



WESTHOLME

UNRIVALLED HOLISTIC EXCELLENCE

GCSE Results Day 2024



“

Everyone in the Westholme family is incredibly proud of our students today. They coped admirably with the pressures of their first public examinations and we are delighted with the results of their dedication.

”

MR TAYLOR, PRINCIPAL

1/3 of

pupils achieved 5 or more

Grade 7 - 9s.

GCSE RESULTS SPECIAL 2024

Principal's Welcome

Dear Westholme Family,

Everyone in the Westholme family is incredibly proud of our students today. They coped admirably with the pressures of their first public examinations and we are delighted with the results of their dedication. We mustn't forget that they started their Secondary lives amid Covid and lockdown restrictions, and required a great deal of resilience to get through that experience.

Results improved at every grade in comparison to 2023, with the percentage of 9s awarded at Westholme almost double that of the previous year. One third of pupils achieved 5 or more results at 9-7 grades, the old A*-A grades. But what matters to me most is what every child achieves and whether they are exceeding their supposed potential. What we're seeing again is very strong value-added.

For our students, the basic building blocks are now in place, and we expect them to thrive in the academic side of life in the Westholme INSPIRED Sixth Form as well as continue to commit to their all-round development through our extensive co-curricular programme.

GCSEs can be a "Jack of all trades" trial for many students whereas the Sixth Form allows them for the first time to choose the subjects that most inspire them and, ultimately, will determine their career pathways. What lies ahead will bring its challenges but will also be far more exciting than what came before.

Our students will have been on their GCSE study leave when



I spoke to the whole school about what I mean by the highest of standards, but they already know that "Work Hard" and "Be Kind" will always be our core values here at Westholme.

I would also like to take this opportunity to pay testament to my colleagues who have taught and guided this cohort through their time in the Westholme family. The care that students receive from Primary Reception through to the Upper Sixth is exceptional.

Finally, to our loyal and supportive parents, thank you. As you may be aware, I am one of you as my own daughter picked up her GCSE results too today. We've made it! I look forward to meeting you in September.

Best wishes,

Paul Taylor, Principal

“ What matters most to me is what every child achieves and whether they are exceeding their supposed potential.”

Westholme Family Celebrations



Rowan hits the top results

Rowan has her sights set on a career in Law after achieving eight 9s and one 8.

Rowan was thrilled with the results and said: “I’m surprised about a couple of them. They are higher than I thought they would be. I’ve put the hard work in though.”

Rowan will be continuing her studies into our INSPIRED Sixth Form where she will study Chemistry, History and Psychology. She is already planning a degree level apprenticeship in Law.

She said: “I have always had a sense of justice and want to pursue a career in Law.” Outside of school, she has enjoyed horse riding since the age of four.

Rowan has attended Westholme since Year 7, said: “I’m very academic and the highlight for me was my mock exams. My teachers have been very good, and very supportive. They have helped me to achieve the best results I can.”



The marks add up for Will

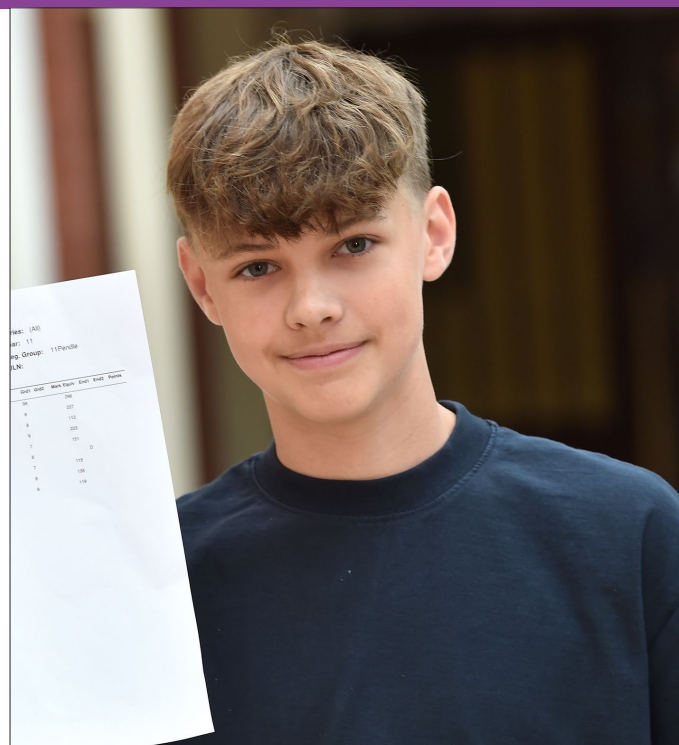
The results certainly add up for Will – who achieved 9s in Science and Maths, five 8s and two 7s.

