

## MATRIC RESULTS 2020

Staff development in 2020 started with Oakhill Staff listening to the wise words of American psychologist, Brene Brown. The focus was how to live a wholehearted life by learning to 'Dare Greatly'. This served to build on our focus of examining why we operate as we do at Oakhill.

The topic of her research, and the title of her thesis was inspired by a part of the famous "Man in the arena speech" delivered by Theodore Roosevelt in 1910, and I offer this extract to you as we pay tribute to the class of 2020:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

The concept of wholehearted living adds a dimension to the growth mindset approach that we strive to achieve at Oakhill. This continues to be a central driver that underpins our academic activities and one that is interrogated regularly. Are we encouraging curiosity? Passion? Empathy? Are we helping our students to find their voices so that their questions are asked? Are we encouraging them to find the answers to their own questions, to find solutions to their own challenges? Are we encouraging each one to 'dare greatly'?

The class of 2020 has shown us that they did roll up their sleeves, climb into the arena and dare greatly, under difficult Covid-19 conditions.

We celebrate the matric results of 2020 and marvel that the Oakhill Matrics have once again done themselves proud: 100% pass rate with a 98% Bachelor's Degree Pass achievement (42 out of 43 candidates). One candidate achieved a Diploma Pass.

As a College staff, we are thrilled and proud of these achievements by the matric cohort of 2020. We continue to examine the systems and processes and to reflect on key questions:

- Oakhill is a school that welcomes inclusivity and encourages each person to achieve to his/her potential. How do we inculcate an attitude of each achieving to their particular excellence?
- What is it that allows Oakhill students to achieve these results?
- How do we make the educational experiences richer, more positive, supportive, empowering and encouraging?
- How do we build confidence and courage, enough to speak out on behalf of those without a voice?
- How are we teaching students that privilege carries responsibility and does not excuse exploitation of one's position of privilege and power to undermine the rights of others?

We are happy to announce that the 2020 Matric group has produced collective and individual results at levels that we are tremendously proud of. Some may well reflect and wish they had been more focused and determined, but all should be able to celebrate a job well done. Many achieved a level of success that sets the bar high for grades to follow, and this was achieved under trying conditions.

In the official IEB press release, CEO Anne Oberholzer commented that "the excellent performance of the Class of 2020 under very difficult circumstances, underscores the importance of the years of good, solid teaching and learning prior to the Grade 12 year. These achievements are proof that the Grade 12 year on its own does not provide the understanding, perseverance and resilience needed to achieve excellent results in the matric year – but that is the culmination of work and learning over 12 or 13 years of quality schooling,"

She concluded with these words: "The value and significance of the NSC as a qualification that marks the end of schooling and the beginning of adult life means that its reliability as an indicator of competence and the trustworthiness of its assessment need to be protected. It is these principles of reliability and trustworthiness that led the Minister of Basic Education to take decisions during this very difficult year to protect the integrity of the qualification by not trimming the curriculum. In so doing, she protected the learners of 2020 from being tarnished with the suggestion that their achievement is somehow inferior to that of learners in other years. Indeed, the efforts of the Minister and her department ensured that the academic year was not lost and learners who are ready to move into the next phase of their life were not compromised and forced to place their futures on hold."

At Oakhill, a total of 111 subject distinctions were achieved out of a class of 43 candidates. 21 of these subject distinctions were marks into the 90%. Special mention must be made of our dux scholar, Shannon Amoils, who achieved seven distinctions (6 over 90%) earning an aggregate of 91,7%. She also earned an A for Advanced Programme Mathematics and completed the UNISA Practical 7 Music exam where she achieved within the top 1% of candidates.

Other students who earned seven distinctions are Erin Rupert, Jessica Devine and Hannah Verrier, who also performed well in both Advanced Programme Mathematics and English. The latter additional subjects are offered at Oakhill. "The assessment in these subjects have been benchmarked by UK NARIC, the UK equivalent of the South African Qualifications Authority, and are considered equivalent to the UK A-levels." (*IEB communication*) This year two candidates wrote the AP English exam and six completed the AP Mathematics examination papers.

### **Distinctions/Levels per Candidate, Candidate Aggregates and Bachelor's Degree Passes**

As indicated in the summary table below (Table 1), the Class of 2020 has shown growth in the FET phase, culminating in impressive matric results. The percentage aggregate per candidate has improved each year, and the number of candidates achieving As, Bs and Cs has grown each year, culminating in an 82.01% of the class achieving final aggregates above 60 %, an impressive achievement.

