

## Best Ever International Baccalaureate Results at Varndean College

Our 2014 IB Diploma results are the best we have achieved since we started teaching this demanding and prestigious international qualification in 2008. Forty-six Varndean College students sat the IB exams this year, and achieved an average score of just over 36 points. All of them passed. This score is six points above the UK state school average, and two points higher than the UK independent school average. Universities regard 36 points as equivalent to three A grades at A Level.

Twelve students achieved 40 points or better, putting them in the top five per cent of all IB students all over the world. Top scorer was Tom Bermejo from Dorothy Stringer School, who achieved 44 out of a maximum 45 points. Liz Campbell from Downlands School achieved 43 and will study Japanese at Downing College Cambridge. Eloise Poulton (ex-Cardinal Newman) scored 42 and has a place to study English at Trinity College Cambridge. Alex Badescu also scored 42 and will read Natural Sciences at University College London. On 41 points were Katie Parkin (also from Downlands) who is off to University College Oxford to read Law and Tilly Benjamin from Priory School Lewes, who is taking a year out.



Pictured is Haydn Francis, from Peacehaven Community School, who also scored 41 points and has a place at Pembroke College Cambridge. With Haydn is Felicia Fischer from Oakmeeds School who took advantage of the IB's international profile to win a place to study Digital Media at Vancouver Island University, together with a \$1000 scholarship.

We continue to produce high-quality and successful applicants to the medical profession. Also pictured are Haysum Asif from Varndean School and Alice Flattery from Peacehaven. Haysum will study Medicine at the University of East Anglia while Alice beat off seventeen applicants for each place to join the Children's Nursing degree at Southampton University. David Cobbett from Downlands is going to Newcastle to study Dentistry. Haysum's brother Hayyan will study Medicine in Hungary.

IB Co-ordinator Dr Sean McEvoy is very proud indeed of these students. 'In six years we have grown to become one of the largest IB schools in England and we're now getting consistently high results. There's nothing to choose between what our students achieve and the results of local IB schools in the independent sector.

This outstanding group of young people have worked really hard. They have had an excellent all-round education which has challenged them to think creatively, to be open-minded and to express themselves well in more than one language. They also just know a lot of stuff! I am lucky to work with some really excellent teachers at Varndean College, but the real credit must go to the students.'

In September we are expecting over sixty students to start the IB Diploma course.

