



GCSE results are on the rise again

All stories by
Sylvia Arthur

GCSE results across Hackney are up again for the sixth consecutive year, according to figures confirmed this month.

Alan Wood, Chief Executive of The Learning Trust – which runs education services in Hackney – praised the results. He said: “We are delighted to have successfully maintained the significant improvement in our borough-wide GCSE

results, up by two per cent from last year. We congratulate all pupils who have sat exams and applaud them on their hard work, delivered with support from their teachers and headteachers. We hope they continue to build on their achievements and wish them

“We congratulate all pupils who sat exams”

success in their further education, training and future careers.”

Two students from Skinners' Company's School for Girls have won prestigious international scholarships. Farzaneh Aslshahi (right), who got 11A's in her GCSEs, will go to Atlantic College in Wales, and Ednur Yazici, who achieved 11A's and 1 A, will

go to Li Po Chun in Hong Kong. Both girls will study for the International Baccalaureate, a programme of six subjects equivalent to five A-levels. They will also carry out community service. Ednur will help monitor fragile coral reef eco-systems

in the South China Sea, while Farzaneh has volunteered as a lifeboat crew member. Headteacher Jenny Wilkins said: “We are proud to see their achievements recognised and look forward to them sharing their experiences with us.”

School	2008: % provisional achieving 9+ A* to C grades with Maths & English
Cardinal Pole Roman Catholic School	37
Clapton Girls Technology College	43
Hackney Free & Practical CSE School	22
Our Lady's Convent High School	58
The Skinners Company School for Girls	37
Stoke Newington School: Media Arts & Science College	52
Wesley Holborn Secondary School for Girls	43
Local Education Authority average (inc. special)	44

Hackney Community College

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8th-28th September ■ Monday – Thursday 9.30am-6pm ■ Friday 9.30am-5pm

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We're easy to find

Buses: 26, 35, 41, 42, 55, 78 towards Shoreditch Church; 62, 148, 242, 243 to the College (Kingland Road); 394 to the College (Farkirk Street)

Taxis and train: Old Street Exit 2, 10 mins walk or 243 bus towards Shoreditch, Liverpool Street; 15 mins walk or 148 or 242 bus towards Shoreditch

For more information, call 020 7613 9123 or email enquiries@tech.ac.uk
Hackney Community College, Shoreditch campus, Farkirk Street, London N1 6HQ
www.hackney.ac.uk

ESOL English for Speakers of Other Languages

Wednesday mornings at Homerton Library

Starting 17th September, ESOL classes for women

Learn and improve your English in a small supportive group for Beginners and Improvers (Level 1-2)

- 12 weekly two hour sessions
- Informal learning and practice to build your confidence
- Lessons tailored to language and topic needs of the group

Times – Wednesday 10.00am – 12.00noon

Dates – Wednesday 17th September – Wednesday 10th December

Venue – Homerton Library, Homerton High Street, E9 6AS

Buses – 242, W15, 236, 276, 394, 398, 425, 488

Cost – FREE

Further details & enrolment – Visit the course or person at the library on Wednesday 10th Sept 10am-12noon. There is a charge for food but drinks and work plates free.

Hackney



It can pay to keep learning

If your GCSE results have inspired you to keep learning, but the cost is a worry, help is at hand.

The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) gives students aged 16 to 19 an Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) of up to £30 a week.

An EMA can be used to help with the costs of books, travel, equipment or anything else you need to continue learning, and it's paid straight into the learner's bank account.

Bobbi-Jay Thompson did a BTEC sports course at Hackney Community College with support from an EMA.

A talented basketball player, she achieved a

basketball coaching award level 1, a customer service award, plus first aid and basketball table official level 2 qualifications.

She volunteered at the British Basketball League London United Games and won two British championships, as well as many other medals and awards.

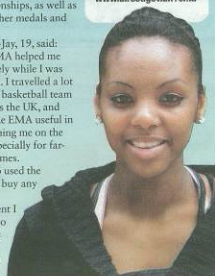
Bobbi-Jay, 19, said: “The EMA helped me immensely while I was studying. I travelled a lot with the basketball team all across the UK, and found the EMA useful in maintaining me on the trips, especially for far-away games.”

“I also used the EMA to buy any sports equipment I needed to progress on my course. I would

definitely recommend others to apply for it while it is available. It's always good to have that bit of support.”

MORE INFO

Freephone: 0800 121 8989, or visit:
www.direct.gov.uk/ema



Bobbi-Jay used her EMA to pay for equipment for her course

“It's always good to have that bit of support”