**Table 1: Summary of Distinctions (and levels 6 and 5) per candidate, Candidate Aggregates (2020)**

Candidate levels	2018 (46 Grade 10s)			2019 (45 Grade 11s)			2020 (43 Grade 12s)		
	7s	6s	5s	7s	6s	5s	7s	6s	5s
Distinctions/Level per candidate	1.5	1.6	1.7	2,0	1.9	1.2	2.6	2	1.2
Number of Level 7s	66			87			111		
Combined Level 7s & 6s	136			169			198		
Combined Level 7s, 6s & 5s	209			253			251		

Candidate Aggregates	2018 (43 Grade 10s)			2019 (43 Grade 11s)			2020 (43 Grade 12s)		
	7s (As)	6s (Bs)	5s (Cs)	7s (As)	6s (Bs)	5s (Cs)	7s (As)	6s (Bs)	5s (Cs)
% Aggregate per candidate	18,6	23,3	16,3	20,9	30,2	27,9	25.6	41.9	18.6
Combined (%) level 7 & 6 Aggregates	41,9			51,1			67,5		
Combined (%) level 7, 6 & 5 Aggregates	58,2			79			86,1		

**Table 2: NSC Passes IEB and Oakhill**

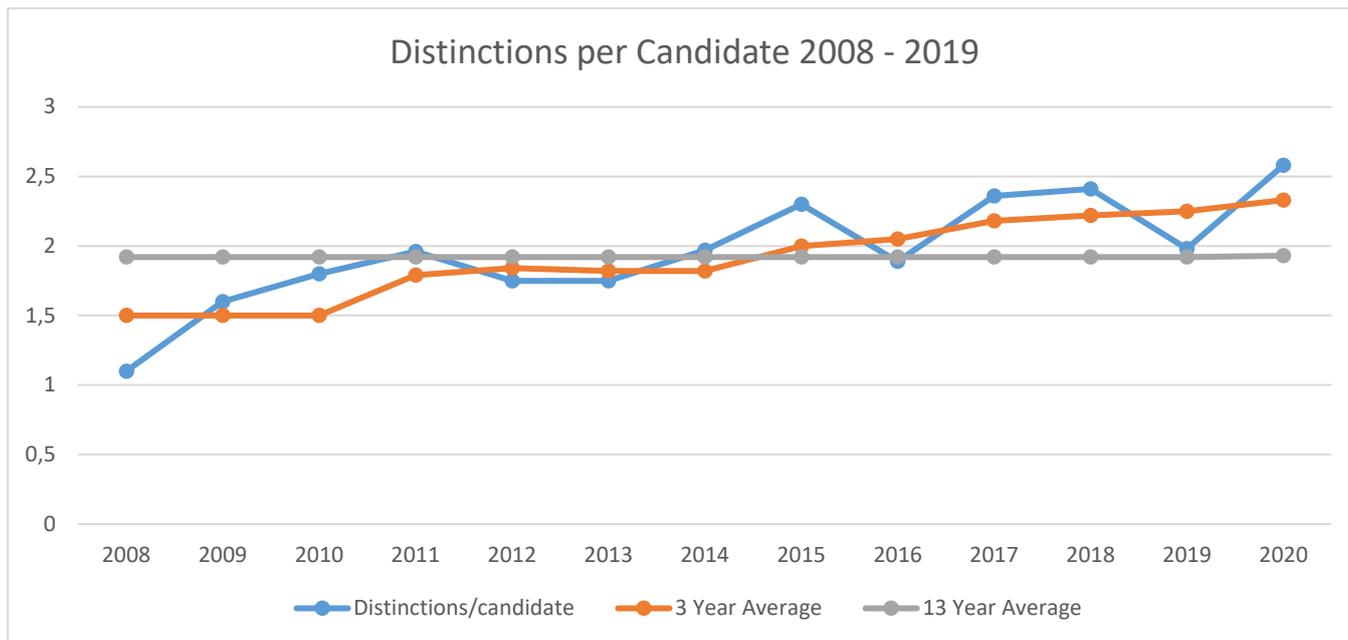
Type of Pass	IEB 2020		Oakhill 2020	
	Number	%	Number	%
NSC*	11 792	98.07	43	100
Bachelor Degree	10 631	88.42	42	98
Diploma	987	8.14	1	2
Higher Certificate	182	1.51	0	0

\* National Senior Certificate

**Oakhill Trends: Distinctions per candidate since 2008, Subject Averages and Bachelor's Degree (6 year)**

The average distinctions per candidate and the three-year averages can be seen in the graph below. This is a valuable tool for Oakhill to track achievement trends. It is pertinent to note that the class of 2020 achieved extremely well (blue line). The horizontal grey line shows the 13-year average (since 2008) and sits at 1.92 distinctions per candidate. Also of interest is the three-year moving average (orange line) which indicates that an upward trend in the number of distinctions per candidate has been maintained in 2020.

