

Quotes from OFSTED BEST PRACTICE REPORT, September 2011

"This report seeks to distil the best practices seen in the best schools."

"high quality leadership and management"

"excellent communication systems"

"a high priority given to training"

"a curriculum that is flexible, relevant and engages pupils' interest"

"courteous and responsible behaviour"

"well thought-out and workable day to day arrangements"

"rigorous monitoring"

"risk assessment taken seriously and used to good effect"

"senior managers are visible and accessible to pupils, staff, families and visitors"

"The student support centre at Turton has been an important development, creating a calm environment and helping students to

deal with their anxiety and frustrations. As a result, there has been fewer incidents in the school.

"These outstanding schools work closely with professionals from different agencies, having an 'open door', being willing to listen, being flexible in their responses and proactive in seeking to protect children and young people from harm."

"At Turton, teachers routinely adapted their schemes of work and lesson planning to incorporate aspects of safeguarding,... encouraged students to relate to each other in a respectful manner, to co-operate and collaborate with others and to be aware of the impact of their own attitudes and behaviour on the safety and well-being of others."

"A culture of care is created where pupils are tolerant and respectful of each other and accept individual difference. There is a strong focus on developing social and emotional skills..... staff are approachable and helpful..... Positive relationships are evident throughout."

Quotes from UNICEF Rights Respecting School Award, July 2011



"The school has become a beacon of good practice for their rights work. Students and staff have acted as ambassadors locally and nationally including presentations at the House of Lords where they were praised by Lord Ashdown for their work.

"Pupils were able to talk about how they have learned to link rights with global citizenship and sustainable living."

"Students are much more aware of how they can impact on other people and what is acceptable and unacceptable according to staff and parents."

"Interviewing and observing revealed an atmosphere conducive to learning, one in which young people could enjoy and achieve their full potential."

"Relationships were described by all interviewees consistently as mutually respectful."

"They consistently described the school as fair and inclusive."

"Students' voice has an exceptionally high profile in school."

"Students reported that the school provides a range of opportunities to access information which equips them to make informed decisions."

"The level of involvement and knowledge of all is particularly impressive in such a large school."

"The involvement of the whole school community shines through."

"The commitment of the leadership team is substantial and a significant factor in the achievement."

Big Boost to Turton Top Grades

Turton Sixth Form are celebrating a fantastic year of achievement at A level. The pass rate is up to 98%. A and B grades are up to 50%, a 10% improvement on last year's performance.

(The average QCA point score per candidate is up to 865 from 789 last year.)



Alex Waldron, Ramesh Krishnan, Sharmin Mrittika and Anthea Guha.

Turton's top students are again off to the country's best universities to study the whole range of academic subjects, including the most competitive courses such as medicine. Four of Turton's young medics have 16 top grades between them. Ramesh Krishnan is off to Manchester, Anthea Guha to Keele, Alex Waldron to Lancaster and Sharmin Mrittika to Aberdeen.



Laura Howells and Kathryn Oldfield pictured on A level results day.

But not all the high flyers are medics. Kathryn Oldfield takes her 4 A grades (including 3 A*) to Durham to do Geography. Laura Howells takes 4 A grades (with 2 A*) to Sheffield to do Psychology, as does James Howe (with 3 A*) to do Politics. Tom Rees takes his 5 A's to Nottingham to do American Studies.

Taking the creative route is Hannah Parsons who is off to Middlesex, one of the top places to study Dance, after recording an outstanding 3 A* and 2A grades in subjects as varied as History, English Literature and of course Dance!



Hannah Parsons performing at the Night of Dance earlier this year.

Headteacher, John Porteous, was quick to praise the students and the staff who taught them. He said "The improvement on last year's results is stunning. More than 10% of the year group recorded 3 or more A grades and almost a quarter scored two or more A's. This is a brilliant achievement for the year group as a whole and will be a great platform for their future studies and careers. It isn't only the high flyers who have done well. There are great personal achievements across the whole year".

Andy Mills, Director of Sixth Form at Turton added "This is a very special group of young people and it has been a real privilege to spend the college years with them. Their attitude and support for each other and for the wider community through charity work, blood donation and so on has matched their outstanding academic achievement. We wish them every success in the future".

