



Westminster School



YEAR 12 ACHIEVEMENTS

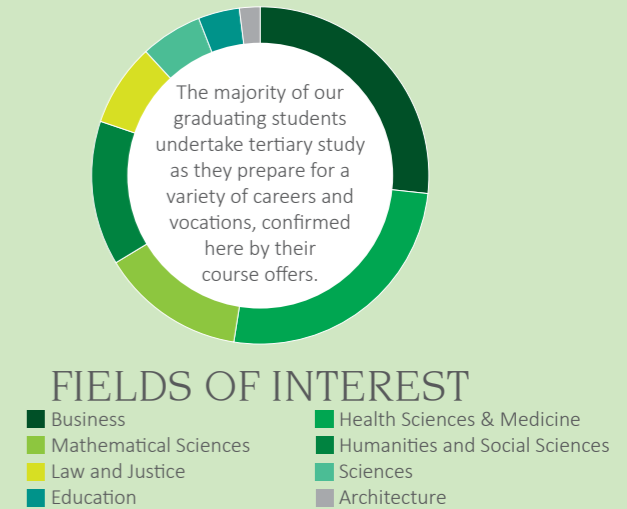
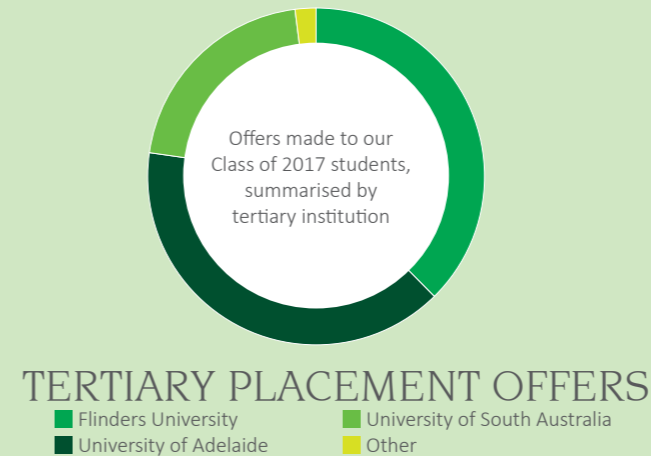
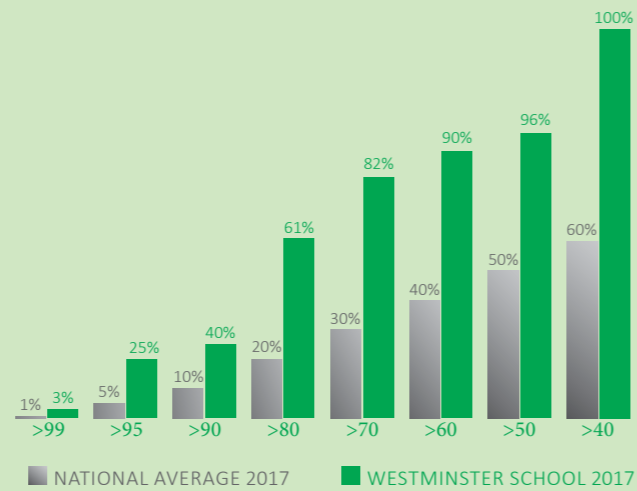
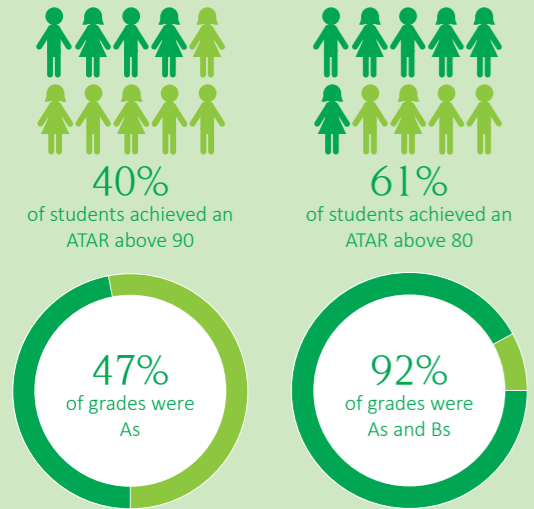
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Class of 2017

2017 Dux is shared by Jacob Wilson (centre) and Yashwanth Chandrasekaran (right) who each achieved an ATAR of 99.9. The Proxime Accessit Sankkirtana Sellvakumaran (left) achieved an ATAR of 99.55.

SACE 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

Our Class of 2017 has recorded some of the best results achieved since we have been analysing our annual performance in South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE), with the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) median and awarded Merits amongst the highest on record.

