

Pleckgate Pupils Aiming High with OUTSTANDING GCSE Results

Pleckgate High School Year 11 students are aiming high as they look to the future after their GCSEs

Fatima will study A-Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Maths after achieving 9s in Maths, Religious Studies, Biology, Chemistry and Physics as well as 8s in History and English Literature. "I want to do something with maths or in medicine, like a GP," said Fatima, who said she felt a mixture of shock and relief at her results.

"I know it will be hard work but I am prepared to do it. The maths is really strong at Pleckgate so it has helped me a lot. I am sad to be leaving but I am excited for the future."

Inaam may also follow a career in medicine as a GP.

"I want to study Chemistry, Biology, Maths and Further Maths at St Mary's College," said Inaam, who was the school cricket captain.

"I like to help people so this would be a perfect job. I'm really happy. I can't believe it. I put the effort in but it just goes to show that if you do that you get the results."

And he has got the grades he needs with 9s in Maths and Chemistry, an A* in Further Maths and 8s in Geography, Religious Studies and Physics.

Muskan is considering a career in dentistry after earning 9s in Maths and Chemistry and 8s in Religious Studies, Biology and Physics, but she admits it is a wrench to leave Pleckgate.

"I adore Pleckgate and I am going to miss it. It is an amazing school. It's the comfort and safety and being around all these teachers who look after you. College is going to be hard, but I am looking forward to it."

Muskan will now study A-Levels in Maths, Chemistry and Biology at St Mary's. She added, "I may go into medicine, either as a dentist or an optician, but I am still exploring my options."

Haroon is undecided about his future – but he may also choose a career in medicine.

"I want to study A-Levels in Physics, Chemistry and Maths but I am still considering my options." He achieved Grade 8 in Maths, History, Chemistry and Physics, as well as Grade A in Further Maths. He will now study A-Level Physics, Maths and Chemistry at QEGS.

"I have loved my time at Pleckgate. I was in the cricket and table tennis team and the atmosphere is really good, the teachers go out of their way to help you."

Mutahhara is debating a career as a paramedic after achieving Grade 8 in Maths, Religious Studies, Biology, Chemistry and Physics and 7s in History and English Language and Literature.

"It's beyond my expectations. It's what I worked hard for but I'm in shock. I'm really happy though," said Matahara, who will now study A-Levels in Chemistry, Biology and Economics at St Mary's College.

"I am thinking about medicine, perhaps a paramedic, but also a career in finance. I am leaning more towards medicine as I want to save lives. The Maths Department at Pleckgate is really strong and that's made me think about finance as well."

Raheem is hoping to go further afield, to Cardinal Newman College in Preston.

"I went for an induction and their teachers seemed to know the syllabus and gave me confidence", he said.

"I want to study Maths, Biology and Chemistry and I would like to work in veterinary science. I love animals, I have researched it and so that's my plan at the moment. I have loved my time at Pleckgate; I haven't always been the brightest but the teachers have helped me achieve my potential."

Raheem earned a Grade 9 in Maths and 8s in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Religious Studies.

Ayesha also wants to be a vet.

"I want to study A-Levels in Biology, Chemistry and Maths and am debating between a vet or a therapist but I do love animals and want to help them. I have learnt such a lot at Pleckgate and learnt new skills which have boosted my confidence. I'm really happy. I have worked hard and now I'm going to celebrate by putting my feet up."

Ayesha achieved 9s in Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Physics, an A* in Further Maths and 8s in Religious Studies, History and English Language and Literature.

Kiah

Kiah, who did a Drama GCSE last year, had her hair cut for the Little Princess Trust two years ago. She was also an anti-bullying ambassador at school and wants to become a lawyer.

"I want to go to Clitheroe Grammar and study A-Levels in English Language, History, Sociology and Politics as I want to be a criminal lawyer. I watch all the criminal TV programmes all the time, my favourite is Suits."

Kiah celebrated 9s in Business, History and Religious Studies and a grade 8 in Maths.

Nasrin said she was "over the moon" with her results.

