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Principal's Message

I hope you'll forgive me being colloquial and saying: 'it's been a funny old year.'

Nonetheless, after all of the confusion and backtracking, students have received results which are a credit to them, their hard work and resilience.

In year 11 many have joined our growing sixth form (now over 120 students strong) and in year 13 almost everyone got the grades that they needed for college or university, enabling them to continue the educational journey that they began with us seven years ago.

We pride ourselves on the final destinations of our students because a high level shows that we have prepared our young people thoroughly for what comes next. Last year 97% of our students had a 'sustained destination' - which means they were still there two terms after they started! The national average is around 93%.

We also send a significant proportion of our year 13 graduating students to Russell Group universities. Indeed, for a number of years now this has been above the average for London. It really is true that 'we're going places!'

Well done to all those who received results this year and are now embarking on those new challenges. Stay in touch, we'd love to hear how you are getting on and perhaps at the end of your course you can visit as part of our growing alumni community and tell a new generation of students how to do it (and how you got through the pandemic!)

Best wishes.

Mr. A. Crofts

Celebrating Achievements at The Quest

Quest's class of 2020 performed exceptionally well in A Levels and



BTECs, despite the disruption to their education that they've faced in recent months.

In addition to overall successes, several students obtained impressive sets of results: Head Girl Idorenyin Hope is progressing her studies at the University of York where she's been accepted on a Biotechnology course. Idorenyin said, "Even though my time as Head Girl at Quest was cut short, I immensely appreciate the continuous support of all my educators and fellow peers. Even though I'm happy I got the university



place I wanted, I'm a little disappointed in my grades and intend to appeal. The school is helping me with this."

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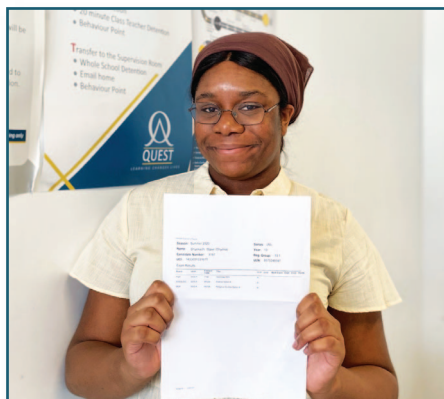


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Onyeka Ogwe joined Quest in Year 7 with no expectation of studying at university. She achieved AAB in Sociology, Politics and RS and is going on to study Philosophy, Logic and the Scientific Method at The London School of Economics (LSE). She said, "When I joined the Quest in Year 7, I didn't even think I'd go to university. From 7 years of being here, I've grown a lot as an individual and I've gone through a lot of things on the way. It's a relief to see these results and to see that my hard work has paid off. My parents worked really hard to get here in the 90s and so education was always a priority. It means a lot that I've got into one of the top universities in the country. I'm overwhelmed!"

Jasmine Florence achieved ABB in Mathematics, Biology and Chemistry and is now going to study Biological Sciences at the University of Warwick. She said, "I'm extremely grateful for this journey that I've been on at the Quest Academy. I would have not been able to get the results that I did without the help of my teachers who went above and beyond to help my fellow students and me. One practical lesson that particularly inspired me to pursue a career in biology was observing mitosis and cell division under the lab microscopes. I'm very excited to start my new journey at Warwick and am hoping to pursue a career in microbiology."

Mamadou Coulibaly achieved ABB in Economics, Mathematics and Politics and is going on to study Economics and Mathematics at Queen Mary



University. He says, "I'm really thankful for the 7 years I've spent at The Quest Academy where I've had nothing but the support of teachers from the beginning, particularly in the moments that I needed it most. They went out of their way to provide the support I needed for exams (when we had them!), revision, intervention classes and I've especially found my A Level teachers this year very helpful. I feel so privileged that I've been able to get a place at a prestigious university and it's thanks to every teacher, student and my family that's been behind me."