SACE (South Australian Certificate of Education) Requirements: • credits are earned for completed subjects or courses • 200 credits are needed to achieve SACE over 2-3 years • some subjects are compulsory • A to C- grades are required to pass compulsory subjects • one semester in a subject is worth 10 credits • two semesters in a subject is worth 20 credits



TOP 10 ATARS

Dux **Yashwanth Chandrasekaran** 99.9 (three Merits) | Dux **Jacob Wilson** 99.9 (four Merits) | Proxime Accessit **Sankirtana Sellvakumaran** 99.25 (two Merits and recipient of the Governor of South Australia Commendation – Excellence Award) | **Maddison Simmons** 99.05 (two Merits) | **Annelise Smith** 98.7 (one Merit) | **Lily Drummond** 98.55 (two Merits) | **Alexander Reardon** 98.55 (two Merits) | **Ella Secombe** 98.55 (one Merit) | **Tayla Wilsdon** 98.4 | **Melanie Tattersall** 98.1 (one Merit) | **Henry Watson** 98.05 | **Madeline Slegers** 97.95 (one Merit) | **Cammie Williams** 97.95 | **Charles Thomson** 97.9



SIMON SHEPHERD
PRINCIPAL

Arriving in Term 4 gave me only a brief opportunity to meet the Class of 2017. First impressions can be lasting and there is no doubt that our Year 12s conducted themselves with great maturity throughout their final weeks at Westminster. Each year, we ask our Year 12 cohort to take a pledge to do their best and lead by example. The Class of 2017 certainly did this, demonstrating a high degree of emotional intelligence not often seen in departing Year 12s. Their results reflect not only individual diligence, but a shared application and attitude throughout the year. They brought out the best in each other and learnt vicariously from one another. Unsurprisingly, their academic results and achievements are outstanding and serve as a source of inspiration for the whole School community. Whether at Westminster, enjoying an Old Scholar reunion or sporting event, we look forward to sharing in the deserved successes of the Class of 2017.



ANDREA SHERWOOD
DIRECTOR OF LEARNING

Every school year contains new possibilities and challenges but it seems impossible that so much could have been packed in by the Class of 2017. We remember each student as an individual and celebrate their unique journey, including the contribution they made to the overall success and achievements of the cohort. We were delighted to have two Duxes: Yashwanth Chandrasekaran and Jacob Wilson, each achieving an ATAR of 99.9 and our first Duxes since 2004. Their broad subject range exemplified the breadth of our curriculum with Chemistry, Music, Physics, Research Project and English amongst their most successful subjects. Their SACE Merits added to one of the highest Merit tallies ever recorded at Westminster and we were thrilled when Sankirtana Sellvakumaran received the prestigious Governor's Award. It is always inspiring to see students achieve academic personal bests whilst pursuing other passions, making the most of every opportunity to challenge themselves and have fun. Well done Class of 2017!



DUX OF THE SCHOOL

YASHWANTH CHANDRASEKARAN made the most of his academic ability by being disciplined and organised in his approach to his studies. Yash earned three SACE Merits: two in Year 11 for Stage 2 Chemistry and Research Project B, and one in Year 12 for Stage 2 English. In Year 12, Yash studied Specialist Mathematics, Mathematical Methods, Physics, and English. Yash enjoyed sport, particularly cricket and volleyball.

JACOB WILSON immersed himself in many opportunities available at Westminster. A hardworking student, Jacob received four Merits: Chemistry, Musicianship, Physics and Research Project B (Year 11). He rounded out his Year 12 subjects with Mathematical Methods, Solo Performance and English Literary Studies. Jacob also enjoyed his co-curricular activities, playing First XI cricket and concert piano in a range of instrumental groups.

How long were you at Westminster?

Y: I started in Year 8.

J: I began in Year 9, having previously lived in rural SA.

What were your strongest subjects?

Y: Science and Mathematics have always been my greatest passion and strength. I have always been curious as to how everyday objects work and function, and by studying science related subjects I have better understanding of the world around us.

J: I always enjoyed and valued the breadth of learning areas undertaken. I enjoyed the opportunities for creative expression through Music and English, in combination with the rigorous academic and analytical challenges provided by the Sciences, particularly Physics and Chemistry.

What are your plans now that you have completed school?

Y: I have received a Chancellor's Scholarship to study a Bachelor of Biomedicine/Doctor of Medicine at the University of Melbourne. My ambition is to specialise as a neuroscientist so I can have a positive impact on other people's lives.