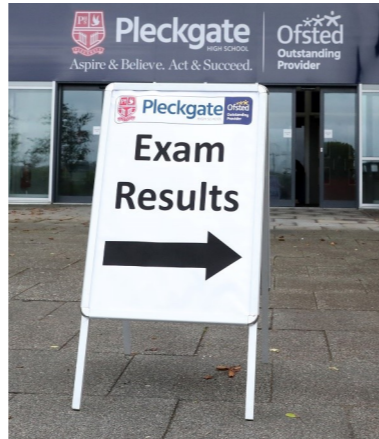
"I got nines!" she beamed, as she celebrated the top grade in Biology and Chemistry, as well as 8s in Maths, Religious Studies, History and Physics, and an A in Further Maths.

Nasrin will now study Biology, Chemistry and Maths A levels at Runshaw College.

Fariha wants to become a psychiatrist in order to help people with mental illness and raise awareness.

She earned 9s in Maths, Biology and Chemistry as well as 8s in Religious Studies, Physics and English Literature, and an A* in Further Maths and will now go to Clitheroe Royal Grammar School Sixth Form to study Psychology, German, Maths and Biology.

"I'd like to be a psychiatrist. Some people don't think mental illness is an illness because it's not visible so I want to help those who suffer."



Teachers and pupils celebrating their outstanding exam results



Pleckgate News

A newsletter featuring Pleckgate High School's achievements

ISSUE 4

Ofsted
Outstanding
Provider

An "OUTSTANDING" Open Evening & Open Morning

Pleckgate High School held another successful Open Evening and Open Morning as they showed off their 'Outstanding' school to prospective parents and pupils.

The new entrance and reception area has now been completed and makes an impressive first introduction to Pleckgate, highlighting the school's motto 'Aspire and Believe, Act and Succeed'.

The school was oversubscribed last year and is expecting bumper entries again this year.

In his talk, Head Teacher Mr Cocker spoke about how proud he is of Pleckgate's journey so far which has led to their Outstanding Ofsted report in January this year.

Mr Cocker made it clear that the journey is not yet finished and he will be at school to oversee it.

"We are a community school, we have brought the community feel back to Pleckgate, and a comprehensive school for all abilities. We have had five years of positive Progress 8 reports which means our students are consistently doing better than other students with similar starting points across the country.

Our attendance is above national average and we have high expectations and aspirations for all students – we expect the best for your child. I am here to stay to make sure every child at Pleckgate gets the best education. We want students to believe in themselves, to be safe, respectful citizens but also to have fun at school as well."



The newly built entrance and reception area to Pleckgate High School



Pleckgate has a prestigious Gold Award Mark for the Religious Studies Department

Prospective pupil Keely was shown various artefacts by guide Furkhan



Prospective pupils Maryam, Sumayyah and Rumysah enjoyed looking at our superb GCSE artwork at our Open Evening



Open Morning at Pleckgate. Our Head Boy Amaan and Head Girl Aliza along with their deputies Haris and Fatima delivered speeches to the audience at our Open Day and Aliza said "It was the best decision I made to come to Pleckgate"

Head Girl Aliza said: "It was the best decision I made coming to Pleckgate, it's like being part of a big family."

Head Boy Amaan said: "We want to help to make it the best experience it can be for every student."

Deputy Head Boy Haris explained: "We are successful academically but there are other opportunities such as sports and school trips."

Deputy Head Girl Fatima added: "At Pleckgate you feel safe, you get the best education, you make memories and it becomes your second home. It's an amazing experience."

Year Seven student Islam spoke to the audience and said: "I have only been here a short time but I already love the teachers and enjoy learning."

Another Year Seven pupil, Arzu said: "I was nervous coming to school but it already feels like home after two weeks. Pupils looking around were impressed."

Mohammad said: "I have enjoyed trying out the science experiments the best."

Aisha said: "I like art so I have enjoyed the art studio."

Aspire and Believe, Act and Succeed

Year 9 Football



Year 9 Football The year 9 football boys visited Manchester City and their Etihad stadium to receive some last minute advice and training ahead of their league game.



After the visit it was congratulations to Year 9 boys' football team with a fantastic **8 - 1 WIN** against Tauheedul Islam Boys' High School with an amazing 7 goals from striker Ayaan.

