

2008 HSC EXAMINATION RESULTS

The King's School

INTRODUCTION

This is a stunning set of results for this year! Year 12 2008 at The King's School has achieved a remarkable set of examination results, rebounding from some disappointments of 2007 and 2006 in some areas, to achieve the highest number of Band 6 results ever. **The School has also stormed into the top 50 of the Leading 200 Schools in NSW for the first time – an impressive result!**

Recognition and praise must go to all those who have produced these results – all Heads of Department (as results were spread across all departments), to David Swinfield (Year 12 Coordinator), the pastoral staff of Housemasters and Tutors and, of course, the most important of all, the teachers of Year 12. Recent research has shown that the greatest impact on student performance is the role of the teacher and the feedback they give to their students.

There were 181 students sitting this year who gained **267** Band 6 results – the best since the inception of the 'New HSC'. When compared to a number of our competitor schools who have larger intakes, the results this year are simply stunning!

2008 – 267 Band 6 results from 181 students

2007 – 154 Band 6 results from 192 students

2006 – 143 Band 6 results from 178 students

2005 – 164 Band 6 results from 176 students

2004 – 152 Band 6 results from 158 students

There were, however, some slight increases in the number of Band 6 results handed out in a number of subjects. Given that 60% of our students completed their HSC with 10 units (rather than 11 or 12 or more units) and given the School Certificate results of this cohort were about the same as the previous year's cohort, the HSC results were nothing but outstanding.

COMMENTS

1. Mathematics, in keeping with previous years' results, was the most successful HSC department again in producing Band 6 results with 71 Band 6s across all 4 subjects (an increase of 17 on last year, particularly in General Mathematics).
2. English has exceeded their results of 2005 gaining 42 Band 6s across 3 subjects – Advanced, Extension 1 and Extension 2 – this was 16 more than last year and 12 more than 2005.
3. The Business, Science and History departments have all registered massive increases in the number of Band 6 results from 2007 (Business from 14 to 43, Science from 13 to 38, History from 1 to 17)
4. In terms of Band 6 results, Economics had the greatest number of Band 6s in a single subject in percentage terms of those sitting (23 Band 6s – 59% of TKS candidates).
5. It would appear that the decision to encourage more students to do only 10 units for their HSC rather than 12 and the continuation of Study Periods has been effective in producing consistently sound academic results for the last 5 years.
6. The most important ingredient this year to these results was the encouragement of boys working together and sharing resources after the Trial HSC exams – this has reaped huge dividends with **94 boys gaining at least 1 Band 6** (an increase from 79 in 2007).

7. It is particularly pleasing to note that the middle range of students have performed above expectation and have achieved very pleasing results with a multitude of Band 6s, Band 5s and 4s being recorded. The number of students who constitute our “academic tail” has continued to decline.
8. A great feature of our results was that the TKS Exam Means were well above the State Exam Means across nearly all courses. Of these, the 3/6 below State Means were Extension units which were only just below the standards achieved by the brightest students in the State.

2008 – 32/38 above the State Exam Mean

2007 – 28/38 above the State Exam Mean

2006 – 26/34 above the State Exam Mean

2005 – 29/34 above the State Exam Mean

2004 – 30/35 above the State Exam Mean

9. The concentration on examination skills and technique under test conditions, including the Half Yearly Examinations in Term 2 and Trial HSC Examinations in Term 3 for Year 12 students, has also assisted our students to produce these pleasing results.
10. Information gained from the HSC results indicates that a significant number of our students will gain UAI's over 85. **15 boys were named in the Honours List** for gaining 90% or more in 10 or more units – an increase of 11 boys from 2007! A more detailed account of the UAI's will become available from the statistics gained from *Academic Profiles* who do an analysis of our results at the end of January 2009.

‘BAND 6’ RESULTS

- From the 181 students who sat the 2008 HSC at The King’s School, there was a total of **267** Honour Roll credits earned from **94** students who achieved 90% or more in their subjects.

