

## Message from the Headteacher

### Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first parent newsletter of the 2023-2024 academic year and a special welcome to the Year 7 parents who are joining us for the first time.

We are delighted with this year's **A Level and GCSE results**. While national results have gone down over the last two years we have completely reversed this trend and our results have continued to get better and better. At A Level, the average grade has risen to a B and at GCSE the average grade is now a 5, with almost 1 in 3 students achieving grades 7 to 9 (previously A and A\* grades). Many subjects made exceptional progress, particularly maths and all the sciences.

The news of our results has spread far and wide. I was recently contacted by the Sunday Times newspaper who would like to include us in their list of **top schools in the UK**. We look forward to reading about ourselves in the **Sunday Times Schools Guide 2023** which is usually published in the annual Sunday Times Parent Power supplement in November.

You can find much more information about our excellent results on the next page. Of course, we would not have been able to achieve this without the dedication of our teachers, the support of you – our parents and carers, and the hard work and commitment of our students.

Our focus at the start of this term is on **routines**. Keeping to a simple set of procedures will lead to fantastic outcomes over time, so here are six very simple ways of working which will achieve excellent outcomes over time:

1. **Positive Attitude** – being ready for learning; asking teachers what I can do to improve
2. **Attendance** – being in school. This makes the single biggest difference to results
3. **Punctuality** – being here on time
4. **Homework** – researching or reading for 3 hours at home each day adds up to almost 1,095 more learning hours each year
5. **Stay Healthy** – eat healthily, exercise and sleep well. “Healthy body, healthy mind”
6. **Supporting each other** – “a team is greater than the sum of its parts” (Aristotle).

This year we will continue to be a “walking school”. Walking is good for us in so many ways – it increases cardiovascular fitness, strengthens bones, improves muscle power and endurance, reduces the risk of diseases and improves mental health and wellbeing. All students are expected to walk at least one bus stop at the end of the school day. As well as improving health, walking home immediately after school will help students keep safe and will keep students away from unhealthy fast food outlets.

# Congratulations to all our students on an excellent set of GCSE and A Level results



This year Alperton Community School students have exceeded all expectations with an excellent set of exam results. Despite the numerous challenges over recent years, the class of 2023 have defied the national trend and have improved on the results of previous years.

At A Level, 62% of examinations were awarded the top A\*- B grades and over 80% of students achieved Distinction\* or Distinction grades on our Level 3 vocational programmes.

With 92 A\* and A grades and 27 Distinction\* (star) grades, our students should be very proud of their achievements.

We are particularly pleased with continued strong performances in Business, Chemistry, Maths, Physics, Psychology, Sociology, Textiles, BTEC Business, BTEC ICT and Health and Social Care where student results were higher than expected from their GCSE results.

As a result, many of our students have been accepted at prestigious Russell Group universities including Bristol, King's College (London), LSE, Queen Mary, Birmingham, Nottingham, Queen Mary (London), Southampton and UCL to read a wide range of subjects including Medicine, Dentistry, Law, Computing, Psychology, Fashion, Business, English, Games Design and Astrophysics. The range of subjects exemplifies not only the broad range of our curriculum, but the wide range of student interests at Alperton Community School.

Special congratulations go to Dev Shah who achieved A\*A\*A\*, Rishi Kamlesh and Akshat Patel who both achieved A\*, Dist\*, Dist\* and to Shweta Shantilal who achieved Dist\*, Dist\*, Dist\*. We were also especially pleased to hear that 13 of our students were accepted onto top-level apprenticeships with employers such as KPMG, Deloitte, IBM, PWC, Amazon and DLA Piper.

At GCSE, the results for the most able students were exceptional with 31% of students achieving the top grades (9-7) in English and maths. There were 180 grades at 9-7 in the sciences – biology, chemistry and physics. In total, Alperton Community School students achieved 762 grades at 9-7. Our students achieved 225 of the highest possible grades (Grade 9) results with 45 Grade 9s in English and maths.

The progress students have made since their primary school is excellent, particularly given the school time lost during COVID. The school has achieved a huge increase in the percentage of students achieving grades 5 above in English and maths, with two thirds of students achieving a pass in these subjects in 2023. 40% of students achieved above their expected grade in English and 48% above their expected grade in maths. Our special congratulations goes to our Physics students of whom 70% achieved above their expected grade.

Special congratulations to Bhavya Bhanushali and Tariq Al-Azzawi for achieving a full set of Grade 9 results in all ten of their GCSEs, including Grade 9 in Further Mathematics. Aisha Ahmed was also very happy with nine Grade 9 in English literature, maths, biology, chemistry, physics, further maths, history, psychology and Spanish and one Grade 8 in English Language. The students all commented on how happy they were with their results and many took the opportunity to thank the teachers for all their support over the years.

