

THE SIXTH FORM COLLEGE, COLCHESTER



Examination Results and Provisional Destinations Data

Relating to

Academic Year 2024-2025
(as available October 2025)

INTRODUCTION

Outstanding Student Retention, Achievements and Progression – 2024/25 year

The College was awarded **Ofsted Outstanding** in spring 2024. We were graded Outstanding in all of the categories: overall effectiveness, quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development, leadership and management, education programmes for young people and provision for learners with high needs. Since being awarded Ofsted Outstanding, our students' results and retention have improved still further, year on year.

The Sixth Form College is extremely proud of the reputation it has established over the last thirty eight years for very high academic standards and the outstanding achievements of our students – as well as the outstanding range of wider activities, experiences, pastoral care and personal development programmes we provide for our students. College students have consistently achieved excellent A level results and we have also been delighted with student achievements in other qualification areas including Applied General, GCSE and more specialist supplemental courses, such as Extended Project Qualifications, Core Maths, and Coaching Sport.

Our students thrive in the supportive, inclusive, young adult environment that we provide. They have the opportunity to participate in a huge range of activities which will help to prepare them for successful progression into Higher Education, employment and adult life. The College is a happy, positive, caring community. Students and parents tell us that they appreciate the high levels of support we give, helping students to fulfil their potential, both academically and personally. Our students' high levels of academic success, together with their impressive achievements in a wide range of other activities, demonstrate that the College is a place where an inclusive cohort of young people, including those with health or personal difficulties, can develop and flourish.

Results in 2024/25 were strong in 'absolute' terms and perhaps more meaningfully, in 'value added' terms. What this means in practice is young people and parents can be confident that students here make very good progress, whether they join us with stellar GCSE grades or more modest results. Our 100 highest achieving students in College came from nearly 40 different secondary schools and all achieved at least three A grades at A level, with 40 students achieving two or more A levels at A*. Their achievements once again exceeded those gained in most selective and independent schools.

At GCSE, the pass rates at the College in 2024/25 at grades 9-4, notably in GCSE re-sits in Maths and English Language, were once again outstanding - significantly above the national average Post 16 figures in all school sixth forms and colleges.

As a result of their strong results and achievements, virtually all students completing two year Advanced level study programmes at the College had the choice to progress into degree courses in Higher Education. In Summer 2025, despite the high costs now involved in studying in HE, almost 1000 of our very successful students chose to progress on university degree courses in a very wide variety of fields, including significant numbers who commenced degree courses in the prestigious fields of Medicine and related, Sciences, Engineering, Computing, IT, Mathematics, Languages, English, Economics, Journalism, Art and Design, Social Sciences, Law, Music, Business, Management, Finance, History, Modern Foreign Languages and Geography. Many of the 'class of 2025' students commenced degree courses in Autumn 2025 whilst others have 'deferred' and will start degree courses in 2026. Other students have progressed to specialist higher or further education courses in the fields of Art, Photography, Performing Arts, Finance and Accounting, Engineering and IT. Over 250 of the Summer 2025 leavers have or will progress to degree courses at 'high tariff' universities, (sometimes known as "Russell Group" or "Sutton 30". These include Oxford and Cambridge, and other highly selective universities.) Roughly 10% of students have chosen a 'year out' – and in many instances they have achieved university places for commencement in Autumn 2026. A sizeable cohort of students successfully progressed onto Degree Apprenticeships or employment with training or community, voluntary or third sector opportunities.

Each year the Government produces Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) data showing the success rates of students at university linked to their sixth form background. The published HESA data has consistently shown that former students of this College perform outstandingly well on university degree courses – the HESA data shows their performance is significantly above the national ‘norms’ and this demonstrates that the skills our students develop while they study at the College provide them with a very strong basis to succeed at degree level.

Student achievements in a variety of other areas are also very impressive – and it was pleasing that there was a vast spread of wider student activities in the 2024/25 academic year. In the fields of Sport, Music, Drama, Dance and Visual Arts, large numbers of College students have consistently demonstrated excellent standards. Students participated in active citizenship and voluntary service in the community. Large groups of students undertook the Pre-Teaching programme, which involves support work on a regular basis in local schools, or the “DDV” programme, which provides support and preparation for students aspiring to be doctors, dentists and vets. There was also a very successful and popular Lawyers programme. A sizeable cohort of students were involved in a range of applied media and journalism activities including the Young Reporter Scheme, College Magazine, work placements through the Tuskar Trust Scheme or the College Radio Station. A further group of students were involved in sports coaching experiences which include organising sports projects activity with local schools. Over 2,000 of our students chose to get involved in sporting or fitness activities at the College in 2024/25.

Involvement in the College Council and its very active committees, the Sports Leadership programme, placements in local schools and our Peer Mentoring support programmes all offered students opportunities to develop leadership, life and employability skills. There is also a high level of student involvement in charitable and volunteering work. All students had the opportunity to participate in a range of day or residential trips and visits – some were linked to subjects but many others were offered on an extra-curricular basis across the College.