J: I have been accepted to study a Bachelor of Clinical Sciences/Doctor of Medicine at Flinders University.

With the benefit of hindsight, what advice would you offer Year 12s?

Y: Avoid procrastinating and use your time wisely to save a lot of unnecessary stress. Likewise, the hardest part of any assignment is starting it so avoid distractions and manage your time efficiently.

J: Truly immerse yourself within your chosen subjects and learning. A genuine thirst for knowledge is invaluable, leading not only to greater academic success, but also the motivation and enjoyment that comes from being inspired.

CLASS OF 2017 ACHIEVEMENTS

Each year our students have every opportunity to participate in rich and fulfilling programs both at Westminster and beyond. The Class of 2017 is no exception with many worthy achievements recorded throughout the year, whether academic or in service, sport or performing arts. Following are just some of these highlights:

PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Hayley Barney received a certificate for Highly Commended in the Senior Student Section, in the 2016 Balco Balaklava Art Prize.

Will Chaffer took part in the 2017 National Aviation Competition (powered flying section) in Bathurst NSW at the Australia Airforce cadets aviation training centre, competing against six other pilots from across Australia.

Yashwanth Chandrasekaran was presented with a Medallion from the Royal Australian Chemical Institute for achieving a Merit in Stage 2 Chemistry.

Charlotte Derbyshire came first at her two national triathlon races. Charlotte also had a gold podium position in the relay teams race.

Lily Drummond had her film (日本 (JAPAN)) officially selected for screening in the 2017 Scout Film Festival in Vermont, USA, where it was nominated for Best in Category (Sports/Adventure/Travel). Lily also achieved first place at the Adelaide International Youth Film Festival 2017.

At the Surf Life Saving Titles **Lily Drummond** came first in the Under 19 Women's Beach Sprint, and the Under 19 Women's Beach Flags, and third in the Open Women's Beach Flags.

Caitlin Gillespie was selected for the Division 2 Superband for Trombone at Generations in Jazz.

Josh Laka represented SA in the Pizzey Cup for Tennis, where he won two doubles matches.

Lachlan Priest was selected to compete in the South Australian Ice Hockey Team.

Briannah Puckridge came first in the South Australian division of the APEX Teenager Fashion Awards (Casual Wear).

Sankkirtana Sellvakumar was awarded the 2017 ADF Long Tan Leadership Award in recognition of her demonstrated values and respect, leadership and teamwork within both the School and local community.

Rosie Williamson won a Gold medal in the U18 Girls' Triple Jump at the State Track and Field Championships.

TEAM ACHIEVEMENTS

In the Royal Australian Chemical Institute Analytical Chemistry Competition, **Jessica Gatford**, **Sankkirtana Sellvakumar**, and **Henry Watson** each received the Certificate for Excellent Precision in the School Phase. **Tom Heyworth**, **Jacob Wilson**, and **Yashwanth Chandrasekaran** each received the Certificate for Excellent Accuracy and Precision at the School Phase and Precision at the State Finals. **Maxwell Lawson** received the Certificate for Excellent Accuracy and Precision in the School Phase and in the State Finals, and a Silver medal in the National Finals. **Jonathan Chapman** and **Lachlan Wong** each received the Certificate for Excellent Accuracy and Precision in the School Phase and in the State Finals, and a Gold medal in the National Finals.

Lily Drummond and **Olivia Ricciardi** were the first place team with their video 'Sum Dog Millionaire' in the National Choose Maths Awards 2017.

At the Australian Mathematical Olympiad, **Patrick Xu** received an Honourable Mention, and **Thomas Heyworth** received a Participation Certificate.

At the Australian Mathematics Competition, **Thomas Heyworth**, **Patrick Xu**, **Yash Chandrasekaran**, and **Bryce Chung** were all awarded prizes for their participation.

At the South Australian Volleyball Schools Cup, **Charlie Fuller**, **Orlo Harrison**, and **Yashwanth Chandrasekaran** were members of the winning Year 12 Boys' Division 1 team. **Maddison Simmons** and **Ella Liptak** were part of the winning Year 12 Girls' Division 1 team.

Georgia Read was part of the winning team at the SA Secondary Schools Team Sailing State Championships.

Abbey Maynard was part of the Westminster Open B Netball team who had an undefeated 2017 season.

Hamish Mathwin was part of the Brighton Lacrosse team who took out the U17 Boys' premiership, winning 14-9 against Glenelg/Woodville. Hamish also received the Bruce Rosewarne MVP medal.

SPECIAL AWARDS

Lawrence and Haese Medals 2018 for Excellence in Mathematics – Gold Medal: **Maddison Simmons**, Silver Medal: **Jacob Wilson**.

