

Year 11 Aim
High 
Parents
Meeting

January 30th
2019



Aiming High



- Sunday Times Top Comprehensive School in the South West 2017-2018.
- Excellent performance for high ability students.
- Great continuity to A Level.

Why is my child in Aim High?

- Their results from primary school put them in the top 40% of students nationally.
- Their teachers have given them high progress grades.
- This tells us they should be able to do very well at GCSE and higher levels of study.

What are the goals of Aim High?

- To let pupils know aiming for 5 or more grades at 7+ is reasonable for them.
- This is something they can achieve and we want to set them this challenge.
- Pupils with your child's profile have achieved this in the past.
- We set this benchmark because it is an indication of excellent achievement.
- Last year 31% of Balcarras students achieved this.



What are the goals of Aim High?

- We want to let your child know what opportunities they will have here in the 6th form to allow them to keep aiming high.
- We want to give them an idea of the opportunities aiming high will give them in the future.
- The 6th form team will talk to them about this.
- They will also have a presentation from current 6th form students.



What have we done so far?

- ✓ Identified the pupils
- ✓ Met with the pupils
- ✓ Established how you are doing at the moment
- ✓ Discussed the issue with staff
- ✓ Departments have devised strategies for maximising achievement



What are we doing from now on?

- ✓ Involving you the parents.
- ✓ Monitoring the developing situation for EACH pupil.
- ✓ Further discussions within departments and with each pupil.
- ✓ A series of talks to make pupils aware of the benefits of aiming high.

University of Exeter

**Imperial College
London**

University of York

University of Sheffield

**Queen's
University Belfast**

**University of
Nottingham**

Newcastle University

**Queen Mary
University of
London**

**University of
Edinburgh**

University of Glasgow

King's College London

University of Warwick

**University
College London**

**University of
Southampton**

University of Leeds

University of Oxford

**University of
Manchester**

**University of
Birmingham**

University of Bristol

University of Cambridge

Cardiff University

**London School of
Economics & Political
Science**

Durham University

University of Liverpool

Universities may ask for a specific number of GCSEs. **For example, a number of medical courses ask for five (sometimes more) grades 8/9.**

For a Business degree, sometimes a **grade 8 in GCSE mathematics** is required.

A number of institutions ask that grades and number of subjects are achieved at one sitting.

To study a science subject at university (including biology, chemistry or physics) applicants who are not offering mathematics at AS- or A-level will often need to have achieved an excellent grade in mathematics at GCSE.

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<http://russellgroup.org/InformedChoices-latest.pdf>

The average Cambridge applicant in 2016 had between 6 and 8 A*s

What do teachers say makes a 7+ Student?

- ✓ Good organisation – folders, past paper questions to hand.
- ✓ Tests and tries many revision strategies throughout the two years to find out what suits them.
- ✓ Attends revision sessions.
- ✓ Ability is not as important as effort.
- ✓ Hits deadlines/ controlled assessments.
- ✓ Motivation, an understanding that it is down to them not their teacher or parent to get the best grade they can.
- ✓ Reacts to information such as progress grades and is proactive.