

PRESS RELEASE

Heathfield School 'immensely proud' of resilience and determination shown by its A level students and staff

Empowering students to fulfil their futures



Heathfield School in Ascot – a leading girls' day and boarding school rated 'Excellent' across all areas by the Independent Schools Inspectorate - is 'immensely proud' of the resilience, tenacity and integrity shown by its A level students and staff amid the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. Their hard work resulted in 70% of grades awarded at A* to B, of which over 30% are A*/A, and nearly 95% A* to C – surpassing last year's performance. As these young women embark on the next chapter of their lives, they take with them an education that extends far beyond their academic grades – they are equipped with self-belief, a sense of individuality, and a desire to make the world a better place.

From science, to languages, psychology, business and fashion design, Heathfield students have had the opportunity to study a vast array of A level subjects, reflecting the school's commitment to discerning and developing every girl's unique talents to enable her to excel.

Standout performances include those by Lottie, who achieved three A*s and is heading to the University of Newcastle to study International Relations; Lottie was also awarded the Flip Gregory prize for 'courage in adversity', together with Rosie who is going to Bath Spa to study criminology; the school's previous Head Girl team of Head Girl Sophia and Deputies Harriet and Boots gained 4A*, 3As and 2Bs between them.

An impressive number of students are destined for leading Russell Group universities such as Bristol, Exeter, Durham, Newcastle, Edinburgh and UCL, and other leading universities to study a broad range of subjects including veterinary nursing, costume design, film and television, education, and business marketing.

Several Heathfield girls are heading to international institutions to continue their studies - Masha is going to Northeastern University in the USA to study Engineering, while Scarlett won a scholarship to study Fashion Design at Parsons Paris.

Character development is the bedrock of a Heathfield education and equips students with the skills and mindset to achieve their future goals - so every opportunity is given to students to embed qualities such as perseverance, resilience and integrity. Girls contribute on all fronts to school life, and success inside and outside the classroom are celebrated in equal measure.

Aisha, who achieved A*AB grades, is Joint Captain of lacrosse Team with Floria, and led the team to victory in Division 1 National Lacrosse Schools despite Heathfield being the smallest school in the tournament. She is heading to Loughborough University to study Business Management, and was awarded the Photography prize and the Edwards Cup for sporting excellence, also sharing the Ali Jubb Cup for contribution to sport with others, including Floria, who is off to study education at Bristol.

Commenting on this year's achievements, Headmistress Marina Gardiner Legge said: "Even though this has not been a conventional year for any school by any means, and results have not been measured in a conventional way, our latest A level cohort have demonstrated tenacity and resilience and come through to achieve well-earned results. Today is the culmination of the girls' efforts throughout their school careers as well as the support from dedicated and committed staff, and rightly deserves celebration and recognition for all they have achieved.

"Perhaps most importantly, the girls have blossomed into kind, passionate well-rounded and confident young women who will contribute to their communities and

are great company, whilst developing friendships to last a lifetime. I am extremely grateful to staff, parents, Governors and our whole Heathfield community for their extraordinary hard work and dedication which will enable this wonderful group of young women to go out and make the world a better place for all. We are so proud of each and every one of them.'

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Notes to Editors:

About Heathfield School

Heathfield School in Ascot - rated Excellent by the Independent Schools Inspectorate - is a leading independent secondary boarding and day school for girls aged 11-18.

Founded in 1899, the school was one of the first to understand that students must be settled and free from anxiety if they are to do well. The school has recently adopted the computer-based CEM entrance assessment as it is designed to evaluate potential, rather than knowledge. Tutoring or preparation is therefore unnecessary. This enables staff to see the whole girl and identify her individual potential.

The small size and high ratio of staff to students means that the school can accommodate individual learning styles. Every girl receives dedicated, personalised attention and subsequently develops persistence, character, confidence and the desire to achieve. Believing that happy, confident girls succeed, staff place a high premium on pastoral care and providing a safe, harmonious and stable environment where girls can flourish.

A wide range of extracurricular activities and a rich programme of sport, music, drama and the arts ensure that Heathfield girls have a strong track record in many different careers.

As well as its outstanding academic achievements, Heathfield is also noted for its sporting success. Sport not only promotes a healthy lifestyle, but also offers a chance to develop leadership skills and team work. The students are highly competitive and renowned for taking on and beating much bigger teams. This confidence spills over into other areas as well. Heathfield girls like winning but also understand the value of team efforts and spirit.