Malcolm George Western Award (Agricultural Science) – **Shannan Hayes**;

SF Heaslip Award (Boarding) – **Lewis Habermann**;

Caltex Best All-rounder Award – **Caitlin Gillespie**;

Head of Senior School Award – **Alexander Reardon**;

Chairman of Council Award (Service to the School Community) – **Ella Liptak**;

Douglas Highmooer Forder Award (Excellence in Attitude) – **Sankkirtana Sellvakumar**;

Principal's Award (Leadership) – **Ella Liptak**.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S GOLD MEDALS

Westminster School consistently has the highest participation and medal count in the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award in South Australia.

Gold Medal: **William Beinke**, **Joshua Buchanan**, **Alexandra Dowse**, **Caitlin Gillespie**, **Ella Liptak**, **Meichen Lu**, **Lachlan Pieck**, **Courtney Reynolds**, **Isaac Sandercock**, **Sankkirtana Sellvakumar**, **Michael Short**, **Hamish Whitaker**, **Cammie Williams**.



ROUND SQUARE

Westminster School is the only South Australian member of Round Square, an international association of 160 schools from 40 countries. Round Square Service Award for the King Constantine Medal for supporting and promoting the ideals of Round Square through outstanding service work: **Lucien Haines**.

SCHOLARSHIPS & ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Yashwanth Chandrasekaran has been awarded a Chancellor's Scholarship to study at the University of Melbourne. **Lily Drummond** and **Ella Liptak** have been awarded 2018 Bond University Collegiate Scholarships.

SACE STAGE 2 // SUBJECT PRIZES AND ACADEMIC AWARDS

Accounting, Food & Hospitality, Principal's Award for Academic Excellence – **Ella Secombe**;
Accounting, Chemistry, Academic Achievement Award – **Maddison Simmons**;
Agricultural and Horticultural Studies – **Brooke Curtis**; Biology, Academic Achievement Award – **Emily Jaarsma**;
Biology, Academic Achievement Award – **Sankkirtana Sellvakumar**;
Business and Enterprise, Academic Achievement Award – **Samuel Patterson**;
Business and Enterprise, Academic Achievement Award – **Samuel Young**;
Chemistry, English Literary Studies, Musicianship, Physics, Academic Achievement Award – **Jacob Wilson**;
Chinese Background – **Yiyue Zhang**;
Chinese Continuers – **Avinash Dasan**;
Creative Arts – Fashion Design, Principal's Award for Academic Excellence – **Briannah Puckridge**;
Creative Arts – Art – **Georgia Read**;
Creative Arts – Photography, Academic Achievement Award – **Lachlan Priest**;
Dance – **Benika Bhoola**;
Design & Technology – Communication Products Multimedia, Principal's Award for Academic Excellence – **Lily Drummond**;
Design & Technology – Material Products – Metal – **Matthew Scheid**;
Design & Technology – Material Products – Wood – **Thomas Raptis**;
Drama, Academic Achievement Award – **Madeline Slegers**;
Economics, Physics, Specialist Mathematics, Academic Achievement Award – **Yashwanth Chandrasekaran**;
English as an Additional Language Studies – **Zi Hao Xiang**;
Essential English – **William Isaksson**;
Essential Mathematics, Academic Achievement Award – **Lewis Habermann**;
General Mathematics, Academic Achievement Award – **Cara Garvey**;
Geography – **Alexandra Dowse**;
German (Continuers), Academic Achievement Award – **Caitlin Gillespie**;
Information Processing and Publishing, Academic Achievement Award – **Hayley Sawley**;
Information Technology – **Bryce Chung**;
Japanese (Continuers) – **Louie Naito**;
Legal Studies, Principal's Award for Academic Excellence – **Charles Thomson**;
Legal Studies, Psychology, Principal's Award for Academic Excellence – **Matthew Dally**;
Mathematical Methods, Principal's Award for Academic Excellence – **Charlie Fuller**;
Modern History, Physical Education, Psychology, Principal's Award for Academic Excellence – **Alexander Reardon**;
Music Ensemble Performance – **Kyle Chenoweth**;
Music Composing and Arranging, Music Performance Special Study, Music Solo Performance – **Lachlan McGargill**;
Music Technology – **Jordan Gayler**;
Outdoor Education – **Lachlan Pieck**;
Outdoor Education, Principal's Award for Academic Excellence – **William Beinke**;
Research Project, Academic Achievement Award – **Heidi Collins**;
Visual Arts- Art – **Annelise Smith**;
Visual Arts- Design – **Maya Madsen**.