Will said: “I’m very happy with my results. They are about what I expected.”

Will will be continuing into our INSPIRED Sixth Form, studying Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry. Although he’s not sure what he’d like to pursue career-wise yet, he already has his sights on a Maths degree after college.

In his spare time, Will, who joined Westholme in Year 9, is a keen drummer. He said the highlights of his time at the school have been the incredible trips – including a History trip to America, and PE trip to Barcelona.

He said he has valued “the support he has received from teachers” the most during his time at the school so far.



The sky's the limit for Blake

Blake is flying high after receiving his GCSE results this morning, having achieved a 7 in Business Studies.

Alongside his studies, Blake is currently studying for his private pilot's licence!

Speaking about his passion for flying, he said: "I have had an interest in flying since I was a child. I've been taking lessons for about two years and they're going really well. I hope to have my wings in the next year."

He said he is considering a career in either military or aviation, and said his highlights at the school have been learning lots of new things, and the people he has met – both students and teachers.

Congratulations and good luck!



WESTHOLME
UNRIVALLED HOLISTIC EXCELLENCE

OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 3 OCTOBER 2024

6PM - 9PM

Meins Road, Pleasington BB2 6QU | 01254 506070

Jake keeping his options open after achieving 7s, 8s and 9s

Jake celebrates after achieving 7s and higher in his GCSEs.

Jake said: “I didn’t get anything lower than a 7 – and I’m really happy with my results. I achieved a 9 in PE and 9s in all three Sciences so I can’t grumble!”

“I’ve always been quite academic. I did a lot of reading for my revision – my mum even helped me make revision booklets. I worked hard and it paid off. I also tried not to be worried as I went into an exam. You know more than you think.”

Jake, who joined in Year 7, will be continuing his Westholme journey, progressing to the INSPIRED Sixth Form where he will study A Levels in Biology, Physics, PE and Geography.

Speaking about the future, he said he may potentially follow in the footsteps of his mum who is an optician, or family members who have careers in medicine and vaccines. Failing that, he’s also considering a career in Physiotherapy or Sport Science.

The avid tennis player plays around five times a week, competing in tournaments at national and regional level for Cumbria County, Kirby Lonsdale and David Lloyd.



Speaking about his highlights, Jake said: “It helped having a school where teachers really care about how you’re doing. I love being in the classroom and the school environment. I really valued the one-to-one care.”

Oliver balances exams and cricket with aplomb

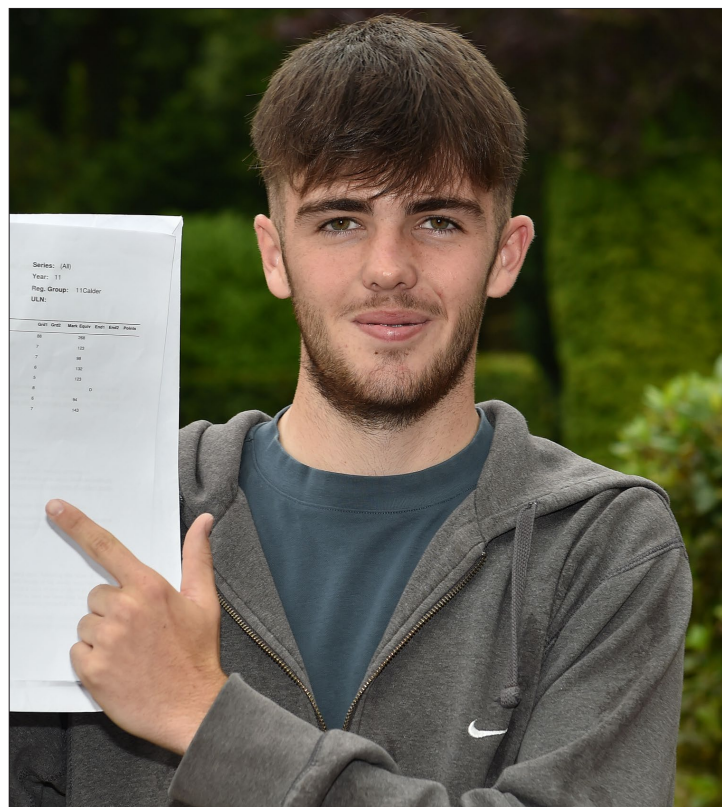
Cricket star Oliver proved he really is an all-rounder after achieving three 8s, three 7s, two 6s and a 5 in his GCSEs. Oliver, who plays for Oswaldtwistle’s first team, took his exams while training for pre-season cricket.

