

## Year 13 Examination Results 2018

	National 2017	CSS 2018	Students	CSS 2017	Students
Value Added A Level	0	0	34	+0.18	42
Average A Level Grade	C	B-	34	C+	42
Value Added Applied General	0	-0.1	6	-0.6	7
Average Applied General Grade	Distinction	Merit+	6	Merit	7

**Value Added (VA) is calculated by comparing examination results with L3VA targets and is expressed in terms of 0 being national average, +1 being 1 grade above national average and -1 being 1 grade below national average.**

### **A Level and Academic subjects**

This year, value added (VA) measures for A Level subjects are in line with national averages. This means that the cohort of students has progressed as would be expected for the year group's level of prior attainment. However, this shows lower levels of progress than in 2017 when VA was +0.18 and placed CSS students in the top 10% nationally for progress in relation to their prior attainment.

VA has been reduced by the negative VA of students in some subjects, including Biology taught at BGS, and Maths taught at CSS. These classes were subject to rapid improvement plans (RIPs) in the 2017-18 academic year and more details of these can be found at the end of the report.

English Language and RS were examined for the first time for the updated specifications. This has reduced progress compared to predictions as grade boundaries were not as expected and exemplar materials on which to base the new course were limited. These subjects will be provided with extra support to ensure gaps in knowledge and skills are closed for future classes.

### **Applied General subjects**

A small number of students (6) study Applied General subject as one or more of their three Level 3 courses. The Applied general subjects are Applied Science, Creative media and Health & Social Care. Performance in 2017 had been expected to create a positive VA but when DfE data was published in early 2018, it was found that the Applied General VA was -0.6 and low target grades were found to be at fault. Target grades for the 2018 entry were raised in March to avoid similar low expectations. This resulted in a positive VA for CSS students in Applied Science and Health & Social Care but with coursework completed and only one exam to sit in Creative Media, it was not possible to make up the gap identified in the time available.

Target grades are now set above national expectations (L3VA) in all subjects, including the Applied General courses ensuring higher expectations of future cohorts and more accurate tracking.