Turton GCSE results up again

Turton students are celebrating for the second time this August. The stunning A level results were a hard act to follow but Turton's GCSE students have proved up to the task.

They scored 80% A-C passes and 67% of the year recorded 5 A*-C grades including English and Maths, up 4% on last year.

Mr Porteous added: "We could not have hoped for such a high level of achievement. The year group scored 252 A* grades, up from 191 last year and 126 the year before. That, by anyone's reckoning is a staggering improvement. Almost a third of all exams taken at Turton came back with A* or A grade."

24 students (10% of the year) scored 10 A's or better and 29 scored 9 or better. Top of the crop were Tanya Mitchell and Holly Mole who scored a remarkable 10 A* each among their passes.

Anna Blythe and Bethany Hodgkiss followed with 9 A* each and Ben Finch and Adam Lyon scored 8 A* each.

There were some significant double acts in Turton's summer of success.

Last week Kathryn Oldfield achieved 4 A grades at A level. This week, younger sister Emma added 10 A grades at GCSE to the family tally.

Likewise, Laura Howells scored 4 A's in her A levels. Younger sister, Bethan, not to be outdone, recorded a remarkable 8 A* and 9 A's at GCSE.

Mr Porteous concluded: "In a year of such widespread success, it is probably unfair to focus on individuals. The whole year group have been delightful company and their maturity, kindness and commitment have made the school a better place for everyone. I look forward to their continuing success in the sixth form and in their lives beyond school."

History and Geography Compete for Success

The History and Geography departments continued their improvement of recent years, with both subjects attracting nearly 100 GCSE students. History pipped Geography 78% to 73% on the A*-C scores but both made a huge contribution to the new Ebac qualification which the government seem determined to introduce in future years.

Government and Politics also deserve a special mention, scoring the red hot top ALPS grades in both the Lower and Upper Sixth.

(ALPS is the national performance measure which assesses the quality of teaching at A level and the value added to students' achievement through the two years in the Sixth Form.)

Record Year for English

The English department had an outstanding year despite a number of maternity leaves. At GCSE 85% of students gained A*-C passes (up from 71% last year) in English Language and a stunning 83% also gained A*-C in English Literature. This gives so many students a great platform for their future studies and is a real credit to their English teachers.

Scientific Flair

Turton students have shown scientific flair in their GCSE exams. 71% gained 2A-C grades in Science and there were 78 A* grades. 80 students completed the three single science courses of Biology, Chemistry and Physics and many have now embarked on Science A levels at Turton Sixth Form.

GCSE RESULTS DAY



Year 11 Head Boy Sam Haslam and Head Girl Elizabeth Parr.



From left to right, Alex Farley-Wood, Georgia Taylor-Green, Emily Andrew and Lizzie Lomax.

Be Creative

Turton students have also shown their creative flair this summer.

A*-C results in the creative subjects included:-

Performing Arts	91%
Music	92%
Dance	100%
Graphics	100%
Fine Art	100%
Textiles	100%

Creativity is so essential to the future of a dynamic and rapidly changing world of work and we will continue to encourage many students to opt for the Creative Arts.

Faith & Ethics

The re-branding of RE as Faith and Ethics has proved a hit. Most students only study Faith and Ethics for one hour a week but thanks to some outstanding teaching, 70% achieved A*-C grades this summer including 32 A* grades.

The department also excelled at A level gaining the red-hot top ALPS grades at both AS and A2.

Turton High School Media Arts College

SUMMER RESULTS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2011



Triple Success for Turton



GCSE students showing off their results.

This summer brought a hat-trick of success to Turton. Firstly, the examination results were the best ever at both A level and GCSE.



A level students pictured on results day.

Then came the OFSTED Best Practice guide for Student Welfare and Safeguarding. Turton was selected as one of the twelve best of the schools in the country which had been judged

outstanding in this category in the last inspection.

Finally, UNICEF awarded us their Rights Respecting Schools Level 2 award. Turton is only the third high school in the country to receive this accolade and the first non-faith school. Both these reports are on the web-site.



It is a great honour for everyone in the school community; students, staff, parents and governors to achieve this level of national recognition.

Many congratulations to all the many people who were observed and interviewed during these inspections and contributed to the outcomes. Together, we will now work to make Turton even better in the future.



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We would also like to thank all the staff, parents and pupils for their valuable contributions to the newsletter

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