

Alsama



Report on Alsama's Education Center "Shatila 1"

September 2024

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1. Overview of Shatila 1

2. Highlights from this Academic Year

3. Appendix (Detailed Assessment Results)



Alsama's 2023-2024 academic year marks exceptional growth and resilience in spite of persistent challenges



Shatila continues to be a challenging environment to live and operate in

- Characterized by its extreme population density, Shatila now supports over 40,000 individuals, primarily Syrian refugees, within a single square kilometer.
- The camp's already strained infrastructure is further tested by the ongoing regional conflicts, including the intensified violence since October that has led to heightened uncertainty and increased strain on resources within Shatila.

Despite this, Shatila 1 has achieved remarkable success over the past academic year.

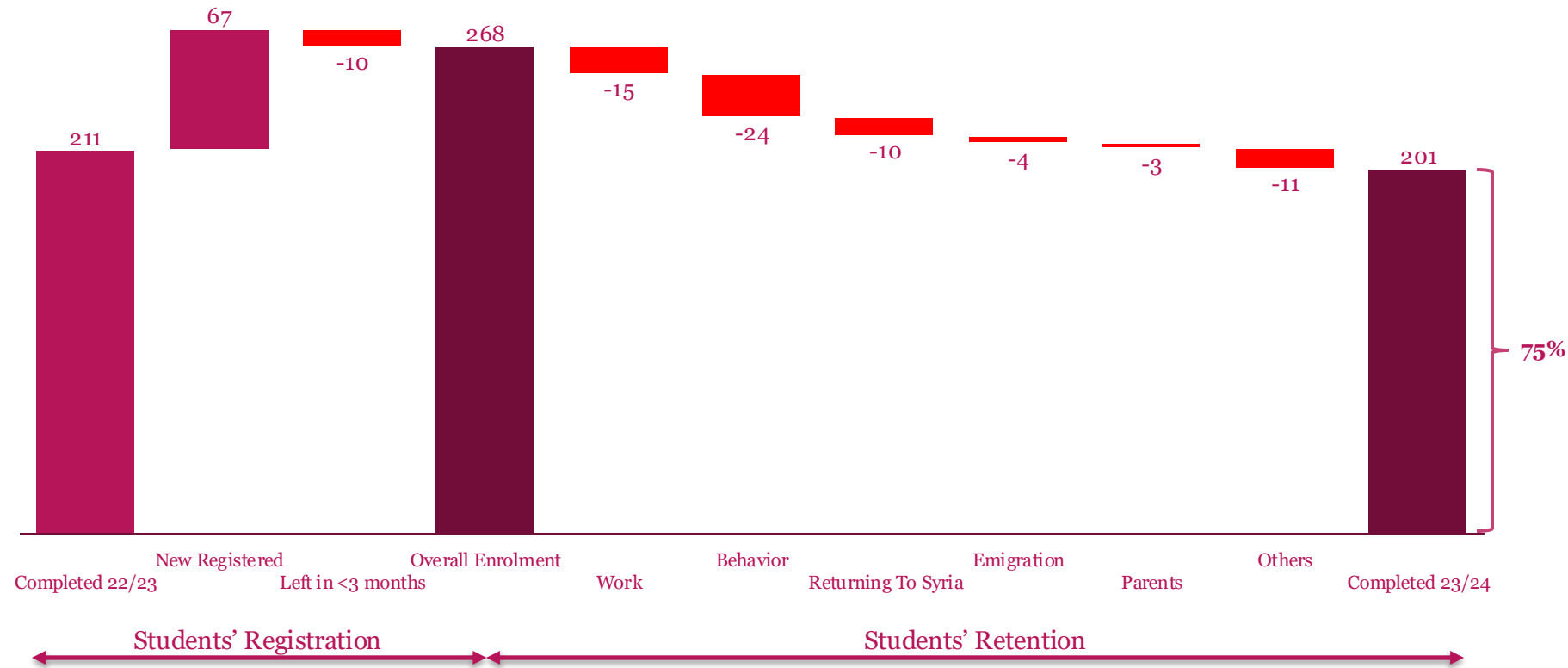
- Since its opening in November 2020, Shatila 1 has been Alsama's flagship centre, piloting innovative educational strategies before broader implementation.
- Now in its fourth year, Shatila 1 continues to excel, supporting top students who are well beyond the halfway point in their education.