He said: “I’m really happy. I was nervous this morning – but I have got about what I expected though.” He will now go on to study Business, Economics and PE and hopes to study a degree apprenticeship in Finance.

Although he’s not sure what he wants to do career wise, he is looking forward to something in the finance world. He said: “I have quite an interest in the stock market – and it’s something I spend quite a lot of time researching my spare time.”

Oliver said he’d also like to play cricket professionally. He currently plays around four times a week after taking up the sport as a youngster as a way of keeping active.

He said: “I love the PE department. I can’t speak highly enough about the staff. The people I have met and the connections I have made have been the aspects I value the most. The teachers have really nurtured me and pushed me forward. They have given me the confidence to achieve what I was capable of achieving.”



Ella keeps the Westholme spirit alive

Ella is following in her mother's footsteps, after achieving top GCSE marks at Westholme School.

She said she was not expecting her results of 9s in Art and English Literature, and 8s in History, Drama, English Language and Latin.

She said: "I'm so happy, and I've done better than I did in my mocks. I worked hard after getting those results to make sure I did well in the real thing."

Ella is hoping her creative side will serve her well in her next steps, as she hopes to go onto a Degree Apprenticeship in Advertising with the BBC, after studying English Literature, Art and Latin at A Level with Westholme INSPIRED Sixth Form.

Ella is already putting her art skills to the test, having helped illustrate a soon-to-be-published children's book on the topic of dealing with loss during the pandemic.

Ella's mum Katie, a former Westholmian, said: "I'm delighted with how well she's done. I'm so proud of how hard she's worked. The results are a testament to her dedication and also to the teachers at Westholme."

The family atmosphere of Westholme School is what Ella valued most during her studies. She added: "It's a supportive network. If you ever have a stumble, the teachers are always there to help you get back on track. They help you set goals that are achievable to you as an individual."



"The teachers have really nurtured me and pushed me forward. They have given me the confidence to achieve what I was capable of achieving" - Oliver

"They (the teachers) help you set goals that are achievable to you as an individual" - Ella

"I'm really happy with my results. I achieved a 9 in PE and 9s in all three Sciences so I can't grumble!" - Jake

Maia looks to pursue career in Psychology

“The teachers at Westholme School have been very supportive of my neurodiversity.”

Maia is thrilled with her GCSE results - which will help her pursue her dream of becoming a Forensic Psychologist.

“I’m relieved seeing the grades on paper. It feels like it has been a long wait!”

Maia achieved four 8s in English Language, English Literature, Drama, and Ethics, Philosophy, and Religion (EPR). She will now be heading to Westholme INSPIRED Sixth Form to study Chemistry, Biology, Psychology and Criminology.

After her A Levels, Maia hopes to complete a medical degree to become a Forensic Psychiatrist, in which she will help diagnose people under criminal investigation.

She added: “I want to become a doctor so I can provide them with the medication they need.”

During her time at Westholme, Maia also embraced her creative side, having taken part in school productions and a Disneyland Paris parade as part of their enrichment activities.



While studying for her GCSEs at Westholme School, Maia was diagnosed with ADHD in Year 9.

She added: “The teachers were very supportive in helping me through this process.”

Adam scores the right results



Sports star Adam will be putting his competitive skills to work as he goes on to pursue a career in Law, after achieving stellar GCSE results.

Adam has earned an 8 in History, 7 in Business and 6s in Design and Technology and PE.

He said: “I’m relieved. I’m also happy I never have to do Maths again!”

Armed with his results, Adam will be studying History, Politics and Business at A Level, before heading to university to pursue his ambition of becoming a lawyer.

“I find the subject of law really interesting. No one else in my family is a lawyer, but I’m looking forward to studying it.”

Adam was a key player in the Westholme School football club and enjoys playing golf and skiing in his spare time.

Reflecting upon his time at Westholme School, Adam praised the teachers and his for supporting him: “Everyone wants you to do the best you can do. It’s like a family.”

Olivia sets sights on the West End

Olivia has achieved top marks in her GCSEs – with 8s and 9s across the board.

Olivia has been at Westholme since Year 7. She has achieved 9s in Combined Science, Spanish, RE, Drama and English Language.

With a career in the arts in mind, she will be going on to study Drama, Dance and English Literature at Westholme INSPIRED Sixth Form. Once she has completed her A Levels, Emma hopes to get into ArtsEd in Chiswick.

Having her sights set on the West End, Olivia acclaims Emma Watson as her role model. “She’s so intelligent and I admire her work.”

During her time at Westholme, Olivia has taken part in a number of school plays, including Les Misérables production. She also took part in a Disneyland Paris parade as part of the Performing Arts enrichment activities.

