

NUSA graded as 'Good' by Ofsted

The Head of School, Mr Watts, is delighted to announce the outcome of our most recent Ofsted inspection, which took place earlier this term.

NUSA has worked closely with Ofsted for the last four years, and the pupils' fantastic examination results this summer have provided the final piece of evidence we required to be judged a 'good' school.

The full inspection report can be found on www.nusa.org.uk but here are just some of the highlights:

'Leadership and management is good.'

Leaders, governors and all staff are highly ambitious for the pupils. There is an absolute determination that they will do well. Staff know each pupil as an individual and constantly reinforce the school's motto of 'work hard, be kind'. The specialist provision for deaf children is outstanding.

'The quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good.'

Pupils achieve well because they benefit from good teaching and high expectations in lessons. Teachers have good subject knowledge. They show enthusiasm and passion for their subjects which makes lessons interesting.

'Pupils' personal development, behaviour and welfare is good.'

Pastoral care is strong and staff share a huge sense of responsibility for pupils. The school is a highly inclusive environment where every pupil is valued as an individual. Pupils are unanimous in their view that they are safe and well cared for at school.

'Outcomes for pupils are good.'

Pupils are making good progress across a range of subjects and in all year groups. The GCSE results in 2017 showed many improvements on the previous year, especially in English and mathematics. Pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are very well supported and make good progress from their starting points. Pupils are being well prepared for the next stage in their education, employment or training.

NUSA's Post 16 provision is good.

Leaders of the sixth form have instilled a culture of high expectations among students. Teaching is good and sometimes outstanding in the sixth form.

Mr. Watts said "I am just so proud of how far this school has come. The judgement is a culmination of four years hard work at NUSA. Staff, students and parents have all contributed to changing the aspirations and culture of the school."

When asked how they felt about NUSA one year nine pupil said: "I have noticed a big improvement in the behaviour of pupils over the last few years." Another year nine pupil who accesses the deaf facility said that: "I have extra support at the school and the teachers have supported me and included me in all lessons. The deaf facility is outstanding and they have given me so much support which I am very grateful for."

Tony Glover, chairman of governors said "I am delighted to have Ofsted validate the tremendous work that has been evident on the part of the academy's leaders, all the staff and, of course, the students. This judgement has given real cause for celebration."

However delighted the NUSA staff are now at receiving a 'good' Ofsted rating, we will be striving to push the school even further to reach its full potential.



2017 brings NUSA's best-ever exam results

Through last year, our Year 11s and their teachers worked harder than ever as they tackled the new GCSE examinations in English and Maths. Therefore everyone was delighted when our pupils out-performed even our own predictions. Approximately half of our pupils secured an awarding pass (grade 4) in both English and Maths, and a third secured the new 'good pass' (grade 5) in both.

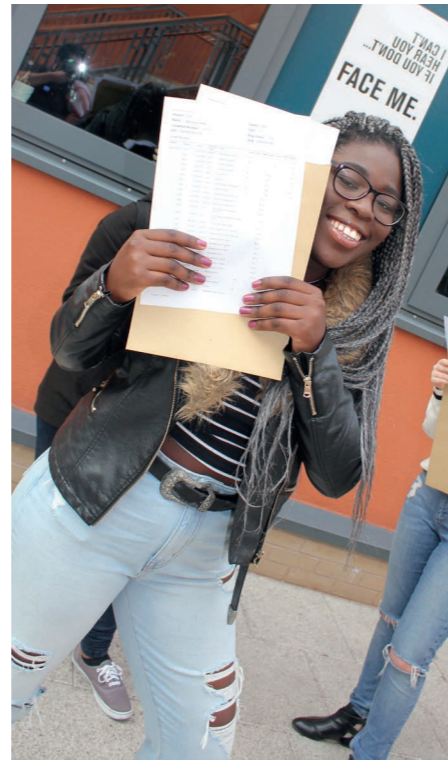
Some of our pupils were awarded the new grade 9, which are only given to the very best pupils in the country. Between them our pupils secured no less than five grade 9s in Maths and two in English, with one pupil managing to get a grade 9 in both subjects!

