances we have all encountered over the last 18 months.

A Levels Headlines

These are our strongest A Level results for some time and demonstrate a three year improvement. A very high proportion of students have been accepted to their first choice of

	2021
A*-A	10%
A*-B	29%
A*-C	64%
A*-E	98%

University.

Individual outstanding results include:

Sana Ahmed A* A* A*

Aleeza Ahmad A* B B

Hasan Haiadaree A A C

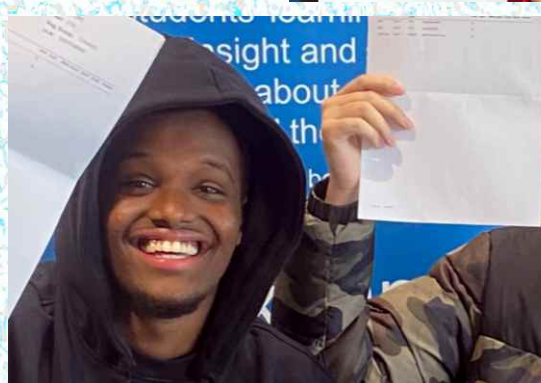
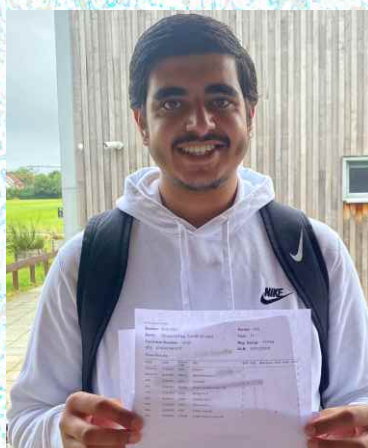
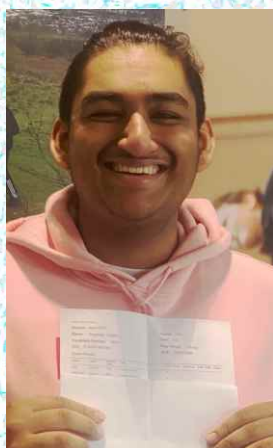
Sukhraj Joshi A B B

GCSE results

Attainment 8: 40.06

This is an excellent set of results and we now have a four year improvement trend which is superb.

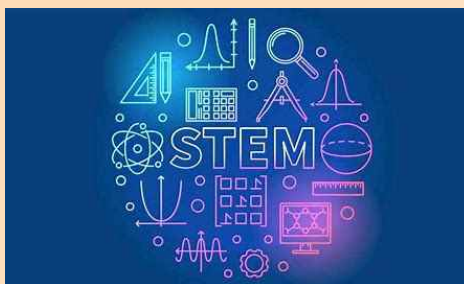
	2021
% of grades at 9-8	6%
% of grades at 9-7	12%
% of grades at 9-5	36%
% of grades at 9-4	57%



Importance of Inclusion and Diversity in science careers

Twelve employees in the field of science spoke about the perceived appearance of scientists and their backgrounds at a recent webinar organised by GE STEM.

The event allowed students to understand the need for inclusion and diversity in science and how views can be changed.



"I enjoyed the webinar as it was very interactive. I was able to explore the views of students and of the people hosting the webinar.

"I was also able to hear about the hosts' journey to get to the positions they are now and the challenges they faced which was very inspirational," said Monica, year 12.

Science Webinar

A selected group of year 10 girls took part in the Science webinar organised by GE (GeneralElectric).

