

Celebration of ACRES' GCSE Results Summer 2021



ACRES' GCSE students celebrated their incredible achievements - Results Day

Head of Centre, Helen D'Silva, said, "Our GCSE students are a diverse group of adult learners with an abundance of reasons why they decided to take the step to begin their Maths / English GCSE journey with us this year. They are a group of enthusiastic individuals who each have their own reason for taking this leap into further education and their own ideas as to what their next steps and success look like. We are privileged here at ACRES to help them along their way and to facilitate the success they are each looking for.

Learning exclusively online this year, accessing their lessons and assessments from home or away due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic, they have maintained such great motivation and displayed such tenacity to strive towards their end goals in such challenging circumstances.

When they came to be assessed by their tutors and Quality Assurance staff using a range of evidence from throughout their learning journey, they were able to demonstrate evidence of their learning and progress since the start of the year, having worked so hard throughout their entire GCSE course, which interestingly for our adult learners is already undertaken in one consolidated year so to add more complexities to this with remote learning and assessments made for a very tall order!

We are so proud of each and every one of them, not just for what they have achieved but how they have embraced the challenges this year has presented and worked with their tutors, staff teams and each other (even when they have not met face to face!) to maintain learning and progress in such challenging times.

We wish them every success in their next steps in their learning journeys, wherever that may take them. We know some have now secured college places on courses to lead to better jobs and employment; we know some have taken the step to better support their children with their learning, and some have just wanted to challenge themselves personally. Some today will be so proud of achieving something they never thought possible.

Whoever they are and whichever scenario best fits them, they are all united by their desire to achieve; to strive for something which has perhaps always been that little bit out of reach; to secure the dream job and/or to take a step to make a difference for themselves and their families.

Qualifications do not define us as individuals; who we are, does that and is seen in our knowledge, skills, attitudes, motivations, and other personal characteristics such as kindness, empathy, and understanding. Still, this qualification is their ticket to their chosen destination or the next step for many of our learners, and we wish them all every success wherever this springboard takes them. Well done to you all! What a fantastic achievement. We are all very proud of you!"

Exams Officer Lisa Warriner said, "It was fantastic to see our students opening their results this morning and being so happy with their results; they should be really proud of themselves. Their resilience and determination to achieve, coupled with all their hard work, has definitely paid off, especially during a year with so many uncertainties. **Well done, all of you!**"