## Safeguarding News

### Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility!

At the start of term I give each year group an assembly on safeguarding. One aspect of the assembly is that safeguarding is about every aspect of the child - home and school.

Only by working together can we ensure that children grow up in a safe environment that encourages them to be the best version of themselves. On our website we have lots of help, advice and the latest information to support you with this. You can access the webpage [HERE](#).

### Key messages for the start of term

1. All students are to go straight home after school - not to go to the shops or the park, but to leave school and make their way home.
2. If anyone approaches a student in the street, that student should come back to school and let a member of staff on duty know.
3. Social media - we ask parents to monitor their child's use of social media. Have a conversation with your child to ensure everyone knows the rules and that they keep safe online.

During the course of the year we will produce a safeguarding newsletter which has the latest trends and other resources for parents and students. You can view the previous edition [HERE](#).

If you need any help or guidance about safeguarding then please do not hesitate to get in touch with your pastoral manager who will be happy to help or pass on your concerns to the safeguarding team.

## Simplified access to MCAS App on Your Mobile Device!

We want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the proactive parents who have already embraced the MCAS app. Your engagement with the app has allowed us to bring you the latest updates more conveniently.

MCAS, our invaluable tool, now provides you with real-time insights into your child's attendance, lesson by lesson, and highlights any commendable achievements they've earned at school.

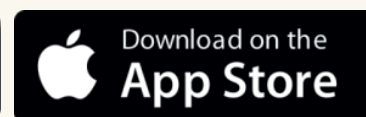
But that's not all – the MCAS app offers a multitude of benefits! You can effortlessly monitor your child's homework assignments and enjoy many other perks designed to enhance your connection with the school community.

In our ongoing commitment to streamline your experience, we're excited to share that we're actively working on transitioning various school-related payments, such as club fees, trip expenses, and school lunches, to the MCAS app in the near future. This transformation aims to simplify and optimize the way you handle payments.

Rest assured, we'll keep you in the loop about this transition as soon as it's ready to roll out. For more detailed information, please [click here](#).

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in your child's education journey. Together, we're making strides toward a more seamless and convenient school experience.

To download the MCAS app, please click on the links below:



## Pastoral and Behaviour Updates

It has been delightful to see so many of our students come back with the right attitude and the correct uniform. We would like to reiterate that black trainers are NOT part of **ACS uniform**. The expectation is that all students will have black leather/pleather polishable shoes.

Students have been given **new timetables** and we have been refreshing their memories for the past few weeks so that they settle into school routines straight away. Please note the **enrichment clubs** (including boxing) are now available. Please check our school website for more details.

Finally we expect **100% attendance** from all students. Please ensure students are in school every day to maximise their chances of success. **Breakfast club** is free and begins at 8am each morning. We would like to see as many students there as possible before the start of the day at 8.20am.

We are looking forward to an extremely productive term.



# Alperton student awarded the title of Global Silver Champion in the Data Science

Congratulations to Naufal Anam who was awarded the title of **Global Silver Champion** in the Data Science Olympiad 2023. Naufal participated in the Data Science Olympiad (DSO) in May 2023. He was one of over 3000 participants from the UK, UAE, US and India to attempt a set of questions related to data and the sciences. Naufal scored high enough to place in the **top 200 participants** and qualified for the final round. After completing another set of questions and tasks, Naufal has been awarded the title of Global Silver Champion, which puts him in second place out of all global participants.

We are really proud of Naufal for this impressive achievement! He now looks forward to working on other tasks and projects presented by the challenge provider.

Please see below the kind words received from the organiser:

*Dear Gerard McKenna and team,*

*We are thrilled to announce that Naufal Anam from your school has been named a winner in the Global Science Olympiad. This remarkable achievement highlights both the student's dedication and the outstanding educational environment your school provides.*

*The Global Data Science Olympiad recently concluded, featuring 200 finalists and 10 global champions from over 3,000 students across the UK, US, UAE, and India. Your school's contribution to nurturing young scientific minds is truly commendable.*

*Congratulations again to Naufal Anam and your school community for this outstanding achievement.*

Prasad Prabhakaran  
CEO, HAILabs.ai

## ACS OPEN EVENING 2023 WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER, 4pm - 7.30pm



### Excellent GCSE & A Level Results

- At GCSE, 31% of our students achieved the top grades (9-7) in English and maths
- 180 grades at 9-7 in the sciences – biology, chemistry and physics
- At A Level, almost 70% of the examinations were awarded the top A\*-B grades and over 80% of students achieved Distinction\* or Distinction grades on our Level 3 vocational programmes
- Many of our A level students have been accepted onto top degree courses at prestigious Russell Group universities