Amidst challenging conditions, we successfully educated 202 students and achieved a remarkable 75% retention rate



Students in/out across 2023-24 academic year



And after 4 years of operating, 21 students had achieved B2 level in English and UK 13+ in Maths

Level	1	2	3	4
# of Students	100	67	13	21
English Level	Cambridge A1	Cambridge A2	Cambridge B1	Cambridge B2
Maths Level	UK 7+	UK 9+	UK 11+	UK 13+
Arabic Level	Cambridge A1	Cambridge A2	Cambridge B1	Cambridge B2



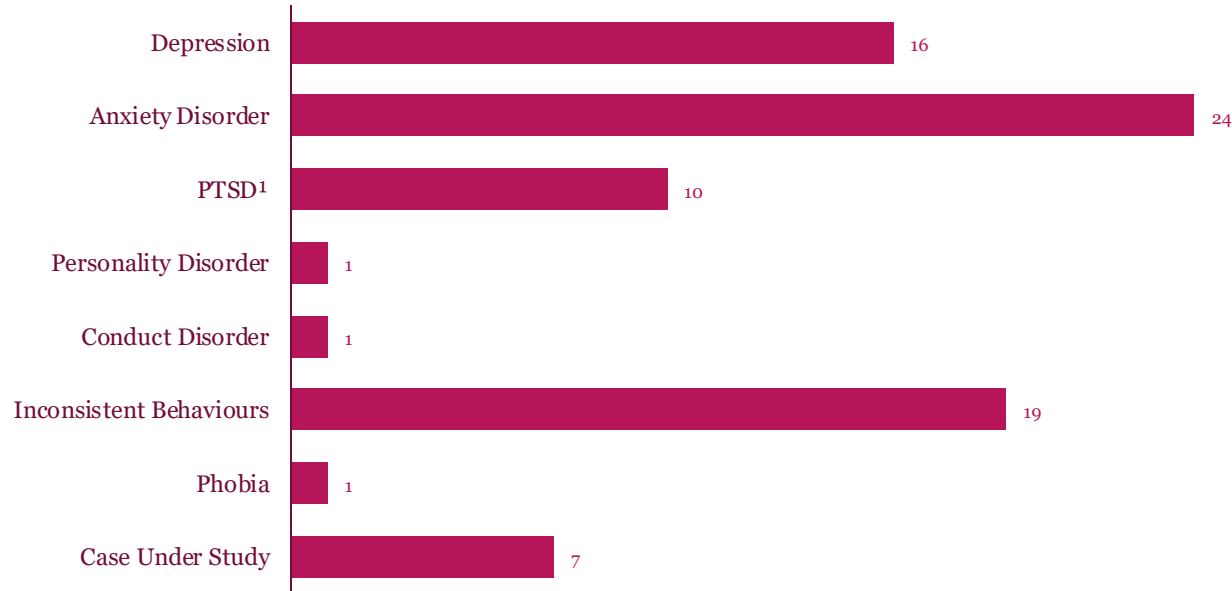
Commentary:

- 21 of our students in Shatila 1 have now reached level 4.
- Our Level 2 students have truly excelled in English, unleashing their creativity through the art of horror storytelling.
- The math department introduced innovative teaching methods, incorporating technology and interactive games to enhance student engagement and learning. More than 90% of Year 4 students in Shatila 1 successfully completed the year and are now preparing for the Year 5 GCSE exam.