In 2 Unit courses:

2008 – 220 marks of 90% or above in Band 6

2007 – 119 marks of 90% or above in Band 6

2006 – 119 marks of 90% or above in Band 6

2005 – 127 marks of 90% or above in Band 6

2004 – 112 marks of 90% or above in Band 6

In Extension courses:

2008 – 47 marks of E4 (45/50 or above)

2007 – 35 marks of E4 (45/50 or above)

2006 – 24 marks of E4 (45/50 or above)

2005 – 37 marks of E4 (45/50 or above)

2004 – 41 marks of E4 (45/50 or above)

Band 6 Statistics (by Department)

Subject	2008 Honour Roll Credits	2007	2006	2005	2004
Mathematics	71 from 4 courses	53	58	58	40
English	42 from 3 courses	26	5	30	21
Business Studies	43 from 3 courses	14	11	16	15
Science	38 from 5 courses	14	20	19	25
History	17 from 3 courses	1	5	4	11
Geography	13 from 1 course	4	10	12	3
Industrial Arts	10 from 3 courses	22	9	9	7
PDHPE	8 from 1 course	5	10	2	2

Band 5+6 Statistics (by Subject)

Subject	Numbers in Bands 5+6 2008	% above State 2008	% above State 2007	% above State 2006	% above State 2005	% above State 2004
Agriculture	8/26	-1	20	30	16	1
Ancient History	14/23	24	22	25	30	44
Biology	29/39	42	32	10	16	11
Business Studies	47/74	32	28	34	30	17
Chemistry	14/22	26	12	43	23	15
Design and Tech	*2/9	-13	26	N/A	8	N/A
Drama	14/14	52	17	41	-21	19
Earth + Environ Sc	N/A	N/A	-5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Economics	31/39	32	26	15	2	1
Engineering Stud	3/7	12	21	15	62	29
English Standard	*0/17	-6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
English Advanced	87/161	5	-5	-6	7	1
Geography	23/34	20	16	34	30	2
Industrial Tech	21/22	63	63	45	43	27
IPT	6/8	*44	34	*66	-5	-8
Legal Studies	28/32	55	11	22	9	-13
Maths General	64/109	33	28	40	35	17
Mathematics	36/41	43	30	9	9	9
Modern History	32/44	31	6	-18	9	-2
Music 1	4/4	*46	*48	*13	46	41
Music 2	4/4	*21	*24	N/A	N/A	N/A
PDHPE	32/66	16	8	26	17	0
Physics	18/33	22	-6	18	14	21
Senior Science	13/21	23	18	*0	-10	39
Software Design	6/8	*35	*27	*54	50	24
Studies Religion 1	*0/3	*-34	12	N/A	N/A	N/A
Visual Arts	13/14	32	15	13	38	43
French Continuers	*1/3	*-28	*10	*21	-48	-13
German Continuers	*2/5	*-11	*2	*2	0	9
Latin Continuers	4/4	*9	*-16	*5	-10	11

EXTENSION UNITS

Subject	Numbers in Bands E3+E4	% above State 2008	% above State 2007	% above State 2006	% above State 2005	% above State 2004
English Ext 1	31/35	5	-6	4	15	14
English Ext 2	10/11	9	-23	-12	-16	13
Maths Ext 1	26/26	18	25	28	17	19
Maths Ext 2	9/9	10	17	18	14	18
History Ext	*3/3	*80	*-17	*22	5	14
Music Ext	*3/3	*6	*8	N/A	N/A	N/A
French Ext	N/A	N/A	*-23	*12	N/A	13
German Ext	*1/2	*-46	*11	*-76	19	47
Latin Ext	2/2	*1	*1	*0	0	9

(* Please note that small candidatures will lead to significant swings over short periods of time)

'BAND 2 AND 1' RESULTS

There were only 12 results achieved in the bottom 2 bands. This is compared to 16 in 2007, 16 in 2006, 12 in 2005, 46 in 2004 and 38 in 2003.

COMPARISON WITH OTHER SCHOOLS

This placed The King's School **23rd** in the total number of 'Band 6s' (compared to 47th in 2007, =50th in 2006, 41st in 2005, 48th in 2004)

League Table of Schools

Provided by *The Daily Telegraph*, where the school's percentage rank of Distinguished Achievers (those who achieve 90 or more in a course) is divided by the number of exams sat:

2008 – 37th
2007 – 74th
2006 – 72nd
2005 – 58th
2004 – 59th
2003 – 95th
2002 – 115th

This meant that The King's School halved its ranking (from 74th to 37th) and overtook all other GPS Schools to be ranked behind only Sydney Boys High and Sydney Grammar (both selective).