Schools Working Together



Schools Working Together Pleckgate staff and pupils welcomed students from the local secondary schools to take part in the first of this year's Schools Working Together sessions.

Attending were Our Lady & St John, Westholme, Islamiyah, Tauheedul, St Thomas's and Blackburn Central.

One Voice Blackburn



Sifa outside King George's Hall

Congratulations to **Sifa**, a pupil at Pleckgate who is a WEG (West End Girls) leader for a year as part of the Blackburn One Voice Initiative. It has been announced that she will be the main host for their Annual Dinner 2020 which will take place on Saturday 22 February 2020 at King George's Hall. We wish her all the best.

Pleckgate Pupils Visit Blackburn Cathedral and Jaame Masjid Mosque

Cathedral and Mosque Visit - Below is an account from one of the pupils on their visit to Blackburn Cathedral and Jaame Masjid Mosque:

"I enjoyed going to Blackburn Cathedral. We firstly learnt about the history of the Cathedral and where its name originated from. We also had a tour inside the Cathedral and learnt about the different features. We also got to ask a local Priest and two people training to be Priests all about Christianity and the role it plays in their life. My favourite experience was when we viewed and studied the different artefacts in Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, Sikhism and Judaism. I also enjoyed visiting the mosque, we watched a practical demonstration of how to perform ablution and also the different prayer positions. My favourite part was when Imam Salim made us realise why daily actions connected to the five pillars of Islam are so important. Overall, we all had a great day learning and socialising with our peers. We learnt why different religions are important to their followers and I would definitely love to go on a trip like this again."

By Sofia



National Poetry Day at Pleckgate

National Poetry Day at Pleckgate High School

Pleckgate's high level learners put their feelings into words on National Poetry Day. The group of Year Sevens and Eights had the chance to write a poem about #mytruth on the 25th anniversary of National Poetry Day. Their subjects ranged from climate change, to school life, to their parents – any topic they felt close to.

Year 7, Hasnain, wrote about his own blindness. "I wrote about the reality of being blind but I wanted to add some humour into it as well."

Hajra put pen to paper about school life, **Fatima** was poetic about a girl who pretends she is happy but isn't and **Sarah** wrote about how her parents see her. "I made it funny!"

Various teachers also either wrote or performed poetry which meant something to them including Head Teacher Mr Cocker. Mr Murray, who organised the event, said "It's the 25th anniversary of National Poetry Day. It's a time to celebrate poetry whether it's funny or sad. This is an opportunity for our high level learners to test themselves a bit more by writing and reading poetry and they all did exceptionally well."



Year 10 & 11 Media students visit The Arcade Club



Year 10 & 11 media students visited The Arcade Club to research the history of computer games and complete reviews as part of their coursework. A great time was had by all! Mrs Dean showed the students a few moves on Dancing Stage, with Mr Moore attempting to be a Guitar Hero.

Pleckgate Youth Ambassadors go to Blackburn Rovers



Pleckgate Youth Ambassadors attended a game at Blackburn Rovers, giving out leaflets about togetherness in the community as part of a Social Action Project. **Aliza said** "We became Youth Ambassadors as we want to make a difference and we want to help raise awareness about integration."

Design/Technology Department Race for the Line Challenge

The experience was challenging as there were lots of people we were up against but we managed to get through to the final held in Cambridge.

We have had so much fun and were sad when it was all over. We have learnt new skills and the experience is the best we have ever had. Hopefully we will get a chance to do something like this next year.

All good luck from Team CR7 for the new Year 7s coming in September.

Team CR7 - India, Halima, Mariah, Anika



Pleckgate High School Collection for Blackburn Foodbank

Mrs Parry successfully organised staff and students to collect for Blackburn Foodbank. Here is what one of the pupils had to say:

"I felt it was important to help the Foodbank when my tutor mentioned they had made an urgent request to Pleckgate School to restock their stores after the high usage over the school holidays. It is important that people should be able to eat and I just wanted to help a little."

By Qudsiya JPA

Thank You

To all the Pupils, Parents and Staff of

Pleckgate High School

For your continued support and your AMAZING donation of food.

It weighed in at 104.42kg, this will provide 249 meals to people in crisis in Blackburn and Darwen.

