

A-level results

Table with columns: Pupil entries, Exam entries, 1st A\*, 2nd A\*, 3rd A\*. Lists schools like Queen Elizabeth's Col, Mixed, Ind, York and their results.



Students receive results at Pate's Grammar School in Cheltenham, one of the top state schools

Single-sex schools top league

Nicola Woolcock
Single-sex schools dominate the Times exam results table published today, vindicating their popularity with some parents. While the number of fee-charging single-sex schools has declined in recent years those that have resisted becoming co-educational are still achieving the highest grades. Of the three mixed schools in the top 10, one is a former boys' school and another takes girls only in the sixth form. Almost half of the schools in the top 20 are girls' schools, three are boys' schools, and 15 are independent. The number of independent single-sex schools has fallen in the past 20 years, particularly among boys. There are 115 private boys' schools, about half the number open in 1994. North London Collegiate School, an independent girls' school, was the top single-sex school, in third place. Guildford

High School, another girls' school, was fourth, and a boys' school from the same town in Surrey, Royal Grammar School, came next. The other girls' schools in the top 10 were City of London, Withington Girls' School in Manchester and the Henrietta Barnett School in north London. Fiona Boulton, headmistress at Guildford High School, said: "The results have held up well and pupils are in a better place with universities in terms of flexibility. "We have a strong focus on balance and perspective. There's an atmosphere of relaxed excellence - it's a fun place to be. The girls in the upper sixth have become national debating champions, whatever they do, they set out to do well in." Fifteen of the 97 girls who took A levels achieved at least three A\* grades and 19 secured places at Oxford or Cambridge. Pate's Grammar School in Gloucestershire was one of the

highest-achieving state schools with almost 95 per cent of results graded A\* to B. Russel Ellicott, its headteacher, said: "The results are our best ever. But more heartening than the results is the vast majority of pupils have got into their first choice university. It means there have been lots of smiley faces. "More than 20 are going to Oxford or Cambridge, out of our cohort of 100. Increasing numbers are going to university abroad, in Europe, Dubai and the US. We spend a lot of time making sure they're making the right choice." Mr Ellicott said the school strived to ensure excellence by going beyond the curriculum in "teaching, inquisitive learners make use of their talents" and to stand out in university interviews. The pupils also do extra-curricular and charity work on a Tuesday afternoon.

Table with columns: Pupil entries, Exam entries, 1st A\*, 2nd A\*, 3rd A\*. Lists schools like St Francis Col, Girls, Sel, Ind, Hertfordshire and their results.