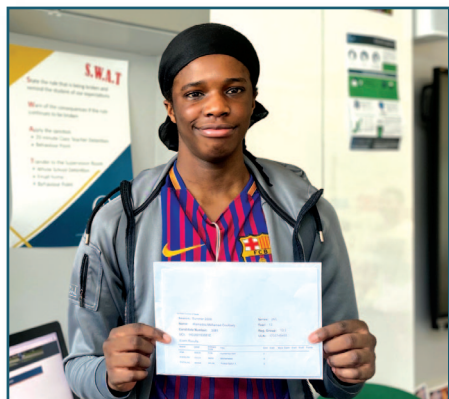
Zain Hashmi studied Mathematics (A), Physics (B) and Biology (C) and will now study Maths, Accounting and Finance at Queen Mary University. He said, "I'm really grateful for the support my teachers have given me throughout the last two years, even during a global pandemic. I'm considering appealing my Biology result, because I'd expected to do better than that. The school is helping me work through my options. I'm really grateful to my teachers that they helped me keep my grade up and helped me keep on target where it mattered most this year, particularly maths."

After an impressive school career centred around productions in the drama department, Kwaku Boateng achieved Distinction Star, Distinction (BTEC Applied Science), and an A in A Level Drama. He is now going on to study Film and Theatre at University of Reading. "The real highlights of my time at Quest have been the drama, with the guidance and assistance of both Mr Russell and Mr Kensit; two teachers who I genuinely take

inspiration from on a day to day basis. The Les Miserables production was a real-eye opener for me, particularly working backstage and being able to help the younger performers. We were the first A Level Drama cohort at the Quest and with results like this, I'm really hoping to inspire students who come after me."

Iqra Sain Nisa joined The Quest Academy in Year 12. She achieved a Distinction Merit in Applied Science BTEC and an A in A Level Spanish and is going on to study Biomedical Sciences at Roehampton University. She said, "I've had a really good journey here over the 2 years. The teachers were so good! They are hard-working and all are experts in their subjects. They helped me every step of the way and were always there to support me. They really worked hard throughout lockdown too... emailing me and setting me tasks. I feel so lucky to have teachers like this. I'd particularly like to thank Miss Thomas, my science teachers and Mr Barragan as well (Head of Year 13). They helped me with everything in my A Level studies and gave me support applying to uni. Without their support, I just couldn't have done it!"

Mr Crofts, Principal said, "In this unprecedented year for grading we are grateful that students' and teachers' hard work has been recognised by these results. I am particularly pleased to see that most students have gained places on their chosen University courses or apprenticeships. They were a great year group to work with and I wish them all the very best in the coming years as they put their obvious talents to good use."



GCSE Successes



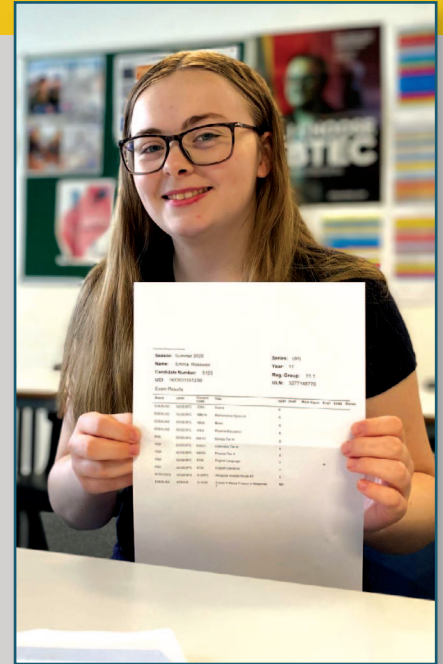
GCSE students at The Quest Academy achieved another set of excellent results. Particular congratulations must go to Quest's top performer, Amber Chase, who achieved a fantastic set of results with seven 9s, two 8s and a 7. Amber is planning to go on to study Biology, PE and Drama at A Level and said, "Thank you to everyone who helped me! I wouldn't have got these results without the support from the teachers. I worked hard so I was hoping I'd do well but this is even better than I'd hoped."

Isaak Lorint also did brilliantly, achieving six 9s, two 8s a seven and

a 6. Anne-Marie Duggan achieved an impressive set of results with three 9s, three 8s, two 7s and a 6 as did Emma Roseweir with two 9s, five 8s, two 7s and a 6.



