

## RECORD-BREAKING RESULTS



Head Christine Chapman

# More than half students achieve exam benchmark

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increased in 2009 to 73 per cent, a rise of 2.6 per cent on the results the previous year. That, too, was higher than the national average of 70 per cent.

## Grades are a tribute to pupils' hard work

BOTH head teachers at Deal's secondary schools were pleased with the details released in the latest set of government league tables.

Walmer Science College head Simon Heaton said: "The school was the highest performing high school in Dover, Deal and Sandwich over the last two years as regards the percentage of students achieving five or more higher grade GCSE passes including English and maths.

"In 2009, a record 63 per cent achieved the equivalent of five or more higher grade GCSE passes now that a wider variety of courses are available in Key Stage 4."

More than 75 per cent of Castle Community College Year 11

pupils achieved at least five A-C grades in their GCSE examinations in 2009. Some students gained 13 A-C grades.

The school again achieved National Challenge targets, improving both English and maths results.

Head teacher Christine Chapman said she was especially pleased with the vocational results, with business, ICT, performing arts, sport and health and social care achieving a 100 per cent pass rate.

Food technology, art and resistant materials outcomes were also impressive, along with music and science. Mrs Chapman added: "Pupils and staff have been congratulated for continued hard work and impressive results."

IT WAS another record-breaking year for east Kent's secondary schools with classroom standards improving yet again in 2009.

More than half of all pupils securing five or more good GCSE passes, according to the latest set of league tables.

Official figures show that 52.8 per cent of pupils passed five or more GCSEs including maths and English in 2009, up by three per cent on the previous year.

It is the first time since the government introduced a new benchmark to reflect passes in maths and English that Kent has breached the 50 per cent mark.

The county outstripped the national average of 49.8 per cent.

The percentage of students achieving five or more GCSE passes in all subjects also