

Top schools: how did yours perform in the VCE?

Henrietta Cook, Craig Butt

Published: December 15, 2016 - 12:07AM

A Jewish school that strives to "make achievement cool" has leapfrogged its competitors to become the top VCE performer.

Bialik College in Hawthorn East jumped from third to first place this year after achieving a median study score of 39, with 44.2 per cent of its study scores 40 or above.

It scored a median ATAR of 94.93, placing about half of Bialik's students in top 5 per cent of the state.



Bialik College VCE students Nicholas Serry, Jordan Sandler, Paige Roseman, Robbie Nestadt and Shahia Marabel-Whitburn. *Photo: Eddie Jim*

All the school's high achievers had balance in their lives, principal Jeremy Stowe-Lindner said.

He described the school's community as aspirational and passionate about education.

"We try to make achievement cool. When a kid is at an assembly and they are awarded a maths prize there is no cynicism, there is a genuine 'wow!'."

VCE Top 10 rankings 2016

School	Median VCE study score	% of study scores 40+
Bialik College	39	44.2
MacRobertson Girls High School	38	36.1
Yeshivah College	38	31.9
Mount Scopus Memorial College	37	35.4
Melbourne High School	37	31.7
Shelford Girls' Grammar	37	30.7
Ruyton Girls' School	37	30.3
Ballarat Clarendon College	37	30
Loreto Mandeville Hall	36	31.1
Haileybury Girls College	36	30

Data: Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

As you can see in the table above, select-entry state school **Mac Robertson Girls High School** finished second. It achieved a median study score of 38 and 36.1 per cent of its study scores were 40 or above. This year is only the third time since 2003 that it has not been the top-ranked Victorian school.

There was not a great deal of movement among the top 10 schools – **Yeshivah College, Mount Scopus Memorial College, Melbourne High School, Shelford Girls Grammar, Ruyton Girls' School, Ballarat Clarendon College, Loreto Mandeville Hall** and **Haileybury Girls College** all making an appearance.

There are some clear winners when state schools are singled out.

VCE Top Government Schools

Government School	Median VCE study score	% of study scores 40+
MacRobertson Girls High School	38	36.1
Melbourne High School	37	31.7
Nossal High School	35	22.7
Victorian College of the Arts	34	22.7
Balwyn High School	34	22
Melbourne Girls' College	34	18.6
McKinnon Secondary College	34	17
John Monash Science School	34	15.6
Suzanne Cory High School	34	15.5
Box Hill High School	33	19

Data: Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

The select-entry **Nossal High school** was the third top performing state school, with a median study score of 35 and 22.7 per cent of study scores 40 and over.

Melbourne Girls College recorded its best results in 14 years, ranking within the top 50 schools for the first time this year. It had a median study score of 34 and 18.6 per cent of study scores 40 and over.

The state school that has boosted local property prices – **McKinnon Secondary College** – also performed strongly with 17 per cent of its study scores 40 and over.

VCE Top Independent Schools

Independent School	Median VCE study score	% of study scores 40+
Bialik College	39	44.2
Yeshivah College	38	31.9
Mount Scopus Memorial College	37	35.4
Shelford Girls' Grammar	37	30.7
Ruyton Girls' School	37	30.3
Ballarat Clarendon College	37	30
Loreto Mandeville Hall	36	31.1
Haileybury Girls College	36	30
Trinity Grammar School	36	29.8
Leibler Yavneh College	36	29

Data: Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

An independent school in Langwarrin South has rocketed up the list of top VCE performers, finishing just behind elite schools like Scotch, Caulfield Grammar and Haileybury. **Woodleigh School** achieved a median ATAR of 35 this year – jumping from 69 to 36th place. Almost 20 per cent of its study scores were 40 or above.



School	Median VCE study score	% of study scores 40+
Bialik College	39	44.2
MacRobertson Girls High School	38	36.1
Yeshivah College	38	31.9
Mount Scopus Memorial College	37	35.4
Melbourne High School	37	31.7
Shelford Girls' Grammar	37	30.7
Ruyton Girls' School	37	30.3
Ballarat Clarendon College	37	30
Loreto Mandeville Hall	36	31.1
Haileybury Girls College	36	30
Trinity Grammar School	36	29.8
Leibler Yavneh College	36	29
Beth Rivkah Ladies College	36	28.9
Huntingtower School	36	28.9
Korowa Anglican Girls' School	36	27.1
Sacre Coeur	36	27.1
Melbourne Girls Grammar	36	26.4
Strathcona Baptist Girls GS	36	25.8
Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School	36	25.5
Lauriston Girls School	36	24.7
St Kevin's College Toorak	35	26.8
Caulfield Grammar School	35	26.3
Kilvington Grammar School	35	25.6
Mentone Girls' Grammar School	35	24.9
Fintona Girls School	35	24.8
Camberwell Grammar School	35	24
Haileybury College	35	24
Scotch College	35	23.9

Firbank Grammar School	35	23.4
Caulfield Grammar School	35	23.3
The King David School	35	23.2
Goulburn Valley Grammar Schl	35	22.8
Nossal High School	35	22.7
Genazzano F.C.J. College	35	22.6
Presbyterian Ladies' College	35	22.4
Woodleigh School	35	18.8
Lowther Hall Anglican GS	35	18.3
St Catherine's School	35	18
Camberwell Anglican Girls GS	35	17.7

Data: Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

This story was found at: <http://www.theage.com.au/national/top-schools-how-did-yours-perform-in-the-vce-20161214-gtb5h5.html>