

Examinations report 2016

Headlines

- 84% of students achieved 5 or more good GCSE passes at grade C or above. This figure is 4% higher than in 2015 from a year group with the same average starting points than the year group which preceded them.
- 78.3% of students achieved 5A*-C grades, including English and mathematics. This too represents improvement upon outcomes in 2015 by 8% at this threshold.
- 43.2% of students achieved the English Baccalaureate.
- 22% of the GCSE cohort achieved 5 or more A*-A grades and 54% achieved 5 or more A*-B grades. 51% of all grades awarded at GCSE were A* - B and almost all subjects achieved above 75% A* - C at GCSE – with more than half over 85%, notably mathematics, religious studies, English Literature, history, music, Latin and computer science.
- The school's Progress 8 score which measures the progress made by students in a tightly defined field of 8 qualifications, including English, mathematics, languages, sciences, geography and history, is +0.51. This indicates progress which is amongst the strongest 5% of schools nationally.
- The school's Attainment 8 score was 56.6 points, 8.4 points above the national average for this indicator.
- AS results improved further in 2016 with 43% of grades A-B and 92% A-E.
- A level results were very strong for the school, with our highest ever proportion of the cohort achieving A*-C at 85%, A*-B, 57% A*-B and 100%A*-E. Again there was an improved proportion of students achieving AAB in 2 facilitating subjects, moving to 12% of the cohort.

Year 11 - Key Stage 4

2016 saw attainment at GCSE rise in our challenging curriculum

Indicator	2016	2015	2014
5A*-C including English and maths	79%	72%	78%
5A*-G	99%	99%	99%
English A*-C	84%	81%	84%
Maths A*-C	87%	85%	87%
Attainment 8	56.60	56.03	
2A*-C in science subjects	70%	57%	64%
1A*-C in Modern Foreign Language	49%	58%	59%
English Baccalaureate	43%	42%	48%

In 2016 more students than ever before studied both a modern foreign language at GCSE (90% of the cohort) and separate science GCSEs in biology, chemistry and physics (91% of the cohort). This represents

more students than ever taking on the challenges of these demanding subjects, which provide the key foundations for A levels and high value progression routes.

Year 11 - Key Stage 4 Progress

In 2015 the school elected to have its overall GCSE performance evaluated using the new 'Progress 8' measure, which identifies the progress made by students across a broad curriculum of English, mathematics, 3 EBacc subjects (sciences, history, geography and languages) and 3 further subjects. We believe this measure provides a strong indication of school performance right across its curriculum which allows fair comparisons to be made with other schools, since the same curriculum items are being compared. In 2016 this indicator has become one of the headline performance indicators for all schools. Once again this is strongly positive for the school in 2016, putting Bennett amongst the top 5% of schools nationally for enabling students to make progress from their starting points on entry.

	2016	2015
Progress 8	0.51	0.63

We have included below the old expected levels of progress measure for the core subjects English and mathematics, as it provides a helpful point of comparison, showing the sustained positive progress in these two core subjects and in mathematics in particular.

Year	Expected Progress			Greater than Expected Progress		
	2016	2015	2014	2016	2015	2014
English	81%	79%	90%	42%	42%	42%
Mathematics	89%	84%	87%	53%	48%	52%

Sixth Form

In a context where more students than ever before are tackling challenging A level courses in facilitating subjects, the academic average point score per A Level student saw results significantly improved at each of the main thresholds, with 57% achieving A*-B and 85% achieving A*-C at A level and 100% A*-E. 91% of students achieved at least 2 A levels at A*-E, in a context where the remaining 9% (15 students) were all successful in completing a two A level equivalent Diploma, all at the Distinction level, 14 of these combined this with passing at least one A level. The average points score per entry increased this year to 34.52 points per entry – half way between a B and C grade on average.

Grade distribution - AS Grades

This year saw a changed pattern of entry in the school with students studying new linear A level courses no longer being entered for AS examinations. This makes comparisons with past performance unreliable. Nonetheless outcomes were strongly positive in the subjects where modular A levels were taken. The table below shows the improvement which has taken place this year with %A to B increasing from to 43% and A* to C increasing from 68%. In the subjects concerned these represent a clear continuation of the trend of improvement since 2014.

	2016		2015	2014
%A-B	43		40	30
%A-C	68		60	54
%A-E	92		91	85

Grade distribution – A level Grades

The table shows that A level results were significantly improved from 2015 to 2016

	2016	2015	2014
%A*-B	57	45	47
%A*-C	85	75	75
%A*-E	100	99	98

Strong levels of attainment can be seen right across the range of A level subjects which we offer at Bennett

Subject	Total Students	%A+ to B	%A+ to C	%A+ to E	Difference to National % A*-C	Difference to National % A*-E
Art and Design	10	50	80	100	-4	1
Biology	33	52	70	100	-3	3
Chemistry	13	38	69	100	-8	3
Computing	8	13	63	100	0	4
English Language	22	45	100	100	18	1
English Literature	27	63	100	100	15	0
French	3	33	67	100	-18	1
Further Maths	5	80	100	100	12	2
Geography	21	67	95	100	14	1
German	3	67	67	100	-20	1
History	57	63	95	100	11	1
Home Economics	8	38	63	100	-9	3
ICT	4	50	100	100	41	4
Latin	2	100	100	100	15	1
Mathematics	39	82	90	97	10	0
Media Studies	25	64	100	100	20	1
Music	4	75	100	100	27	1
Philosophy	11	55	82	100	8	3
Photography	6	67	100	100	17	1
Physical Education	9	33	56	100	-10	2
Physics	19	37	63	100	-8	4
Product Design	13	46	69	100	2	2
Psychology	29	48	76	100	4	3
Religious Education	18	39	78	100	-3	2
Spanish	3	100	100	100	14	1
Textiles	6	100	100	100	17	1
Theatre Studies	4	50	100	100	22	1

Sixth Form Progress

A new approach to evaluating progress in the sixth form phase has been adopted nationally in 2016, which makes comparison with the past difficult, but the improved A level outcomes at Bennett in 2016 are clearly

the result of students making very strong progress across their A level subjects. The school's value-added score for A level courses is +0.20, which represents very strong progress from GCSE starting points and puts the school in the top 10% of schools nationally for this indicator.

Again students studying our two level 3 diploma courses made exceptional progress. Students studying the Sports diploma had a value-added score of +0.57. Students studying the creative media diploma which is a Tech level qualification where the school's average result was Distinction* achieving 49.32 points, over 19 points higher than the national average.

Students studying English and maths at level 1 and level 2 (GCSE level) in the Bennett Sixth form were successful achieving a score of +1.0 (-0.10) in English and +0.30 (-0.13) in mathematics. In each case we have put the national average score in brackets for comparison.

Sixth Form Destinations

91% of Bennett leavers in 2014 went on to stay in education or employment for at least 2 terms after their Sixth Form study, compared to the national average which is 88%.

For further information about the school's performance in comparison to other schools please refer to the national performance tables: <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/136603>