Please refer to the College website (www.colchsfc.ac.uk) for the full Ofsted Report.

Jo Cadman
Principal

October 2025

SUMMARY OF EXAM RESULTS IN QUALIFICATION AREAS

A level Subject	Number of Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	College % A* to E
ACCOUNTING	77	1	7	23	15	16	9	92
ANCIENT HISTORY	38	1	9	14	9	6	2	100
ART AND DESIGN (FINE ART)	95	18	22	26	15	11	2	99
ART AND DESIGN (PHOTOGRAPHY)	60	5	9	33	10	3	0	100
ART AND DESIGN (SCULPTURE)**	14	0	3	5	2	4	0	100
ART HISTORY (ART AND DESIGN: CRITICAL & CONTEXTUAL STUDIES)	21	0	3	9	5	3	1	100
BIOLOGY	228	9	37	69	51	36	18	96
BUSINESS**	212	7	18	72	54	37	19	99
CHEMISTRY	161	9	37	37	37	21	13	96
CLASSICAL CIVILISATION	46	1	4	20	11	9	1	100
COMPUTER SCIENCE	78	2	10	21	22	11	7	94
DANCE	14	2	4	3	4	1	0	100
DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES	32	0	4	6	15	6	0	100
ECONOMICS	147	2	23	45	29	31	14	98
ELECTRONICS	20	1	6	2	4	6	1	100
ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE**	113	3	12	34	38	23	3	100
ENGLISH LANGUAGE	126	1	6	26	43	35	9	95
ENGLISH LITERATURE	143	7	13	34	40	31	12	96
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES	89	4	3	25	28	17	6	93
FILM STUDIES	86	0	5	40	29	8	2	98
FRENCH	22	1	6	8	5	2	0	100
GEOGRAPHY	113	3	18	37	31	17	5	98
GEOLOGY (EARTH SCIENCE)	39	2	6	10	7	6	5	92
GERMAN	17	0	3	7	5	1	1	100
GOVERNMENT & POLITICS	72	2	8	20	27	11	2	97
GRAPHICAL COMMUNICATION	70	10	17	25	10	4	4	100
HISTORY (3 SEPARATE TIME PERIODS)	178	3	19	53	63	27	8	97
ITALIAN	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	100
LAW	137	3	16	33	25	28	28	97
MATHEMATICS	288	18	51	62	65	40	35	94
MATHEMATICS (FURTHER)	39	5	8	15	4	5	1	97

A level Subject	Number of Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	College % A* to E
MEDIA STUDIES	106	0	4	22	42	28	8	98
MUSIC	16	1	2	2	5	3	2	94
MUSIC TECHNOLOGY	30	1	5	7	10	2	5	100
PHILOSOPHY	47	1	7	16	9	5	5	91
PHYSICS	109	5	16	24	24	16	14	91
PRODUCT DESIGN (RESISTANT MATERIALS)	41	1	2	9	14	11	2	95
PSYCHOLOGY	360	24	54	120	76	51	25	97
RELIGIOUS STUDIES	47	0	7	10	11	11	5	94
SOCIOLOGY**	254	12	24	70	70	46	21	96
SPANISH	22	0	4	11	4	3	0	100
SPORT AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION	78	7	7	31	17	7	8	99
STATISTICS	63	6	6	9	15	11	10	90
TEXTILES	42	3	7	12	12	6	2	100

NB Please note that there are very significant differences in the national grade allocation profile awarded by subject across the spread of A level subjects – particularly at A* and A grade allocations.

A proportion of the students entered for Business, English Language and Literature or Sociology studied these specific A level courses for just one academic year prior to their exams. Re A Sculpture, all the students studied the course for just one academic year prior to assessments.

**LEVEL 3 / APPLIED GENERAL EXTENDED CERTIFICATE (A LEVEL EQUIVALENT) SUBJECT RESULTS
SUMMER 2025**

Level 3 Subject	Number of Entries	A*	A	B	C	D	E	College % A* to E
CRIMINOLOGY	221	8	19	57	91	35	4	97
EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION*	164	36	19	38	20	18	7	84

*EPQ is a half A level sized qualification

Applied General Extended Certificate (Level 3) Subject	Number of Entries	Distinction*	Distinction	Merit	Pass	College % D* - Pass
APPLIED BUSINESS	44	3	22	16	3	100
APPLIED LAW	28	2	17	4	0	82
FOOD AND NUTRITION	13	0	0	9	4	100
HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE	84	16	29	26	9	95
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY	56	7	15	12	17	91
PERFORMING ARTS	21	3	7	9	1	95
SPORT	44	4	11	27	1	98

**GCSE RESULTS
SUMMER 2025**

Key GCSE 're-sits' and overall average % pass rates (Grades 9 to 4)

		College 2024/25	National (17 year olds - all Post 16 school and college providers) 2024/25
Grades 9-4	GCSE Mathematics	80	17
	GCSE English Language	75	21
	GCSE overall	78	



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