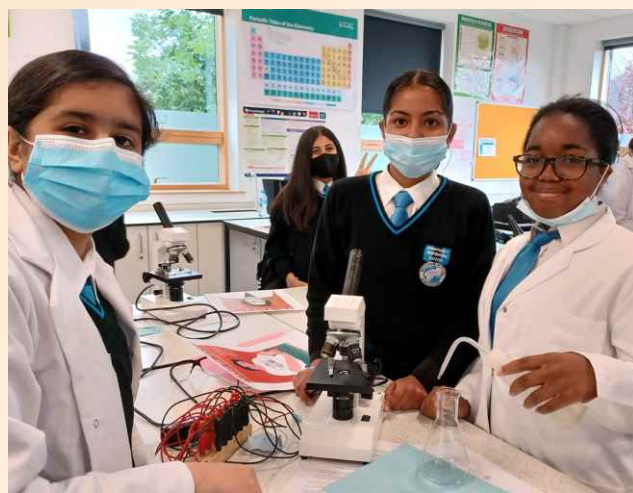
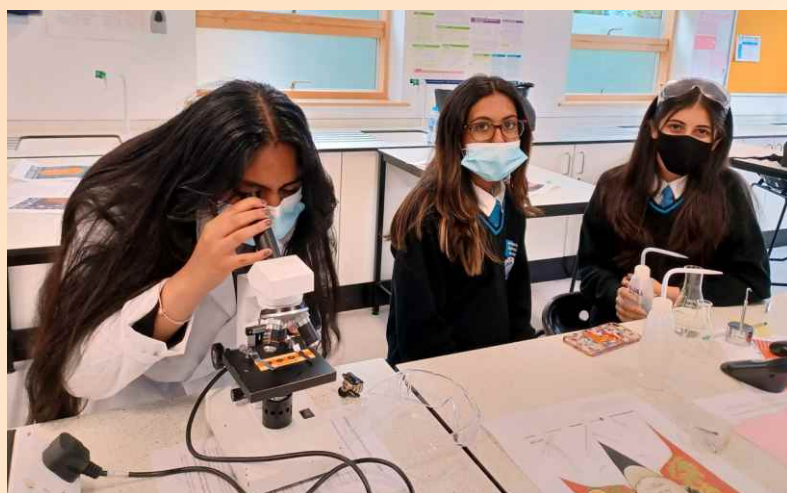
The Girls Get SET initiative encourages girls to study STEM subjects. We started by looking at recent scientists and if they knew of them, and if they encouraged them to study science themselves.

This was followed by why they would or would not do STEM subjects. The girls were very open about

which areas of science appealed to them and which could be developed further.

They enjoyed familiarising themselves with lab equipment and started thinking about science as more of a problem solving and risk-taking subject which they found more appealing.

The session ended very positively with real enthusiasm for STEM subjects.



Extra curricular programme now up and running

Some of our students have been enjoying the new basketball facilities recently installed on the multi-use court at the front of the school during their lunch break.

The full extra curricular programme is now up and running both at lunchtimes and after school for students to enjoy and develop their skills and general fitness.



Virtual Work Experience

Rianna, Fatima and Beatrice completed a 4-day virtual work experience with the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Cambridge this week, specifically focusing on Child and Adolescent Resilience and Mental Health.

This was arranged by Wexham alumina Rasanat Nawaz who is currently working towards a PhD at Cambridge.

The students found it rewarding and challenging. They put what they learnt in class into practice and were tested on their presentation and teamwork skills.



The students received high praise from the work experience organiser for their passion, effort, and professionalism.

The students remarked that it's been empowering to engage with academics and be told that their work is on par with those of the undergraduates.

Our students have been working hard to earn places in highly competitive work experiences. Prayag will be completing his work experience with WaterAid this summer; while Sana will

be working with HSBC. This will be a fantastic opportunity for both students to explore their career paths.

