

## PRESS RELEASE

### Strong results achieved at A level by Victoria College students

Today's A level grades represent some of the best results Victoria College students have achieved in recent years and continues to build upon the College's strong academic reputation. 88% of all grades were A\* - C which is the highest percentage achieved in over 10 years. Almost a quarter of the cohort obtained 3 A grades or above and almost 40% of all grades were at A or A\*. However, it is clear that some of our students will feel disappointed that they were not able to sit their examinations this summer and thus receive the grades they feel they deserved.

Headmaster Alun Watkins commented: "We are delighted with the way in which this year group has coped with the challenges brought about by the cancellation of their examinations. They have shown tremendous resilience and resourcefulness. For those students who have not achieved the grades they expected, we will do all we can to appeal these decisions once this process has become clearly defined. This morning, my staff have been working hard with our pupils to ensure that they are fully supported with their ongoing applications to university or employment opportunities. This has been a year like no other and yet our students have given back so much to their local community. They have been great ambassadors for Victoria College and their Island. We also would like to thank our parents for the continued support they have provided throughout the past few months to their sons and the College and we thank our teachers for the dedication, care and professionalism that they have shown, especially in the assessment of student grades.

Even when it was announced that students' grades would be solely based on teacher assessment, our students engaged in a range of learning opportunities that were sent to them during lockdown, including online courses, additional reading tasks specific to their areas of onward study and information preparing them for their next steps whether that be in higher education or employment. I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate our students for all that they have done for Victoria College. We are proud of them and we wish them well for the future."

The Department for Children, Young People, Education and Skills commented: "This has been an especially difficult year and due to the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), the public examinations expected to take place in schools between April and June 2020 were cancelled by the UK Government, and special arrangements were put in place for this year's results.

Under the new arrangements, both Jersey and UK students have received calculated grades instead of the normal process involving the sitting and marking of examinations. The grades have been calculated using a standardised process, set by the UK's Department for Education for schools and colleges following English examination boards.

The final grades reflect the hard work and dedication students have put in over their two years of study. This should be celebrated. The Department for Children, Young People, Education and Skills will continue to focus on the progression of our students and to support them with their future options. The final grades have also contributed to the Island figures circulated today by the Department for Children, Young People, Education and Skills."

For further information:

[Awarding Qualifications in Summer 2020](#)



### **Note to Editors**

Our mission at Victoria College is to nurture well-rounded, resilient young men who have the skills, attitudes and values to be successful and make a positive contribution to society.

Since we opened in 1852, we have been providing the highest standard of education to Jersey's boys and young men. We are known for our consistently excellent academic results - but they are just part of the story. At Victoria College, boys thrive and grow in many ways. Ours is a stimulating, friendly environment where they can study to the highest level and be taught by experts.

Beyond the classroom, our rich programme of co-curricular activities includes strong sports teams, music programmes and the popular Combined Cadet Force, offering our boys a wide range of exciting ways to join in, belong and challenge themselves.

On average, the College has approximately 660 students, of which 75% come from our Preparatory school. We also welcome students into our secondary school and Sixth Form from all other local schools or from abroad.

For more information, please contact:

**Debbie Dargie**

Marketing Assistant (Marketing, Foundation and Communications) - Victoria College & Victoria College Prep

[d.dargie@vcj.sch.je](mailto:d.dargie@vcj.sch.je)

Victoria College, Le Mont Millais, St Helier, Jersey JE1 4HT

[www.victoriacollege.je](http://www.victoriacollege.je)