**Graph 1: Distinctions per Candidate since 2008**



Another trend which we interrogate annually, is the expected composite subject average. Table 3 (below) summarises the Oakhill subject average over a three-year period and compares it to the same subject averages for the IEB. It is pleasing to note that all, but a few, are in line with or higher than the National (IEB specifically) norms. Those few subjects that fall below, are marginally lower. Once again indicating the strength of our students in a national ranking system.

The 2020 specific averages can be viewed on this table too.

**Table 3: 3-year average per subject (2017 - 2020) and 2020 averages (IEB vs Oakhill)**

3-year average per subject (2018 - 2020) and 20 averages		Accounting	Afrikaans	Business Studies	CAT (NA 2020)	Dramatic Arts	English	Geography	History	IT	Life Orientation	Life Sciences	Mathematical Literacy	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	Visual Arts	Combined Aggregates
3 year	IEB	65.38	63.89	67.16	59.81	76.44	69.59	63.84	70.23	70.44	74.02	66.31	75.00	64.08	62.59	71.13	71.48
	Oakhill	63.68	65.76	71.16	67.9	69.96	71.33	67.95	73.77	78.67	73.59	71.10	81.11	68.48	70.46	84.62	77.05
2020	IEB	65.15	64.22	68.49	60.32	76.18	69.31	63.73	70.60	71.63	74.26	66.31	74.29	63.59	62.42	71.35	64.52
	Oakhill	60.00	67.34	77.00	NA	64.62	70.97	63.21	75.21	80.00	74.00	67.73	82.00	71.41	73.70	85.22	73.04

Oakhill is proud of the Bachelor Degree Passes achieved each year. The average (since 2012) of 92% has been consistently higher than that of the IEB (86%). This year, once again, the group performed well, earning 98% BD passes.

To meet the requirements for a BD Pass a candidate must:

- Pass one official language at Home Language level at 40% or more
- Pass 4 subjects at 50% or more excluding Life Orientation
- Pass 2 subjects at a minimum of 30%
- Meet the language requirement for entry to further study at a South African institution.

We encourage you to examine these results and discuss them with your children. It is important to remember that each year group has its own particular profile, and one of the driving forces at Oakhill remains to encourage every student to achieve to his or her potential, and so to earn excellence.

Our top achievers are listed at the end of this document, but special mention must be made of Shannon Amoils, Erin Rupert, Jessica Devine and Hannah Verrier, who all achieved a seven As. These candidates all achieved Overall Excellence and Oakhill Academic Honours. Madison Turner, Liam Heynderickx, Catherine Donnell all achieved six As, Outstanding Achievement and Academic Honours. Ryan Shearer also earned six As and Outstanding Achievement. Chloé de Villiers and Tessa Mičić earned five As and Commendable Achievement along with Academic Honours. Aiden Riley and Nicholas Hill earned four As. Alexa Shutte earned three As and another for Advanced Programme English. We also congratulate Emily Carver, Sophia Trollip, Julia Norval, Jana van der Linde, Viggo Platt, Jennifer Moyo and Tilly Sullivan who earned three As each.

Jessica Devine and Ryan Shearer are both students who have spent their entire school careers at Oakhill and were recipients of the Allan Graham Award.

It remains to pay tribute to every teacher who helped mould and prepare the students for the 2020 examinations. The subject results of the class of 2020 will be analysed and identified issues will be focused on by every Oakhill teacher in 2021 to take all the students to the next level of an 'excellence in learning' and growth mind-set in the College phase. The fact that Oakhill has continued to perform above the IEB national average in almost all subjects is due to the dedication of staff who strive to prepare students, not only for the examinations, but more importantly, to be able to apply known concepts in unfamiliar contexts. Oakhill continues to build a reputation for academic rigour, striving for excellence and a growth mindset embodied by self-discipline and diligent hard work.

To conclude, Oakhill continues to believe that students are co-creators of their learning environments, that working with their teachers they are encouraged to question, investigate and test their learning so that their potential can be achieved. We believe that Oakhill Matrics leave school with a focus on what each of them needs to do to find their niche in a far bigger and globalised world.