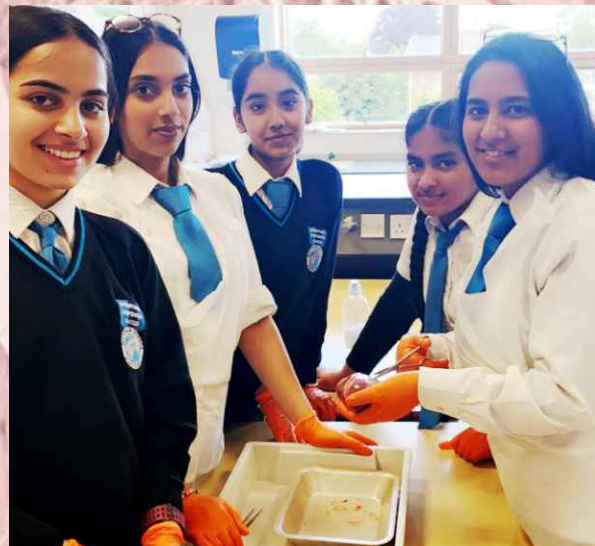


Putting dissection at the heart of understanding blood flow

Recently some of our students have been conducting a heart dissection including external and internal features, the four main vessels connecting to the heart, and an

explanation of the blood pathway.

Students have relished learning about Science in a practical way.



World Heritage site home to 50,000 plants

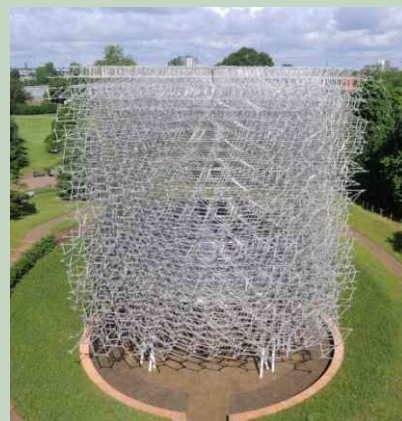
Recently, our Year 7 students were provided with the opportunity to discover the world of science behind the Royal Kew botanical collections.

Did you know that at Kew they have over 50,000 living plants to be found across their UNESCO World Heritage site.

As you can see from the photographs - our

Year 7 students had an amazing time - and really lucked out with the weather!

Kew
ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS



Smiling students soak up seaside sun



Year 9 students recently visited Boscombe Bay, Dorset.

We travelled by coach, with many of the students being

very excited about going to the beach on such a lovely bright day.

On arrival the students all situated themselves on the central part of the beach. They took part in various activities including volleyball, football and cricket.

The students also received lots of lovely comments from people visiting the beach and the staff working in the local tourist shops on how polite and courteous our students are.

It was a really positive day, it was great to see the students smiling, enjoying themselves and being together on a sunny beach!



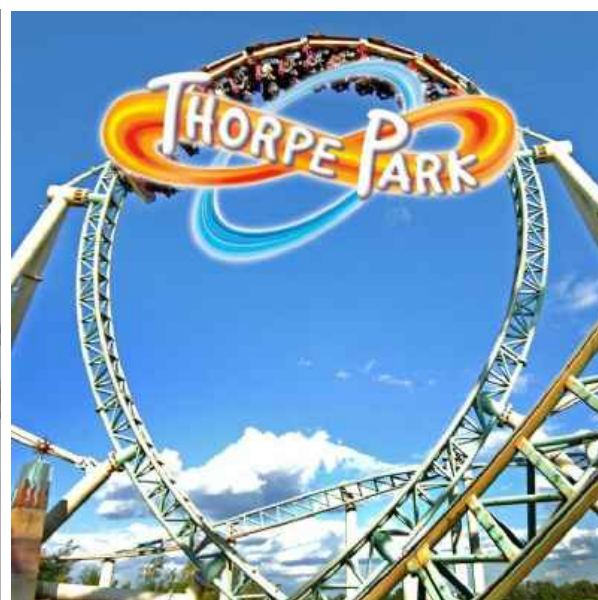
Seeking new heights by stealth

Year 10 and 11 students enjoyed a day at Thorpe Park on recently as part of their activities day.

The focus of the trip was to allow students to work on their own wellbeing and take themselves out of their comfort zones by going on different rides.

The students had a really good day, they were able to connect with friends and members of staff outside the school environment, building positive relationships.