Principal Mr Crofts said, "In this unprecedented year for grading, it is reassuring to see so many individual successes. We are grateful for the students' and teachers' hard work and pleased that many will be returning to us in Quest6 in September to continue their journey. To all of them, my very best wishes for the future."



"Leaders communicate a clear vision of a learning journey for all pupils as they progress through the school"
- Ofsted, 2018

Results Trends

Progress 8 Score

2017 +0.46
2018 +0.15

2019 +0.30

Destinations

(staying in education
or entering employment)

2017 89%
2018 93%

2019 97%



Head Boy & Head Girl announcement

Congratulations to Fortunate Ssemuju and Jeffery Fosu-Manu who have been appointed Head Girl and Head Boy for this academic year. Their appointment follows a rigorous and challenging google form application, which was succeeded by lengthy interview processes. We wish them every best wish in their new roles.

The students named below have achieved other senior leadership positions and are equally to be congratulated on their appointments.

Alongside their collective duties, they are each leading on exciting projects that will help to develop their inter- and intra-personal skills. We shall report on these in future editions of this newsletter.

Head Boy - Jeffery Fosu-Manu

Head Girl - Fortunate Ssemuju

Deputy Head Boy - Osama Issa

Deputy Head Girl - Ademidun Malomo

House Captains

Hillary - Natalia Tobias

Livingston - Frankie Cummings

Shackleton - Hannah Reid

Wellbeing Champion - Deborah Anokye

Senior Prefects

Nathaniel Russel

Mahamed Abdulle

Yagmur Potukoglu

Tyler Baron

Praise Oduwale

Jawaad Abubacker

Francoise Mabilia

Sasha Lamont

Michael Daly

Jhiane Blake

Caitlin Lelas

Moesha Salim

Bela Ogwe

Shanya Ibrahim



Jeffery says, "I came to Quest to further my education and pursue my goal of working in the medical field and helping others. The Quest Academy has been able to facilitate and provide for my educational requirements, from the science labs, sports gymnasium and friendly teachers. I have been inspired to reach my goals and widen my perspective of my future. I aspire to run my own medical practice and also to become a world-renowned professional boxer. The position of Head Boy, and being a representative of our

school community, allows me to set an example for younger students and allow them to see and realise the potential in further education. As Head Boy I want to allow for more fluent communication between student and teacher, to resolve issues which will ultimately benefit the school environment. I also believe it is important to have a positive and relatable role model who students can approach and bring up any issues or problems they may be facing."



Fortunate says, "I am extremely proud to have been chosen as Head Girl and I am delighted to be part of the Quest Academy and feel so welcomed by both the staff and pupils especially as an external student. I wanted to come to this school because of the school motto, Learning Changes Lives as it reflects the importance of hard work. The Quest Academy provides a positive and comfortable learning environment for the students which is crucial as that impacts the efficiency of our learning. I aspire to be a great leader in our

Sixth Form and in my career choice as a software engineer as I truly find joy in leading and being part of a team. I believe that the role of Head Girl comes with great responsibility and the opportunity to be a role model for the students across the lower school and the Sixth Form is one that I hold with high regard. During my time as Head Girl, I aspire to see peer mentoring and online extra-curricular activities to ensure that as a school we work to build positive relationships between year groups and a continual academic development. I recognise that being part of the leadership team means that I may face challenges in my role. I am determined and dedicated to improving the Quest Academy experience for all those who pass through the lower school and Sixth Form."

Important dates for your diary

Thursday 8th October - Virtual Open Evening

***Week of 12th-16th October** - Year7 Meet the Tutor

Monday 19th- Friday 30th October - Half Term

***Wednesday 11th November** - Year 7 Settling in Evening

***Wednesday 9th December** - Year 11 Parents Evening

***Wednesday 16th December** - Quest6 Parents Evening

**Remote, live video events*

"A strong learning culture in the school whereby pupils understand the importance of behaving well"
- Ofsted, 2018