This year's results, therefore, are outstanding given for the comprehensive nature of the intake of the School. We continue to analyse the whole range of results. The top range is, of course, examined critically in the media and we have had an extremely successful year this year but measures will be in place for 2009 to ensure that these results can be emulated for the following years. However, it is often the middle and even the bottom ranges that tell you more about the School than simply just the top range! The middle range of students has performed above expectation and has also achieved outstanding results with a multitude of Band 5s and 4s.

MERIT LISTS: ENGLISH and MATHS

Each year, the *Sydney Morning Herald* ranks schools in these 2 key subjects where percentage tables are calculated by dividing the total number of Honour Roll credits (those who achieve 90 or more in a course) earned at each school by the number of candidates (subjects attempted) in either English or Mathematics. This method of weighting is fairer as it takes into account not just the raw list of numbers achieved by each school but takes into account the school's size.

This year, **Mathematics** gained **71 Honour Roll credits from 185 attempts** to gain a percentage of **38%** (an increase of 8% on 2007). This ranked King's =**27th** in the State (from =35th last year), 3rd in GPS schools behind Sydney Boys High and Sydney Grammar. This is an outstanding result for the Mathematics Department yet again.

This year, **English** gained **42 Honour Roll credits from 224 attempts** to gain a percentage of **19%** (an increase of 8% on 2007). This ranked King's **46th** in the State (from =74th last year), 5th in GPS schools. This was a tremendous improvement on the results of the last 2 years.

TABLE of COMPARABLE SCHOOLS

School	Maths 2008 % in Band 6	Maths 2007 % in Band 6	English 2008 % in Band 6	English 2007 % in Band 6	State Position 2008	State Position 2007
GPS						
Newington College	23	29	19	21	60	47
The Scots College	19	29	21	11	71	68
SHORE	25	26	16	13	41	46
St Ignatius College	37	26	20	19	48	51
St Josephs College	22	17	13	7	84	92
Sydney Boys High	59	58	34	21	7	10
Sydney Grammar	55	47	33	31	8	7
The Kings School	38	29	19	11	37	74
CAS						
Barker College	30	25	13	17	51	38
Cranbrook School	35	31	8	8	64	70
Knox Grammar	22	20	12	10	61	63
St Aloysius College	33	34	29	20	29	41
St Andrew's Cathedral	22	16	12	15	103	94
Trinity Grammar	22	24	8	11	70 (IB)	69 (IB)
Waverley College	9	8	<4	<4	> 200	> 200

OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES - HSC

Scoring 90 marks or above in 10 or more units at the HSC: 15 boys

Edward Arthy

Jarrold Brady

Andrew Casey

Brendan Davis

Jeevan Hariharan

Charles Kilmartin

Hugh Lawson

Stephen McCann

James Miao

Thomas C Mills

Harry Pye

Anubhav Saxena

James Wallace

Nicholas Wolley

Dennis Yu

For achieving 5th in the State for Software Design and Development:

James Miao

For achieving 8th in the State for Software Design and Development:

Marcus Burton

For achieving 12th in the State for General Mathematics:

Nicholas Wolley

Clive Logan

Director of Studies

December 2008

Band 6 Results 2008 - 2004

Subject	2008 (TKS %)	% given in State	2007 (TKS %)	% given in State	2006 (TKS %)	% given in State	2005 (TKS %)	% given in State	2004 (TKS %)	% given in State
Agriculture	1 (4)	8.73	0 (0)	8.47	1 (3)	7.04	2 (7)	5.02	0 (0)	6.15
Ancient History	3 (13)	11.27	1 (4)	11.26	4 (17)	10.63	2 (8)	12.03	6 (25)	11.69
Biology	18 (46)	7.49	7 (21)	7.68	7 (14)	7.77	7 (17)	8.25	6 (21)	8.25
Business Studies	15 (20)	6.13	10 (11)	6.25	3 (4)	4.98	12 (16)	3.62	7 (10)	4.63
Chemistry	10 (45)	12.79	3 (10)	10.76	6 (25)	8.84	5 (17)	8.33	3 (12)	8.33
Design and Technology	0 (0)	7.33	2 (25)	5.54	N/A		1 (14)	4.03	2 (29)	2.82
Drama	7 (50)	11.12	2 (11)	10.07	2 (18)	9.04	0 (0)	7.85	0 (0)	8.18
Earth and Environmental Science	N/A	N/A	1 (9)	11.76	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	-
Economics	23 (59)	16.32	1 (3)	14.55	5 (14)	13.89	4 (10)	14.13	7 (20)	13.53
Engineering Studies	0 (0)	7.57	2 (14)	6.39	1 (8)	5.3	1 (20)	8.42	1 (7)	10.4
English (Standard)	*0 (0)	0.23								
English (Advanced)	23 (14)	10.83	14 (7)	9.18	4 (2)	5.99	17 (12)	7.95	8 (7)	7.56
English Extension 1	17 (49)	25.75	6 (22)	21.99	1 (3)	16.9	7 (25)	23.87	9 (43)	22.69
English Extension 2	2 (18)	30.39	6 (33)	32.13	0 (0)	31.26	6 (43)	32.28	4 (50)	39.41
Geography	13 (38)	14.97	4 (8)	11.23	10 (20)	9.81	12 (26)	7.68	3 (10)	6.26
Industrial Technology	10 (45)	9.21	18 (72)	10.2	8 (32)	10.14	7 (23)	7.86	4 (31)	6.46
Information Processes and Technology	0 (0)	6.4	0 (0)	7.11	3 (60)	7.77	0 (0)	6.94	0 (0)	7.05
Legal Studies	5 (16)	10.09	3 (9)	9.34	3 (9)	8.13	0 (0)	6.52	1 (6)	5.63
General Mathematics	36 (33)	4.81	15 (15)	4.09	17 (16)	3.07	20 (22)	4.37	8 (11)	3.86
Mathematics	15 (37)	16.77	16 (33)	15.4	20 (47)	14.56	17 (29)	15.05	15 (26)	15.5
Mathematics Ext 1	13 (50)	33.32	14 (64)	32.24	14 (54)	30.33	13 (41)	31.02	14 (52)	30.6

Mathematics Ext 2	7 (78)	37.05	8 (80)	32.89	7 (78)	28.71	8 (67)	30.83	5 (50)	27.25
Modern History	11 (25)	9.61	0 (0)	8.73	0 (0)	9.52	1 (2)	9.59	5 (16)	9.28
History Extension	3 (100)	19.96	0 (0)	18.27	1 (13)	14.92	1 (8)	9.34	2 (22)	10.84
Music 1	0 (0)	14.76	2 (100)	15.13	1 (20)	15.34	1 (50)	14.69	5 (50)	11.51
Music 2	2 (50)	30.34	1 (33)	29.21	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	-
Music Extension	2 (67)	51.8	1 (33)	45.52	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	-
PDHPE	8 (12)	8.22	5 (10)	9.34	10 (23)	9.51	2 (5)	5.61	2 (5)	4.55
Physics	7 (21)	7.9	0 (0)	8.09	5 (13)	7.68	4 (10)	10.42	10 (22)	11.69
Senior Science	2 (10)	9.65	3 (14)	7.82	1 (11)	7.38	1 (11)	5.32	6 (33)	5.35
Software Design and Development	3 (38)	10.05	2 (33)	9.26	0 (0)	6.02	0 (0)	7.30	0 (0)	5.94
Studies of Religion 1	0 (0)	10.44	0 (0)	9.35	N/A	-	N/A	-	N/A	-
Visual Arts	5 (36)	14.45	3 (25)	11.42	1 (8)	13.26	5 (56)	11.30	6 (27)	11.00
French Continuers	0 (0)	30.9	1 (17)	28.74	2 (40)	27.83	0 (0)	20.78	0 (0)	22.72
French Extension	N/A	N/A	0 (0)	41.89	0 (0)	43.52	N/A		0 (0)	38.34
German Continuers	0 (0)	25.0	2 (40)	28.36	1 (20)	30.12	2 (40)	29.62	2 (29)	25.61
German Extension	1 (50)	47.66	0 (0)	44.00	0 (0)	36.79	1 (50)	30.00	3 (100)	53.15
Latin Continuers	3 (75)	66.35	1 (20)	74.44	1 (25)	73.62	3 (50)	73.18	4 (80)	73.74
Latin Extension	2 (100)	88.52	0 (0)	83.00	1 (33)	82.17	1 (50)	77.89	4 (100)	91.46
Primary Industries	0 (0)	4.77								
Total Band 6	220		119		119		127		112	
Total E4	47		35		24		37		41	
TOTAL HONOUR CREDITS	267		154		143		164		153	