Olivia’s dedication to the arts sees her participating in dance classes five to six times a week on top of acting and singing in her free time.

Reflecting on her time at Westholme so far, Olivia praises the teachers for their ongoing support. She said: “They’re always happy to give you extra support where you need it. They always look out for what’s best for you.”



Hard work adds up for Zain

Zain hits top marks in GCSE success.

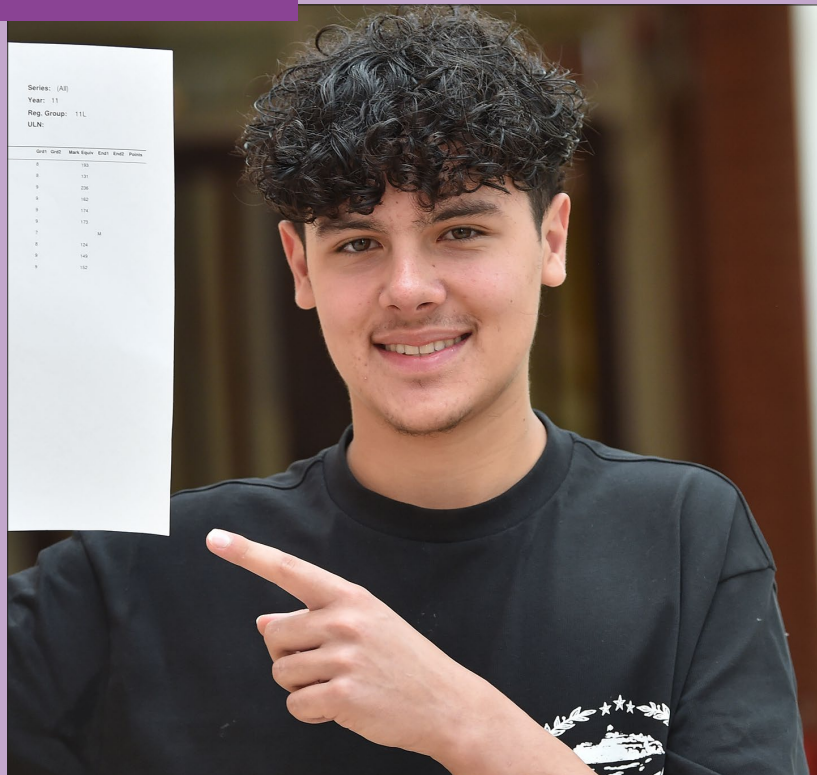
Congratulations to Zain who has achieved six 9s, including Maths and Further Maths, in his GCSEs.

We are looking forward to welcoming Zain back to our INSPIRED Sixth Form in September, where he will continue his mathematical momentum, studying A Levels in Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Computer Science.

Speaking of his results, Zain said: “I am delighted with them, it feels like all of the pressure has gone and the hard work has paid off.”

Zain credited the school environment for his success, citing both his friendship group and teachers as his support system.

He continued: “Surrounding yourself with people who want to do well was really important for me. The teachers give you a lot of support and all of my friends worked hard together.”



Ibrahim exceeds his own expectations

GCSE results day has been all smiles for Ibrahim after he exceeded his own expectations.

He achieved a double 9 in Combined Science, 9 in Ethics, Philosophy, and Religion (EDR), and 8s in Geography, Food Tech, and English Language and English Literature.

Ibrahim will now study Chemistry, Biology, Psychology, and Religious Studies at A Level – and plans to go to university to study Medicine or Science.

His dad was thrilled with his son's achievements: "I'm over the moon that his effort has paid off."

Reflecting on his time at Westholme so far, he said: "Westholme has taught me to be a better person. They encourage you to reach your potential and one of my teachers has said I've been the 'most improved'. Whether you're in a small class or a big class, you're understood and get the support you need."



Holly aims for Business Apprenticeship

Holly is aiming to be a business entrepreneur, having achieved the GCSE grades needed to take Business Studies at A Level.

Holly was overjoyed opening her GCSE results with her mum. "I'm so proud of Holly," said her mum.

Her GCSE results included an 8 and 9 in Combined Science, 8 in Religious Studies, and 7 in Geography.

Holly said: "I was really scared this morning but I'm really happy with my results."

She hopes to apply for a business apprenticeship after completing her A Levels at our INSPIRED Sixth Form, so she can pursue a business-related career.

While at Westholme, Holly has been part of the netball team.

She said: "There's lots on offer and always extra support available. The teachers are so nice and I've really valued the friendships I've made."



Results Day highlight for Francesca

Francesca given her 'best start' by Westholme education.