The success didn't end there, though. Nearly every subject secured record results, which has helped all of our pupils move onto their chosen futures. A third of our pupils secured 8 GCSEs at a C grade or better, and the year group were awarded 136 A and A* grades in GCSE courses and 93 Distinctions in BTEC courses.

These fantastic results mean that NUSA pupils' progress was some of the best of any Nottingham school, and NUSA will likely finish in the top 30% of schools in the country for progress between key stages 2 and 4.

In addition to these achievements, our older students who finished their post 16 studies with us also secured record results. No less than five of our students will start at the University of Nottingham this term, while others have secured places at Nottingham Trent University, the University of Derby and the University of Leicester.

Thank you to all of our pupils, parents, carers and staff for all of their hard work last year that made these amazing results possible. We wish all of our former students well in their future endeavors.



Celebrations at the Year 11 Prom

This summer saw Year 11 celebrating success.

After months and months of preparation and hard work, followed by weeks of exams, they were finally allowed to let their hair down at the NUSA Prom.

Arriving at Crowne Plaza hotel in limos and dressed in suits and gowns, the Year 11s enjoyed a fancy dinner and danced the night away in a final celebration together. They made themselves and NUSA very proud, proving themselves to be role models that NUSA pupils can aspire to. We wish them all the best in their lives after NUSA.

'Spring into Science' winner

During the last school year, all Year 8 pupils took a trip to the University of Nottingham for a science lecture called 'Spring into Science.'

Once the lecture was completed, the Year 8s, not only from NUSA, but from across the city, were given the opportunity to ask questions. This was ran as a competition with the best question being awarded a prize. Kacey, currently Year 9, was awarded the certificate and prize for the best question. Philip Moriarty, from Nottingham University, presented Kacey with her prize at the end of the summer term.



NUSA Sign Choir

The NUSA Sign Choir performed at the End of Summer Term Celebration Assemblies for Years 7-10.

They performed *Where is the Love* by The Black Eyed Peas to commemorate all of the people who lost loved ones prematurely in 2017, especially those caught up in the London and the Ariana Grande Manchester concert terror attacks.

Any pupil is welcome to join the choir, they don't have to have any experience or knowledge of Sign Language. Pupils don't have to perform if they don't feel confident. The aim is to make some fantastic friends and have fun and be able to communicate with the increasing number of deaf students at NUSA.



NUSA in the community with NCS

Year 11 NUSA students demonstrated our Work Hard, Be Kind ethos this summer by taking part in the National Citizen Service. This is where pupils take part in a two-week project to plan and deliver a social action project within the community.

A record number of NUSA pupils signed up to take part and, working with pupils from other local schools, they delivered two great projects.

Team 1 and Team 3 joined up to have a hugely positive impact on a local care home—Mulberry Court. There were endless jobs for them, including a garden renovation, delivering activities to the residents, taking residents on local walks, cleaning and pot-washing. The owner of the care home put on a buffet lunch on the penultimate day of the programme, to thank the participants for their efforts. He also provided personal references for each of them, and told them more about his own career path.

Team 2 decided to fundraise to buy brand new teddy bears and supply these to Nottingham Children's Hospital. They organised two fundraising events in the local community and raised over £200. With this they bought 70 teddy bears and these were presented to the ward on the penultimate day of the programme.

All of the pupils were invited to a special graduation evening on the 12th September where residents from Mulberry Court also attended to say thank you.



Year 10 work experience

At the beginning of June, Year 10 students started their week of work experience throughout a number of establishments in and around Nottingham; Halfords, Waitrose, Sandcliffe and Nottingham City Homes to name just a few.

The experience allowed our students to get a real taste of what it is like to experience a working environment. Not only did it allow our students to experience life outside of school, but with some individuals enabled them to think about potential future career paths. Staff visited our students throughout the week to offer support and encouragement. The feedback staff received during these visits about our students was extremely positive.