We continue to offer vital mental health support to our students, with our in-house psychologist addressing 79 individual cases this year.

Mental health cases in 23/24



Source: Psychology data records in Shatila 1 center – July 2024

¹: Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder



Commentary:

- Many of our students have **traumatic life experiences**, including experiences of war and persecution.
- Our psychologist helps students to **process their trauma** and grow into **confident and balanced students** so they can **thrive in their studies**.





1. Overview of Shatila 1

2. Highlights from this Academic Year

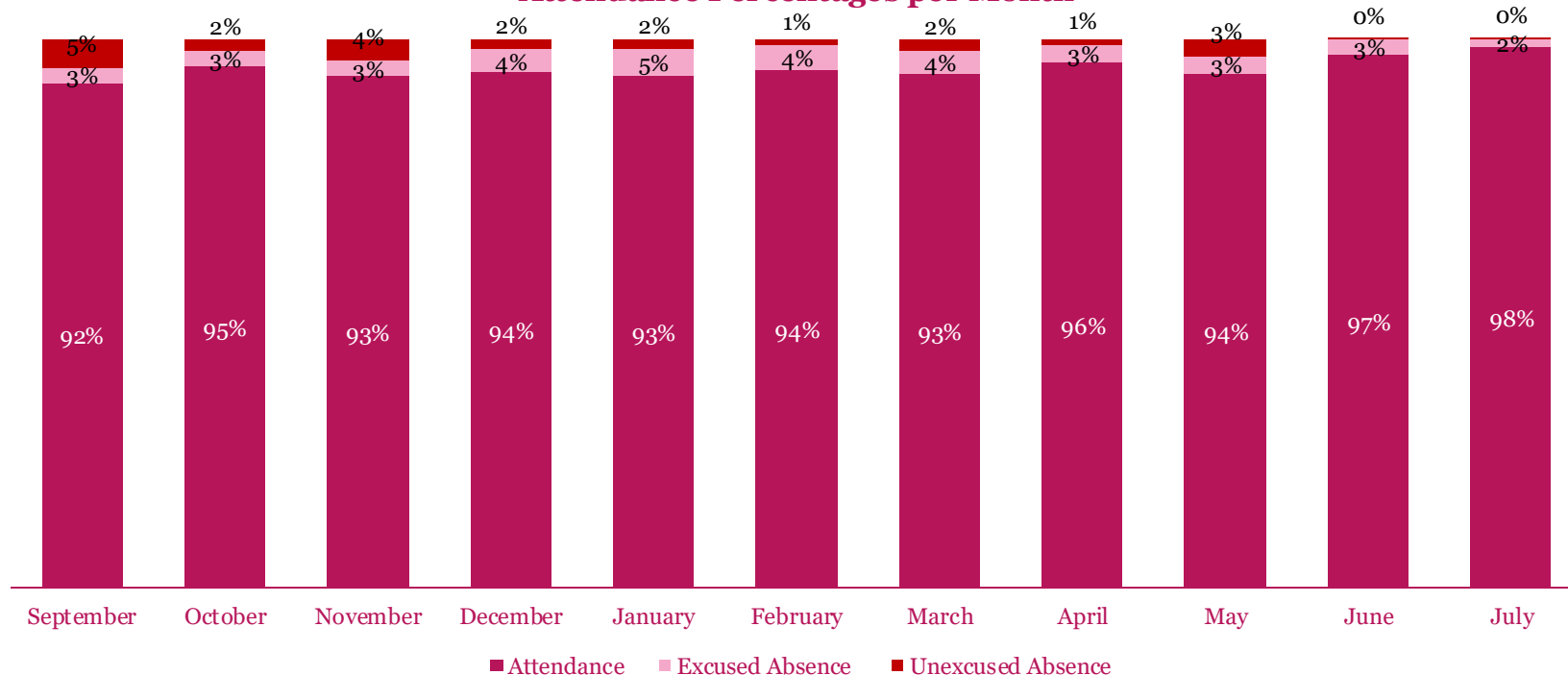
3. Appendix (Detailed Assessment Results)