For many it had been their first trip to a theme park, which was evident by the excitement on the coach on arrival students seeing Stealth for the first time ever, revelling at the anticipation of seeking new heights.

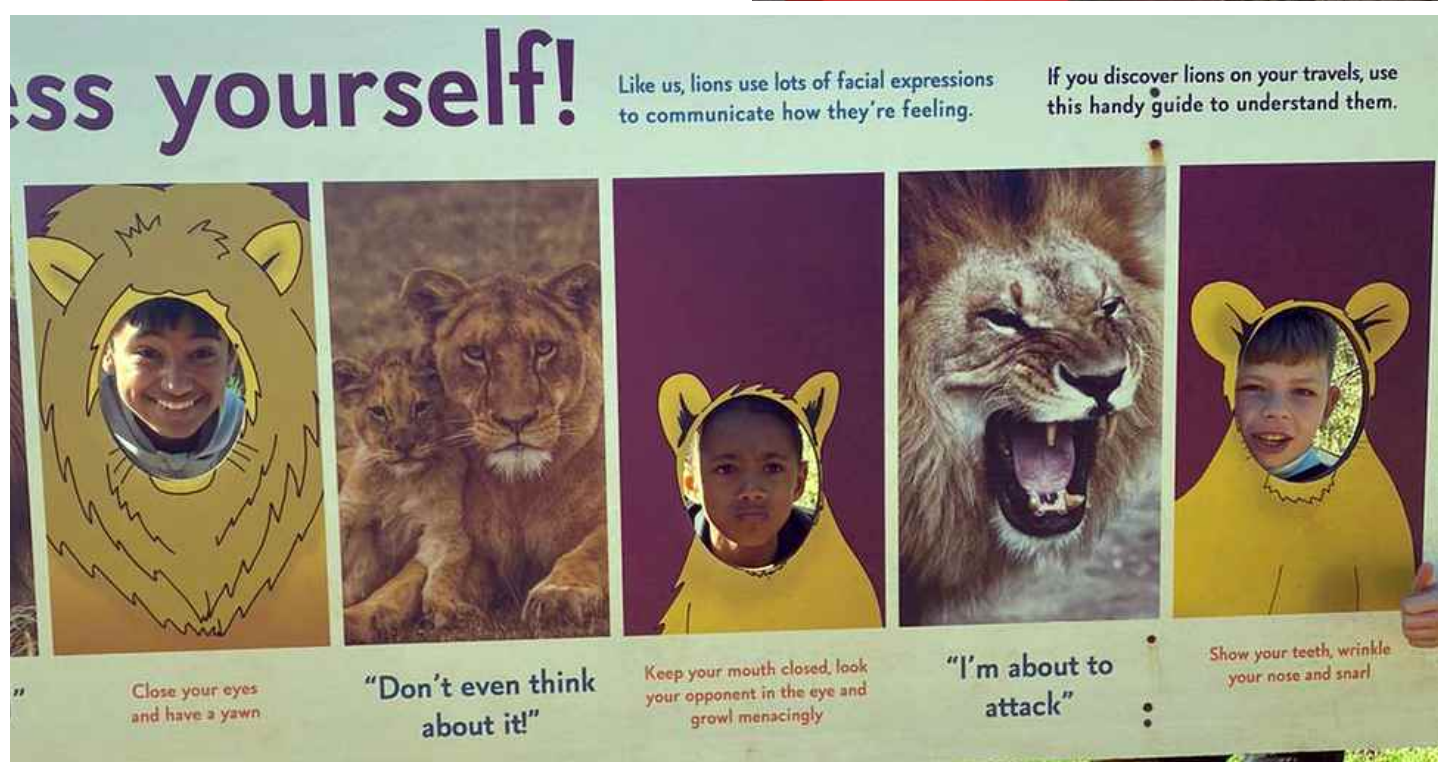


Zoo visit linked to classroom

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo, formerly known as Whipsnade Wild Animal Park, is a zoo and safari park located at Whipsnade, near Dunstable in Bedfordshire, England.