All the placements commented on what a mature and professional approach our students displayed throughout the week. As a result a number of establishments wanted our students to get in touch with them after they finish their education.



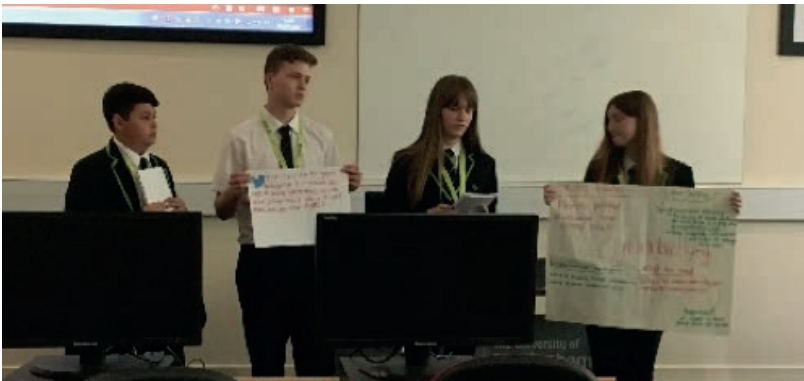
Summer School success for our new Year 7 pupils

The new Year 7s had the opportunity to further spend time at NUSA over the summer period during our Summer School programme. This was an opportunity for all students to experience taster lessons in a range of subject areas.

Over the course of the two days, a variety of lessons took place; pupils got involved in activities such as: clay work, creative writing, cooking, PE, T-shirt design and a chocolate experiment in Science. This not only allowed students to have fun, but enabled them to familiarise themselves with the school building and begin to build relationships with new staff and peers before starting at NUSA in September.

Ninety-seven percent of students who attended summer school said it increased their confidence before their September start.





Business Challenge success at The University of Nottingham

In July 2017, a group of NUSA GCSE Business studies pupils were invited to compete at a Business Challenge event at The University of Nottingham.

The task was to come up with a business idea using a software program called 'Ingenuity', created by the university professor Paul Kirkham. During the event, our pupils successfully generated over 500 ideas using this software and were then able to pick an idea each and required to pitch it professionally to the other competing teams and professionals.

The NUSA pupils, who were extremely professional and engaged throughout the day, came up with some fantastic ideas and confidently presented to a big group of people.

One of the teams from NUSA went head-to-head in the final against a team from NUAST, eventually being voted joint-winners.

The event highlighted the amazing growth of Business studies at NUSA and showcased the fantastic ability and effort of our Business students.

#NUSAWORKHARDBEKIND

Make sure that you follow NUSA on Twitter using @OfficialNUSA, then you'll be the first to know what's happening as we celebrate not only academic and sporting achievements but our pupils' success within the wider community.

If your child is interested in Design and Technology, then why not get them to follow @NUSADTracks.

NUSA @OfficialNUSA · Sep 13
Here we go Year 11. Your after school intervention #plantosucceed

YEAR 11 SUBJECT SUPPORT/ REVISION				
September 2017				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
The expectation is for all to be present at least an extra hour in school at the end of each day to get extra support to your lessons!				
Achievement Hub				
Science Art Child Dev BTEC Sport Product Design	English	Maths MFL	BTEC Business (Mr Case) GCSE Business (Mrs Chahal) ICT (Mrs Chaudry)	MFL Geography History Product Design



NUSA Records is back!

After a three-year hiatus, NUSA Records is back with a bang!

The latest single, performed by a group of former Year 11 students, called Jepsen Jules and recorded at Silver Studios by former Warner Bros producer Jordan Milnes, is available to buy now on all major download sites.

The single, called *Thousand Years* is the first of three singles to be produced by the school label, and has already garnered plays in several different countries.

All proceeds from the track will be channelled back into the school to provide further musical opportunities.