Our students have been as committed as ever – our attendance rate this year has averaged 95%



Attendance Percentages per Month

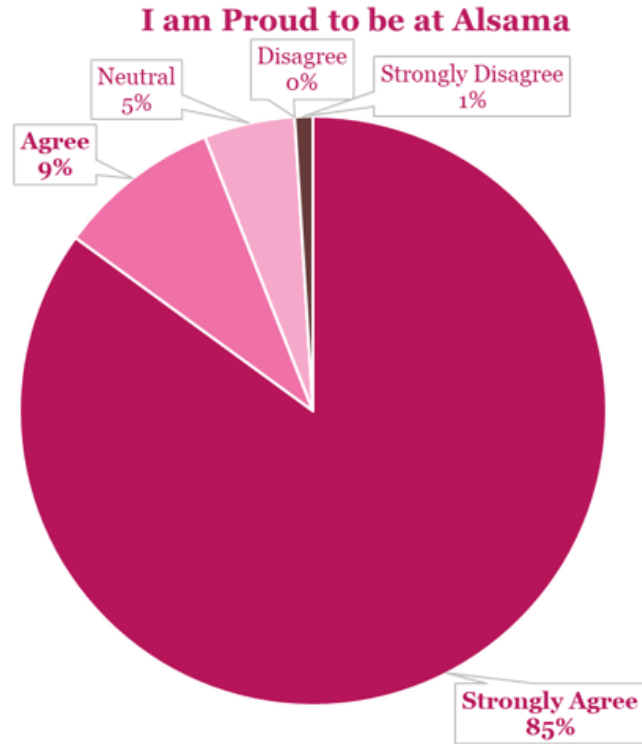


Source: Shatila 1 center attendance records - July 2024

¹We experienced lower attendance in September and November due to a wave of the H1N1 virus.



The reason behind the students' impressive commitment is because they love being here – 94% of the students feel proud to be part of Alsama



Commentary:

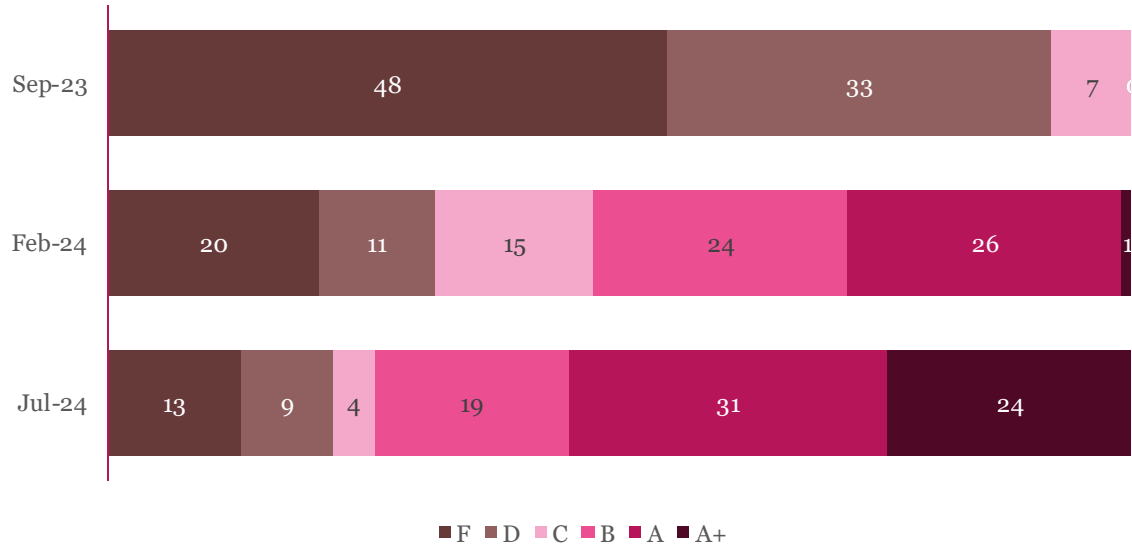
- Our students recognise that we offer their only chance for education and are remarkably dedicated to their education.
- This is reflected in our high attendance rates - we averaged 94% across all schools in the 2023/4 academic year.
- Our students often arrive early and have to be told to go home at the end of the day.