Recently, our Year 8s were provided with the opportunity to visit this incredible Zoo - one of the largest in the UK.

As you can see from the pictures - the students had such an enriching day learning about the huge variety of species that were on display. This was then linked back to their classroom learning after the visit.



Back to a Pizza Party sort of normal

A select few of our Year 8 and 9 students were recognised in their recent achievement assemblies.

This involved them being formally invited to a "Pizza party" to celebrate their achievements for this half term.

It has been a difficult 18 months for all of our community and we are so pleased to be back to some kind of new "normal". Long may it continue!



Boccia skills go ahead after covid break

Year 7 & 8 Boccia

With many events not being able to go ahead this year due to restrictions it has been lovely to run the Boccia Skills Award with a number of Year 8 and 9 students.

The PE department would like to thank Miss Steele-Bodger and Mr Lobb for all their hard work delivering the sessions.

The students involved were:

Year 8

- Mubarak
- Karan

Year 9

- Casey
- Zaki
- Mohammed • Bilal
- Issa
- Zayna



Sweet success of cupcake sale

A big thank you to everyone who took part in the recent cupcake charity event. To those who baked the amazing

cupcakes and those who donated money towards Alzheimer's charity. Together we raised £160.61. Thanks again!



Alzheimer's Society

United
Against
Dementia



spotlight**spotlight**spotlight**spotlight**spotlight

My name is Michelle Stephenson and I am one of three Deputy Headteachers at Wexham School.

Talking about myself is always quite a challenging thing for me to do because I never think I have anything of interest to say coupled with the fact that I am quite private.

I have a very loving husband who I have been married to for 18 years (he genuinely is my better half!) and a gorgeous son who is 11 years old – just started Year 7.

My family is very important to me and I spend most of my working life trying to ensure that I prioritise them before anything else.

English is my subject – I enjoy breaking things down to a level that all can understand and I particularly enjoy those light bulb moments when a student realises they CAN DO a task and this transforms their attitude.

I always take note of those that say 'they hate English' when joining my class and watch this change over time – for me that will always be one of my greatest achievements to date!



I completed my degree at Middlesex University and then later completed what was called the Graduate Teaching Programme at Brunel University.

Despite where I have got to in my career, I would never say that I am very academic, I would say that I am driven to take the necessary steps to help a generation of young people realise their full potential and this has been my driving focus.

In my social time, I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, supporting my church in various activities, cheering my son along at the side of the football pitch and watching 'junk' TV (don't ask!)

- Favourite colour: Fuchsia pink
- Favourite season: Summer (without a doubt!)
- Favourite number: 7
- Favourite TV series: Depends on mood – usually anything girly chick flick type
- Fun fact: I don't take myself or life in general too seriously – I like to laugh along the way...
- I genuinely believe that life is too short and we should live it to the full!

The Autism Resource Base Garden

As part of our science project in the Base we have been looking at plants and how they grow.

Firstly, we had to tidy the garden up a bit, so the Yr 7's and Joshua went out and did some litter picking. Joshua did a fantastic job cleaning the tree seat.

Thank you to Ms. Corrie for starting our sunflowers off with the group, these are now planted outside in the

garden and doing well. Also thank you to Mrs Lee for bringing in lots of tomato, cauliflower and bean plants.

We have also planted potatoes, chillies, mint, cauliflower and raspberries. Hopefully we will have a bumper crop!

This has been a great learning activity for the students and they have really enjoyed it.



Brilliant buzz at Open Evening 2021



We recently held our annual Open Evening and it was fantastic to welcome so many visitors to the school from our local Primary Feeder schools. This was the first Open Evening that we have been able to host since

Covid restrictions and it was brilliant to feel the buzz that

was circulating the school.