Francesca cited Westholme as giving her 'the best start in life' after her GCSE success. She achieved four 9s in her GCSEs as she continues her education with the school that gave her the platform for success.

The 16-year-old is heading forward into our INSPIRED Sixth Form to study Business, Spanish, Core Maths, English Language and Economics.

Speaking of her results, Francesca said: "Today is one of my highlights of school so far. Westholme has given me the best start in life, and I feel like my work has paid off."

Francesca credited the opportunities Westholme has given her – including a trip to Disneyland Paris which was one of her highlights.

She continued: "Our dance performance at Disneyland Paris is a standout moment for me. We did a performance as a team and then were a part of the parade on a float, so those memories will stay with me."



Grace celebrates her success

Grace achieves nine 9s in her GCSEs, putting her amongst the highest achievers in the country.

Grace earned nine 9s, one 8 and one 7 as Westholme School celebrates a successful GCSE results day.

Across the school, we are delighted to have doubled the number of grade 9s achieved in 2023, with high achievers like Grace leading the way.

Grace is set to continue at Westholme, studying Maths, Chemistry, English Language and Sociology A Levels at the INSIPRED Sixth Form.

Grace said: "Today feels like a really good ending to my GCSE years at school. It's been stressful but having teachers who support you and talk to you on a personal level really helps.

"Westholme School has been a great place to meet likeminded people and that has really helped along the way."



Aditi hits the high notes!

Aditi has international ambitions after GCSE achievement.

She hopes to have a future as a diplomat, as she now looks forward to embarking on her A Level courses at Westholme's INSPIRED Sixth Form.

Aditi was amongst Westholme School's highest GCSE achievers, and is dreaming of a career in politics after the conclusion of her studies.

The former Young Musician of the Year will study A Levels in Geography, Politics and Economics before hoping to do a degree in Politics and International Relations.

Aditi recently earned her grade 6 in the harp and will be hoping to add the grade 7 in piano later on this year.

Despite her musical talent, Aditi is hoping to make a difference on an international scale, citing her public speaking as a real passion.

She said: "While I have been here, I've been able to get to my London Academy of Music and Drama accredited grade 5 in public speaking, so I'm hoping to use that in the future.



"I like public speaking and debating. The school has given me confidence to pursue my passions and it's helped shape what I want to do in life."

Evie now looks towards career in Fashion

Evie ranks amongst highest achievers after receiving her results.

Evie is hoping to pursue a career in fashion after her GCSE success.

Evie is set to study A Levels in Latin, Classics, Textiles and Maths at our INSPIRED Sixth Form, with ambitions of a future in fashion.

Evie, who joined Westholme in Year 7, cited the support from teachers as her reason for continuing her education in Blackburn.

She said: "The level of support you get is incredible. Teachers always have time for you and give feedback that helps you progress."

The teenager's fashion dreams are inspired by her passion for art – earning a 9 in the subject at GCSE.

She continued: "I do art in my spare time – painting and drawing – so it is something I spend a lot of time on. I'm really proud of it."



William excels in Maths a year early

Young mathematician achieves a 9 in Further Maths.

William, one of Westholme's youngest GCSE students, achieved a 9 in Further Maths after taking the exam a year early.

William earned the top grade possible in secondary education Maths after excelling in his studies, and was encouraged to sit the exam early following his impressive achievements in class.

William, who will pursue Additional Maths in his final year, was identified as an extremely bright young mathematician and was offered the opportunity to start the syllabus with Year 11.

After dropping just a single mark in his mock exam, William continued his revision with the aim of completing the GCSE in June.

Speaking of his achievement, William said: "It feels amazing. It is the best news I have ever received. It took a lot of hard work and extra revision with Mrs McConnon but I had to get that 9 and I did!"

After completing the rest of his GCSEs next year, William is hoping to follow his passion to study Maths, Physics and Computer Science, with dreams of studying Maths at Oxbridge.



Final words from Mr Cornwall, Head of Year 11

Congratulations to Year 11 on their GCSE results! It has been a pleasure to see them mature throughout the year while continuing to take full advantage of all of the additional opportunities we offer.

It has been a privilege to see them transform from feeling apprehensive in September, to confident and mature in May. Year 11 is an extremely difficult year to navigate but, with the excellent guidance from teachers and nurturing culture, they have risen to the occasion.

Personally, I would like to acknowledge their approach to the examinations series itself; day after day the students' mature attitude and conduct was exemplary. You should all be extremely proud of yourselves. I wish you all the very best of luck in your next chapter.

Mr Cornwall
Head of Year 11





WESTHOLME

UNRIVALLED HOLISTIC EXCELLENCE