Our new students made significant progress in Arabic – 78% of Arabic level 1 proceeded to the next level.



Marks Distribution in Arabic A1



Commentary:

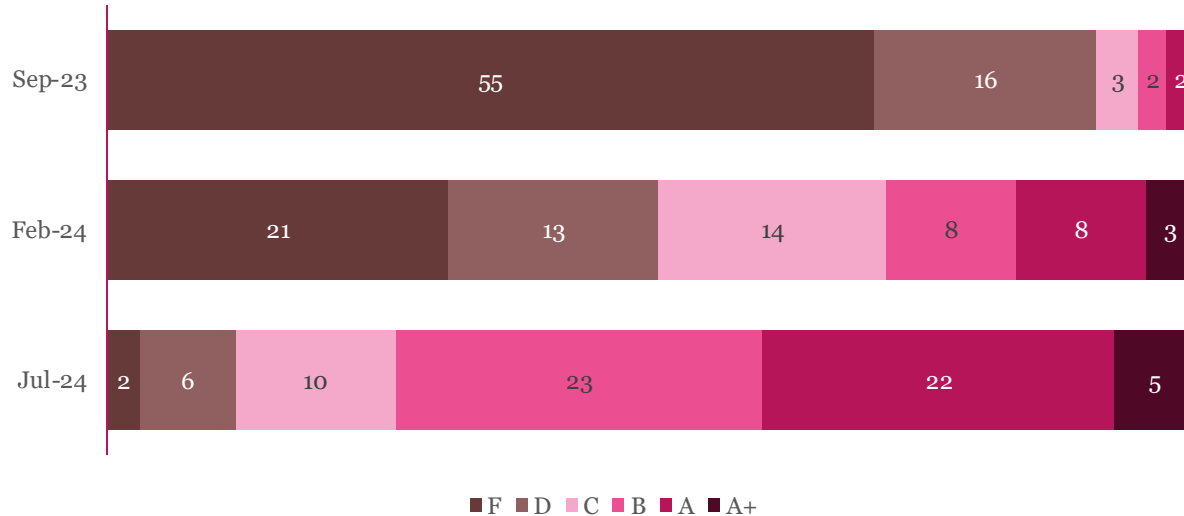
- With **no prior schooling**, many of our new students couldn't read or write in their native language when they started in September.
- In September 2023, the average percentage in **Arabic writing** was **26%**. By **July 2024** this had **risen to 73%**
- Arabic assessments include listening, reading and writing sections.



Our Level 2 students have been making remarkable progress in English, with 40% of them already achieving an A



