

# SCHOOLS NEWS

## STATE'S TOP SCHOOLS

Percentage of VCE scores of 40 and over

### PRIVATE

Beth Rivkah Ladies College, St Kilda East	35
Bialik College, Hawthorn East	35
Mount Scopus Memorial College, Burwood	35
Leibler Yavneh College, Elsternwick	33
Huntingtower School, Mount Waverley	30
Loreto Mandeville Hall, Toorak	29
Melbourne Grammar School, Melbourne	29
St Kevin's College, Toorak	29

### GOVERNMENT

MacRobertson Girls High School, Melbourne	44
John Monash Science School, Clayton (very small sample size)	40
Melbourne High School, South Yarra	38
Victorian College of the Arts, Southbank	27
Victorian College for the Deaf, Melbourne (very small sample size)	25
Glen Waverley Secondary College, Glen Waverley	21
McKinnon Secondary College, McKinnon	17
University High School, Parkville	16
Balwyn High School, Balwyn North	15
Melbourne Girls' College, Richmond	15

### REGIONAL/RURAL

Ballarat Clarendon College, Ballarat	27
The Peninsula School, Mount Eliza	21
The Geelong College, Newtown	20
Woodleigh School, Baxter	19
Girton Grammar School, Bendigo	18
Goulburn Valley Grammar, Shepparton	18
Sacred Heart College Geelong, Newtown	18
Ballarat Grammar, Wendouree	16
Gippsland Grammar, Sale	13
Hopetoun Secondary College, Hopetoun (very small sample size)	13



Ballarat Clarendon college year 12 students (left to right) Benjamin Shepherd, Jessica Oxlade, Abbey Steggall, Samuel McDonald, Mehul Srivastava and Hamish Lanyon all scored over 99 for their VCE results.  
PICTURE: JOE ARMAO

# Familiar names at top of the VCE summit

By **JEWEL TOPSFIELD**  
EDUCATION EDITOR

STUDENTS at private and selective government schools dramatically outperformed those at other public schools in this year's VCE, raising fears Victoria has a segregated education system.

MacRobertson Girls High School, a selective government school where more than 1200 students compete for 225 year 9 places every year, blitzed the field with 44 per cent of subject scores 40 or above.

But the public system was generally poorly represented in the rankings, which were dominated by private schools, most

of them from the eastern suburbs.

The highest-performing non-selective or specialist state school was Glen Waverley Secondary College, with 21 per cent of study scores 40 or above. VCE subjects are marked out of 50, with a study score of 30 the average, and more than 40 considered an excellent result.

Jewish schools did exceptionally well, with Beth Rivkah Ladies College (35 per cent of study scores 40 or above), Bialik College (35 per cent), Mount Scopus Memorial College (35 per cent) and Leibler Yavneh College (33 per cent) all in the top 10.

Mount Scopus principal

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Rabbi James Kennard said it was phenomenal that four Jewish schools were among the top 10, when the Jewish community comprised a tiny fraction of the population.

"This is a tribute to the quality of our schools, but also to the Jewish community's love for learning and the students' desire to succeed," Rabbi Kennard said.

Ballarat Clarendon College

was the highest-performing regional school for the seventh successive year, with 27 per cent of study scores over 40, placing the school in the top 10.

Sam McDonald, who scored 99.4, said teachers at Ballarat Clarendon predicted how each student would perform in a subject then encouraged them to beat their predicted score, which was adjusted throughout the year depending on how well they performed.

"It was really good because it provided motivation — if you started going down, you knew you needed to put in a bit more work in that subject," he said.

Professor Stephen Lamb, an education professor at the Uni-

versity of Melbourne, said Victoria had a very segregated education system.

"All of the top-performing schools are selective in one form or another, either through academic tests or the application of fees," Professor Lamb said. "We tend to have kids from wealthy backgrounds who have the highest NAPLAN and VCE results at elite private schools and selective-entry schools and a lot of kids from poorer backgrounds in government schools or poorer Catholic schools."

"Ultimately, some schools can't achieve the same thing because all the kids they would normally have in their intake have been removed."