



# THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF WATCHMAKING

A **WOSTEP** PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL



**Summer 2021**

## WELCOME BACK TO BSOW

2020 was quite a year to remember, and not just because of the pandemic.

For us it became one of the biggest years in the schools history, 6,500 square feet to be precise!

Read on to find out more!

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## RELOCATION TO A NEW PREMISES

We are delighted to inform you that the British School of Watchmaking has relocated and is now based on a 6,500 sq ft premises in Cheadle, Great Manchester.

Our new building is double the size of the School's original home in Sale, where it was based for 14 years. This much needed additional space not only helps us develop our current courses to meet the demands of the UK watch industry, it gives the school flexibility in its future offerings. With increased size workshops for both our 1800 hour and 3000 hour courses and additional workshop space to meet future needs, this new building will be our home for many years to come.

Since 2006 our sole purpose has been to supply the industry with fully qualified watchmakers, bolstering the UK workforce. With our new facility we now have the capacity to begin to diversify and in addition to our current courses we can now begin to offer further services to our industry.

At the same time as moving, we also updated a large amount of the equipment used in our 3000 Hour Course. After 14 years of operating this course, the £100K investment in tooling and equipment ensures it remains up to date and in line with the rest of our world leading school.





## FUTURE PLANS

For the first time since 2006 we find ourselves in an exciting position, one where we have the capacity to offer a much broader range of services.

During the re-fit of our new building consideration was given to this and two additional workshops were included in the design. These new work spaces will be put to good use and will include a short course program along with a WOSTEP Polishing Course which will be the first of its kind in the UK.

Work is now underway to complete our new workshops, provide teacher training and develop course content. We anticipate that these new courses will start to become available during 2022. Please keep an eye open for future announcements.



## LOCK DOWN 2021

January 2021 forced the school once more into lock down.

Just like March 2020, this involved all of our students returning home. Unfortunately, this time round it was brought into effect at the very start of the course, day two to be exact. This timing made an already challenging situation even more troublesome.

Thankfully, the hard work of the schools teaching staff and the absolute dedication of our students meant major problems have been averted. Distance learning commenced immediately which built on our experience gained during 2020, effective practical lessons were delivered on a daily basis throughout this period of disruption.

Now both of our full time courses are back in the school and back on track, our students will graduate on time with results comparable to a "normal" year!



## EXAMINATION RESULTS

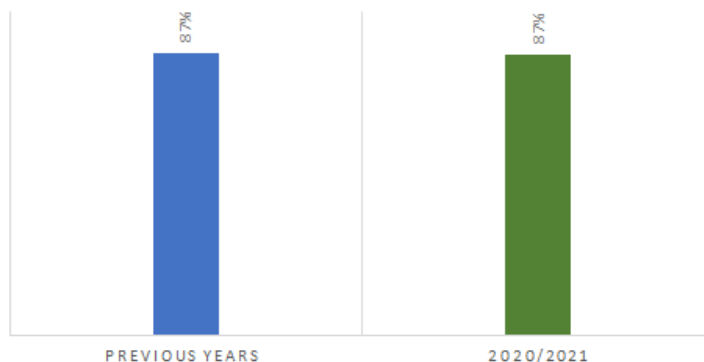
It's fair to say many education providers really struggled during 2020 and 2021 and as a result many exams and assessments were heavily modified or even dropped completely.

We knew just how well we were doing and also what our students are capable of, so with no modifications whatsoever to our WOSTEP exams we continued as normal. As a result, our "COVID graduates" qualifications are identical to those from previous years, an accolade very few have managed in recent times!

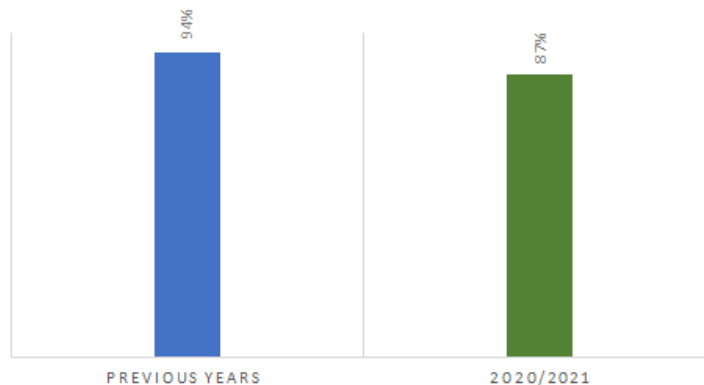
The charts to the right show just how well our students did. All not only took it in their stride and passed the same unmodified exams, they passed them with excellent results too. Crucially, their all-important final exam results were completely unaffected. Even the less important intermediate examinations, taken during the peak of the disruption remained way above the 60% pass mark!

The upper chart shows the outstanding average result for final examination results taken during 2020/2021, compared to the average from the previous three years. The lower shows the same data but for intermediate examinations.

### FINAL EXAMINATIONS



### INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATIONS



## KEY DATES

**1800 Hour Course  
Application Deadline**  
August 2021

**1800 Hour Course Final  
Examination**  
December 2021

**1800 & 3000 Hour  
Course Application  
Deadline**  
July 2022

Just like in 2020, this year the pandemic tried its best to disrupt our operation, thankfully we're becoming increasingly resilient.

As things turned out, the last six months have been some of the most positive in the schools history. We already had the best horological training facility in the UK, now its physical size has grown to match that of its reputation.

Despite the uncertainties the last 15 months have brought, there really hasn't been a better time to get involved with BSOW. Whether it's regarding training or getting involved as a supporter, we'd love to hear from you.

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