Marks Distribution in English A2



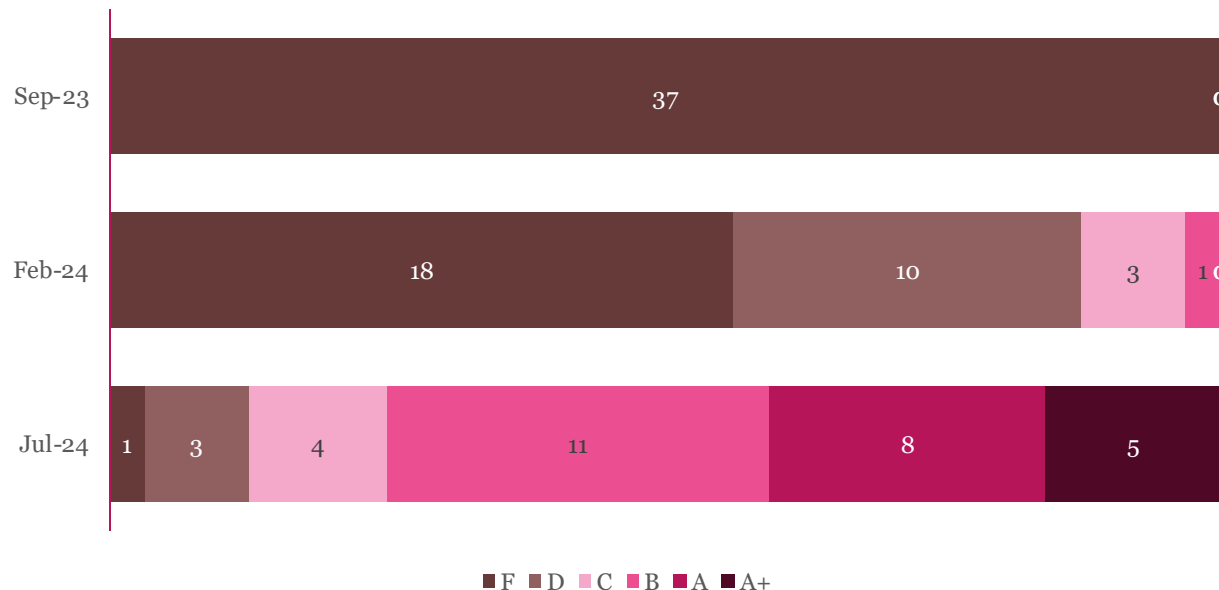
Commentary:

- Students in A2 English are beginning to **read stories such as Thompson's Adventure** that include an **expanded vocabulary**.
- Students practice **speaking** in a range of **daily situations**. Recently, students practiced **asking for + speaking to the manager at a restaurant** – students played both sides of the dialogue.



Our Level 3 students are also showing strong progress – In Maths 75% received a grade B or higher.

Marks Distribution in Math UK 11+

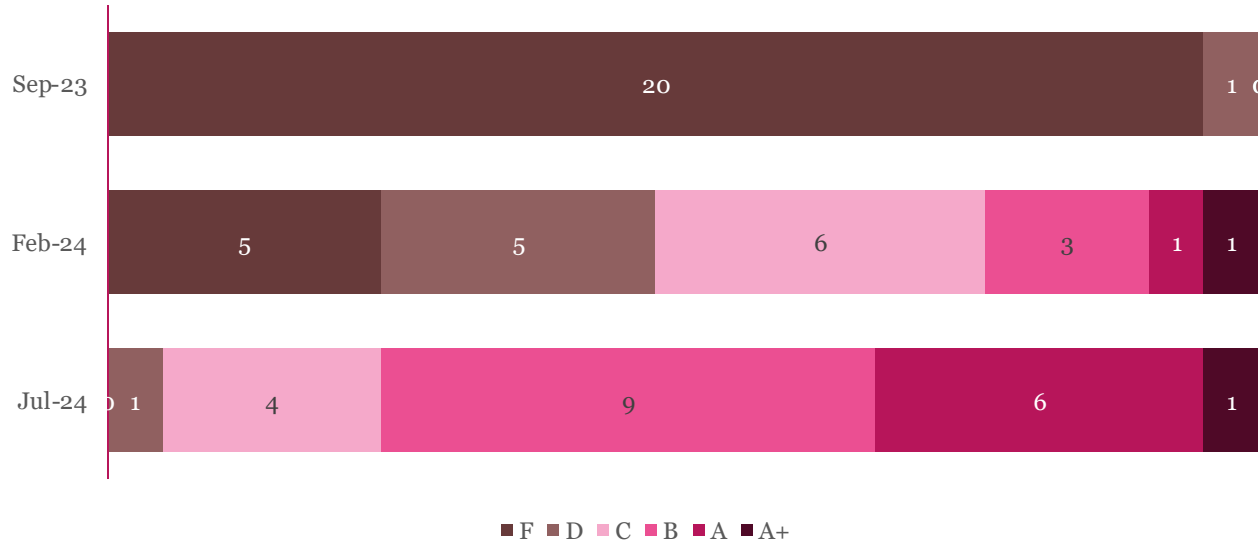


Commentary:

- In September 2023, the average grade for Level 3 maths was 23%. By July 2024, this increased to 75%.
- Alsama has completely eradicated innumeracy across all levels.
- This year our Level 3 students solved **linear equations**, studied **properties of 2D and 3D shapes**, understood and applied **coordinate geometry**, and **basic algebraic concepts**, tackled **algebraic word problems**, interpreted data, and mastered **long division, prime numbers, and divisibility rules**.

And our top students have been challenging themselves in Maths – more than 80% got an B or higher in the final evaluation

Marks Distribution in Math UK 13+



Commentary:

- Level 4 students took Cambridge **B2** level in English and Arabic, and **UK 13+** in Maths.
- Students in this level are able to deal with **Probability and Quadratic Equation**.
- They are also able to use **Simultaneous equations**, solve **Inequalities operations**, use **factorization of algebraic expressions** and understand the **Pythagoras' theorem and trigonometry**.

Maram from level 4 won the *Ambassador for a Day* competition, where she had the unique opportunity to shadow the British Ambassador to Lebanon



Commentary:

- Throughout the day Maram had the opportunity to attend various meetings with the Ambassador.
- She met with the **Minister of Education**, who awarded her a **certificate of appreciation** for her participation in the competition.
- Maram discussed **the importance of including women at the heart of policies to shape Lebanon's future.**
- Maram represented Alsama exceptionally well. Her performance and engagement truly showcased her as a remarkable ambassador for our organisation.



At Alsama, Education knows no age limit! Our women's literacy classes have concluded with great success, graduating 38 women after a year of basic education



Commentary:

- We recently held a heartfelt ceremony to celebrate **the graduation of 38 women from our literacy program.**
- **These women have successfully acquired essential reading and writing skills.** During the event, we honoured the top achievers with certificates of appreciation.
- With this cycle now complete, we are excited to announce that a new session will begin in September, marking the start of the new academic year.



And beyond education, our students have participated in a diverse range of extracurricular activities. Notable highlights include:



A Yoga performance

An incredible yoga performance was delivered by students from Shatila 1 and Shatila 2. The students impressed us with their exceptional skills, challenging and expanding our perceptions of the practice.



Our first hikes this year

Our level 3 and 4 students went into 7 hikes in the beautiful Lebanese mountains during this year. The hikes were between 11 and 21 km long.



Art Exhibition

Our first major art exhibition of the academic year showcased over 30 students' remarkable drawings and artworks. They conveyed their personal stories through their creative pieces. Many visitors from Alsama were delighted and impressed by the students' talents.



IECD¹ Event

At the IECD event, 30 students explored various vocational courses and had the opportunity to try them out. This experience helped them determine their interests, and many left enthusiastic, having registered for some courses and eagerly awaiting their start.

¹IECD is a French NGO operating in Lebanon, focused on the professional and social integration of disadvantaged youth. They have established recognized programs in vocational training and professional integration.

And all our students have been taking ownership of their lives and shaping their futures: from Wisal Al Jaber's academic triumph to Mahmoud Shahoud's new role in education



**Wissal Al Jaber - 17 years old
joined Alsama in 2020**

Began as an illiterate student. She applied for and won a scholarship from Al Futtaim Foundation to continue her education at an American school in Dubai. Despite this opportunity, Wissal chose to stay at Alsama so she could graduate and start university one year earlier – a testament to the quality of education and the supportive environment provided by Alsama.