Congratulations to the Oakhill class of 2020 on their excellent achievements!

*Sharon Brown*  
*(Acting Head of College)*

# Top Achievers in 2020

We congratulate the entire class and it gives us great pleasure to highlight the following achievers:

## Eight Distinctions

- **Shannon Amoils** (English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, History, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Life Orientation and an A in AP Maths). Oakhill top achiever for Advanced Programme Mathematics (A). Achieved in the top 1% (IEB) for Music: Unisa Practical 7.

## Seven Distinctions

- **Erin Rupert** (English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, History, Physical Science, Visual Arts, Life Orientation)
- **Jessica Devine** (English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, History, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Life Orientation). AP English and AP Mathematics as extra subjects.
- **Hannah Verrier** (English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, History, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, Life Orientation)

## Six Distinctions

- **Madison Turner** (English, Mathematics, Business Studies, Information Technology, Visual Arts, Life Orientation)
- **Liam Heynderickx** (English, Mathematics, Information Technology, Life Sciences, Physical Science, Life Orientation)
- **Ryan Shearer** (English, Mathematics, Business Studies, Information Technology, Life Sciences, Life Orientation)
- **Catherine Donnell** (English, Afrikaans, Mathematics, History, Visual Arts, Life Orientation)

## Five Distinctions

- **Chloé de Villiers** (English, Mathematics, Life Sciences, Visual Arts, Life Orientation)
- **Tessa Mičič** (English, Mathematics, History, Life Sciences, Life Orientation)

## Four Distinctions

- **Aidan Riley** (Business Studies, Geography, History, Life Orientation)
- **Nicholas Hill** (Mathematical Literacy, History, Visual Arts, Life Orientation)
- **Alexa Shutte** (English, History, Life Orientation and an A in AP English). Oakhill top achiever for Advanced Programme English (A).

## Three Distinctions

- **Emily Carver** (English, Mathematical Literacy, History)
- **Sophia Trollip** (History, Life Sciences, Life Orientation)
- **Julia Norval** (English, History, Life Orientation)
- **Jana van der Linde** (Afrikaans, History, Life Orientation)
- **Viggo Platt** (English, Dramatic Arts, Visual Arts)
- **Jennifer Moyo** (Mathematical Literacy, Visual Arts, Life Orientation)
- **Tilly Sullivan** (Mathematical Literacy, Visual Arts, Life Orientation)



THE JOY OF LEARNING

# OAKHILL SCHOOL

## 2020 IEB Examination Results

**100%**  
pass rate  
since inception

**BD**  
pass **98%**

**43** matrics  
**+ III**  
distinctions  
**= 2,58**  
average distinctions  
per student

**21** distinctions  
above  
**90%**

**82%**  
achieving final  
aggregates  
above  
**60%**

Students in the  
**Top 1%**  
nationally - English,  
Life Sciences,  
Life Orientation &  
Unisa Level 7 Music

**Congratulations Matrics of 2020! We are immensely proud of you!**

Our Class of 2020 has achieved some wonderful results, both individually and collectively. Once again our matric group have achieved a 100% pass rate, with 42 out of our 43 students achieving a Bachelor's Degree Pass, and one student a Diploma Pass. This year our Matrics achieved III distinctions collectively, averaging out at 2,58 distinctions per student - the best set of results in the FET phase of the school.

Says Acting Head of College, Sharon Brown: "The Class of 2020 had a tough act to follow after the excellent performance of our 2019 matric group. They have stepped up to the plate with various exceptional group and individual achievements, despite Covid-19. We are proud of such a strong finish to this group's Oakhill journey and grateful for every educator who has contributed to their success."



Shannon Amoils  
8 Distinctions



Erin Rupert  
7 Distinctions



Jessica Devine  
7 Distinctions



Hannah Verrier  
7 Distinctions



Madison Turner  
6 Distinctions



Liam Heynderickx  
6 Distinctions



Ryan Shearer  
6 Distinctions



Catherine Donnell  
6 Distinctions



Chloé de Villiers  
5 Distinctions



Tessa Mičić  
5 Distinctions



Aidan Riley  
4 Distinctions



Nicholas Hill  
4 Distinctions



Alexa Shutte  
4 Distinctions



Emily Carver  
3 Distinctions



Sophia Trollip  
3 Distinctions



Julia Norval  
3 Distinctions



Jana van der Linde  
3 Distinctions



Viggo Platt  
3 Distinctions



Jennifer Moyo  
3 Distinctions



Tilly Sullivan  
3 Distinctions