

Dear Parents

VCE 2010

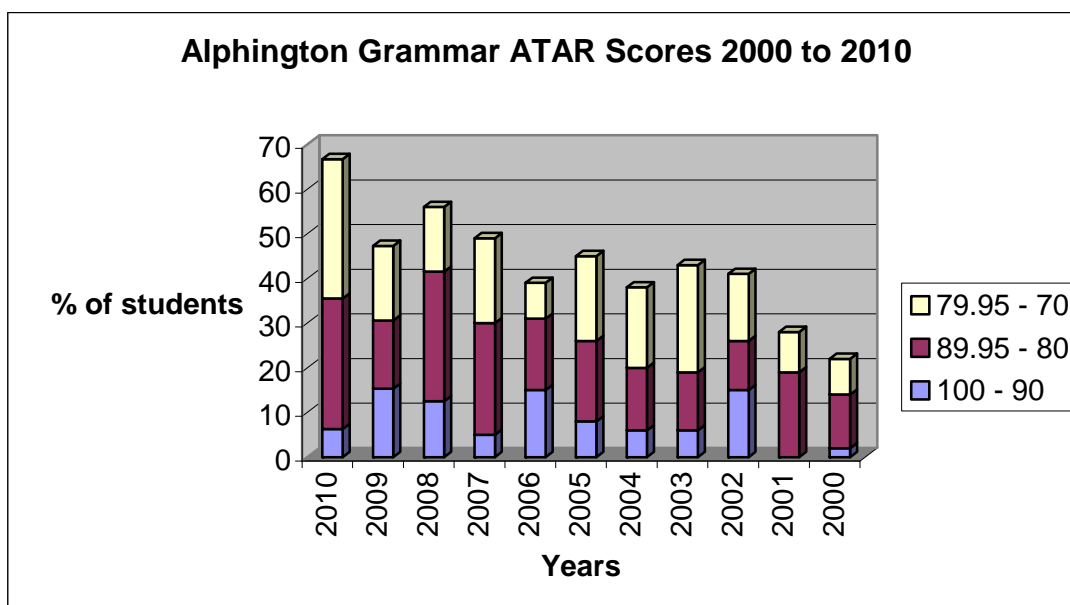
- **Strong upward trend continues**
- **Two thirds of all students in top 30% of state**
- **90% of all students in top 50% of the State**
- **Best ever average ATAR score – 72.4**
- **Median Study Score jumps to 30**
- **40+ scores in eight subjects**
- **English excels with a Median Study Score of 35, followed by Further Maths on 33.**
- **Excellent results also in Information Technology Applications, History, Literature, Biology, International Studies and Health and Human Development.**

The average Tertiary Entrance (ATAR – previously ENTER) score for Year 12 students at Alphington Grammar has soared to our highest ever result, 72.4, eclipsing the previous best in 2008 of 69.7. Two thirds of our students have been ranked in the top 30% in the state and the median study score this year has jumped two points to 30. Both these figures easily break previous records for the school.

Of local students almost 42% achieved an ATAR over 80 – the top 20% of the State. Overall 90% of our students were ranked in the top 50% of all Victorian students.

Back in 2000, when our results were languishing well below state averages, we set ourselves the target of substantially raising our students' VCE performance year on year, so that the school would easily exceed state averages and provide student outcomes that were more than competitive with other comparable independent schools. Our results this year confirm that this strategy continues to work. That improvement has occurred and is still occurring. The performance graphs continue to go up.

ATAR	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
99.95 – 90	6.3%	15.3%	12.5%	5%	15%	8%	6%	6%	15%	0	2%
89.95 – 80	29.2%	15.3%	29%	25%	16%	18%	14%	13%	11%	19%	12%
79.95 – 70	31.2%	16.7%	14.5%	19%	8%	19%	18%	24%	15%	9%	8%
Top 30%	66.7%	47.3%	56%	49%	39%	45%	38%	43%	41%	28%	22%
Top 20%	35.4%	30.6%	41.5%	30%	31%	26%	20%	19%	26%	19%	14%



This means that many students whose academic ability is middling or better have clearly exceeded their targets, and that more and more students will be able to gain entry to their preferred tertiary studies and to take the career path of their choice.

The mass participation subjects of English and Further Maths performed exceptionally well at Alphington Grammar, achieving median scores of 35 and 33 respectively. Other strong performers were Literature and Biology (median 33) and International Studies (median 32). IT Applications averaged 32.6, History 32.4 and Health and Human Development 32.2. Our strongest performer this year in Modern Greek was Evangelos Mandis, with 37.

Dux of the school for 2010 is Edward Hurcombe, with an ATAR of 95.45. The next highest ATAR scores were achieved by Nicholas Koutoulis (90.90) and Harrison Bergamin (90.15). Our warmest congratulations are extended to these three students and, indeed, to all our other students for their strong performance.

There is a very pleasing number of very high results this year across a wide range of subjects. Study Scores of 40 and above, which are the top 8% in the state, were achieved in eight different subjects, showing that we attain excellence across the curriculum in all types of subject. This year these scores were achieved in English, Further Maths, Biology, Health and Human Development, Information Technology Applications, Literature, History and International Studies.

I'd like to congratulate all members of our Class of 2010 on their success and their teachers who have assisted them to reach these levels.

I will be in touch before the start of next term with a summary of tertiary entrance offers for the class of 2010.

Staff Changes for 2011

Staff leaving at the end of 2010:

- Mariette Chan, our wonderful Pre-Prep Co-ordinator for the last ten years, sadly will be leaving us. She wants to seek a part-time position.
- Heather Heraud, one of our Teacher-Librarians in the ERC for the past seven years, is leaving to take up a position at Loyola College.
- Jo deMeester, who has been replacing Melissa Catherine while Melissa is on maternity leave and teaching Biology, Science and Maths, is moving to a permanent position at Melbourne Girls' Grammar.
- Meg Pini, from the Maths Faculty, has resigned to pursue a business opportunity.
- Chong Hin Law, who has taught Chinese and ESL support, has taken a position at Marcellin College.
- Nicole Patrikakos, one of our Grade 6 team, has begun her maternity leave and we hope for news of her happy arrival shortly.

I thank all these staff for their excellent work and service to the school and wish them the very best for their next ventures.

Staff joining the school in January 2011:

- Lisa Blyth (Pre-Prep Co-ordinator) – currently Director of Blossom Park Kindergarten in Mill Park.
- Peter Forehan (Maths and Science) – currently teaching at Xavier College.
- Primrose Tyson (Biology / Science / Maths) – currently teaching at Koo Wee Rup Secondary College.
- Tony Centorrino (Maths) – currently teaching at St Joseph's College, North Melbourne.

We welcome these excellent new staff members to the school and hope they enjoy working here.

Finally I thank you, the parents, for your support during 2010 and wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful 2011. It should be a very exciting year.

Mike Smith
Principal