If you have any friends or family who are interested in visiting the school, our doors are always open. Please email: post@wexham.slough.sch.uk to enquire about an appointment.



Girls enthusiastic at Futsal Competition

Recently we took a team of Year 7 & 8 girls to compete in a Slough Schools Futsal competition hosted by the Slough School Sports Network at Eton College.

Futsal is 5-a-side indoor football format and a great way to enthuse girls to get involved in playing football.

We have had very positive numbers attending



girls' after-school football club the last couple of weeks and this tournament was a great experience for the girls.

The girls who took part were:

YEAR 7: Skye, Demi, Laila, Ananya, Essraa, Wiktorina

YEAR 8: Nayaab, Najah, (8MAN), Ana, Nadira, Zayna, Benazir.

What's your Twist on a Tale?

The English department are running a writing competition called 'My Twist on a Tale'. Students across all year groups are invited to attend on Wednesdays after school from 3:15-4:15. They can write a poem, letter, story, rap about anything they like that looks into the future.



We will be running activities and writing workshops during Wednesday's sessions. Their stories will be submitted to Pearson and winning stories will be published! The deadline for the competition is Friday 26th November 2021.

Be sure to get involved!

Inter-Form Dodgeball

Recently the PE Department delivered our first inter-form competition of the year.

Approximately 60 Year 7 students participated in a dodgeball competition after school in the sports hall.

It was high energy, high volume, and a very

positive year group event.

Thank you to all the Form Tutors for attending and supporting the children. It is much appreciated.

Congratulations to **7 SEACOLE** who were the competition winners.



6th Form Football sees the return of school fixtures

Recently we had our first competitive football fixture since before COVID and all the restrictions that came with it.

Although our Sixth Formers lost their first match against a strong Windsor Boys team it was great to see a



return to school fixtures, plus this is the first year we have had a Sixth Form team competing in a formal Slough Schools League for many years.

Good luck for the rest of the season!

Sports Days

During the Summer term our Year 7 and Year 8 students took part in their summer sports days. As we came to the end of a difficult and disrupted school year where young people have missed out on so much, it was great to see the children enjoying a whole year group event. Students' behaviour and attitude were excellent across both year groups and there were some excellent individual and team performances. These events were good examples of the skills and values we are aiming to develop in students through our 'ME in PE' focus areas. For example, the desire to succeed, a positive mindset, the willingness to

try, and sporting behaviour.

The results of sports days are as follows:

- * **2021 YEAR 7 WINNERS: GIBSON & SEACOLE**
(both teams finished with equal points)
- * **2021 YEAR 8 WINNERS: DEACON**

Thank you very much to the Leaders of Year, Form Tutors, and PE staff for all your efforts ahead of the day, and during the event, to make these sports days run smoothly. Your support is very much appreciated.



Summer School

This year we were delighted to hold our first summer school at Wexham School.

We welcomed 94 students through our doors with a mixture of current Year 7 and inviting Year 6 students who had confirmed their place at Wexham School to begin in September 2021.

The summer school was designed to serve a dual purpose. Firstly, it addressed education recovery by having a very clear literacy curriculum-based approach for 1 hour of each day with a second hour spent on thematically linked activities based around Art and Drama supporting this work.

To further support the children's reading development we were lucky enough to secure a visiting author, Dan Freedman for a day and he inspired our

his latest book.

We received a lovely email from Dan after the event and he said of our students, "Their questions were absolutely fantastic – amongst the best I have ever been asked."

The second purpose of the summer school was to support confidence and wellbeing through a structured programme of sport based enrichment activities. A wide variety of activities took place with Laser Tag, Archery, Fencing, Inflatables and Skipping proving very popular!

We received really positive comments and feedback from the parents and carers with one commenting on Twitter, "Our son has had a complete blast and met some new friends. This has certainly helped with the transition from



young learners with a fascinating presentation as well as giving each student a signed copy of

primary to secondary."

The event was a huge success and we look forward to holding more in the future.

