

24 November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to update you on the latest information about last year's GCSE results that have now been published by the Government.

As you are aware, I very much believe that education in school should be about developing well-rounded young adults that are equipped to go on to great things in their lives. At Bradon Forest School, as well as delivering a high academic standard, we strive to provide the opportunities for students to experience a wide range of activities outside of the classroom. That said, exam results are empowering for young people and are an important aspect of transition to the next steps in life.

We are therefore delighted at Bradon Forest School that the 2023 GCSE cohort achieved very impressive results and saw their hard work rewarded on both an individual and collective basis. These were in fact the best examination results the school has had since the new progress measures were introduced in 2017.

What we are particularly pleased about is that for students of all abilities, their progress scores (the progress they made from Primary School to Year 11) was amongst the best in Wiltshire and Swindon secondary schools. In particular:

- Our Progress 8 score of +0.24 categorises us as 'above average' and places us in the top 5 comprehensive schools in Wiltshire and the top 2 comprehensive schools in Swindon on this measure. [Secondary - Bradon Forest School - Compare school and college performance data in England - GOV.UK \(compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/secondary-school-compare-school-performance-service)
- Our results for the EBacc progress measure of + 0.3 placed us significantly above the national results in the top 30% of all schools. The **EBacc** is a set of subjects at GCSE that keeps young people's options open for further study and future careers and includes academic subjects such as Maths, English, Sciences, Languages and Humanities.
- Our results for progress in English and Humanities placed the school in the top 25% for both subjects.
- The method of reporting for Languages is slightly different and again we are delighted that our value added score places languages in the top 25% in England.

These are outstanding results that reflect the excellent teaching that students received and their own hard work and dedication to do well. From our ongoing analysis of our data, the formula to success at GCSE is fairly simple - those students that attend school 95% of the time or more, who arrive on time and who have good Attitude to Learning Grades in their reports make the best progress.

Finally, I'd like to thank the staff and parents who supported this year group to successfully transition back to school after Covid and to navigate the GCSE years where there was still a lot of uncertainty.

Kind regards



Sarah Haines

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