



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO CHANGE

The new academic year has now started and most pupils will be settling into their classes comfortably after the long summer holidays. But what if your child is struggling or feels like a 'small fish in a large pond' at school?

Most young people start a new school at year 7, year 9 or for their A Levels. But, for some, waiting for that 'natural' time to move can sometimes not be wise. Secondary schools are often imposing places with big classes and can therefore seem impersonal for many children. They might not be comfortable or happy, receive the personal support they need or find it difficult to integrate or make friends. The list of anxieties can be long.

Parents too may find this a difficult time, as they can see their children are not enjoying school and therefore not likely to achieve their full potential. If this happens, it is important to talk to your child and the school as soon as possible to find what is going on and what can be done to improve the situation.

Sometimes, though, it is simply a matter of individual fit. The school is not the wwright one for your child. Choosing the right school is a difficult decision for everyone involved, and instead of forcing a square peg into a round hole it is an even more difficult, yet braver, decision to admit that maybe it's time to find the square hole. The school may be highly-rated,

recognised for its results year in, year out, but that does not necessarily mean that it is the best for your child.

If this is the case, there are options available. At Abbey College Manchester our intake is open-ended, taking place throughout the academic year, not just in September and our teaching as individual as the student. In 2010, we had 19 students that came to us in October, November and even beyond due to the fact that they weren't achieving the grades that were expected of them at their previous school. They have had great success with us achieving high grades in GCSEs, AS and A2.

School should be about the nurturing of students, not in a mothering way but equipping them with the skills and experiences to make the transition to university or to employment much easier. One of the things that we do with students is work out the individual learning style. This helps us to create independent, responsible learners who grow in confidence. Find out more by visiting our website: www.abbeymanchester.co.uk

RECORD BREAKING EXAMINATION SUCCESS

Students, staff and parents at Abbey College Manchester have been celebrating after another year of outstanding achievement for our students. In terms of A-Levels, 62% of all exams taken were graded at A*, A or B, as well as 33% at A* or A, and there was an overall pass rate of 99%.

These are the best set of results for the college in recent years and testament to the hard work our students have put in. Our Business BTEC Programme was similarly successful with the majority of students gaining entry into good universities.

Over 90% of our students have gained entry to their first choice university course, including Biological, Physical and Computer Sciences, Engineering and Maths, Humanities, Economics, Accounting and Business and Art & Design.

GCSE results were also very strong with 77% of all examinations graded at A* to C which is way above the national average.