**Mahmoud Shahoud - 17 years old
joined Alsama in 2022**

He was previously working as a tailor; he had a strong passion for learning and persuaded his family to support his decision to pursue education. He quickly improved his academic skills and advanced to level 3. Mahmoud will now begin teaching a special group of illiterate students in the preparatory class before they join Alsama.



And we have exciting plans for the future - Securing WASC¹ accreditation and expanding our music and art programs are just a few of the many initiatives we have in the works



Academic

We intend to apply for Shatila 1 accreditation from WASC. Also, we are preparing our level 5 students to qualify for university scholarships by guiding them in career selection and teaching them how to navigate the application process.



Hiking & Camping

Due to the success of our hiking programs last year, we are thrilled to launch our first Duke of Edinburgh camping program in September. We will also continue to conduct hikes with progressively more challenging levels.



Music & Art

We are excited to expand our Music department to include new instruments such as the flute, guitar, and darbuka. We will also continue to host more Art exhibitions, and four of our students will have the opportunity to showcase their drawings at an Art studio in London.



¹WASC standing for Western Association of Schools and Colleges



1. Overview of Shatila 1

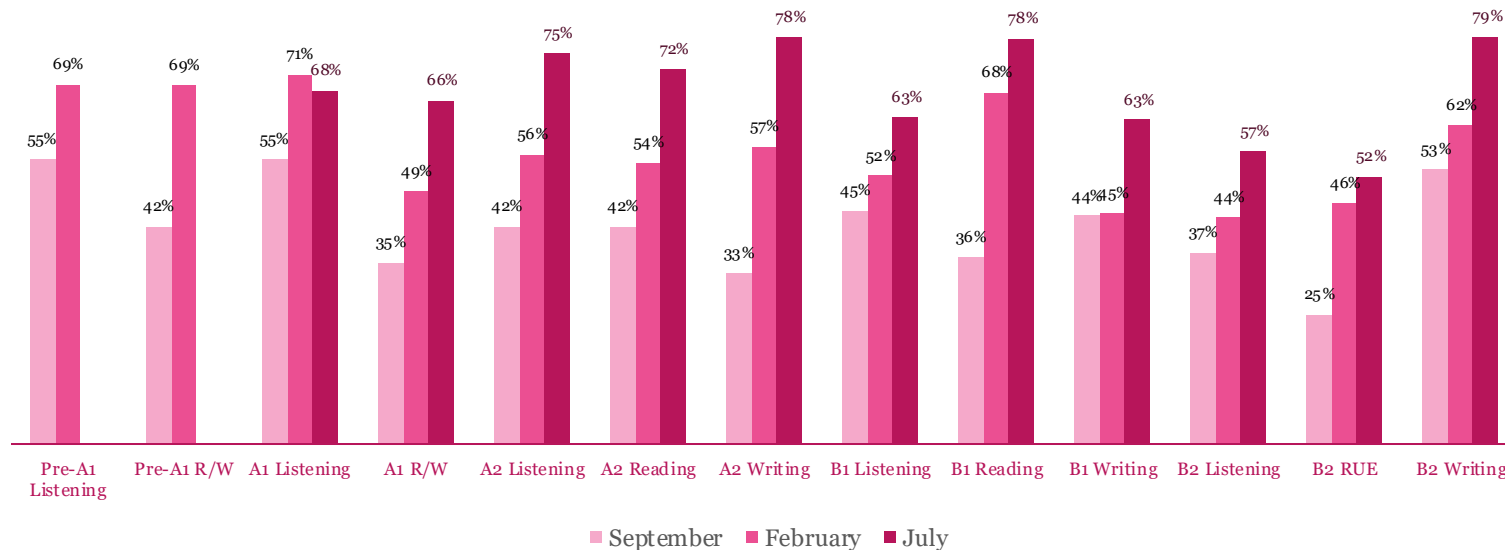
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Students have made strong progress in English across the broad – in particular achieving 2.4x improvement in A2 writing

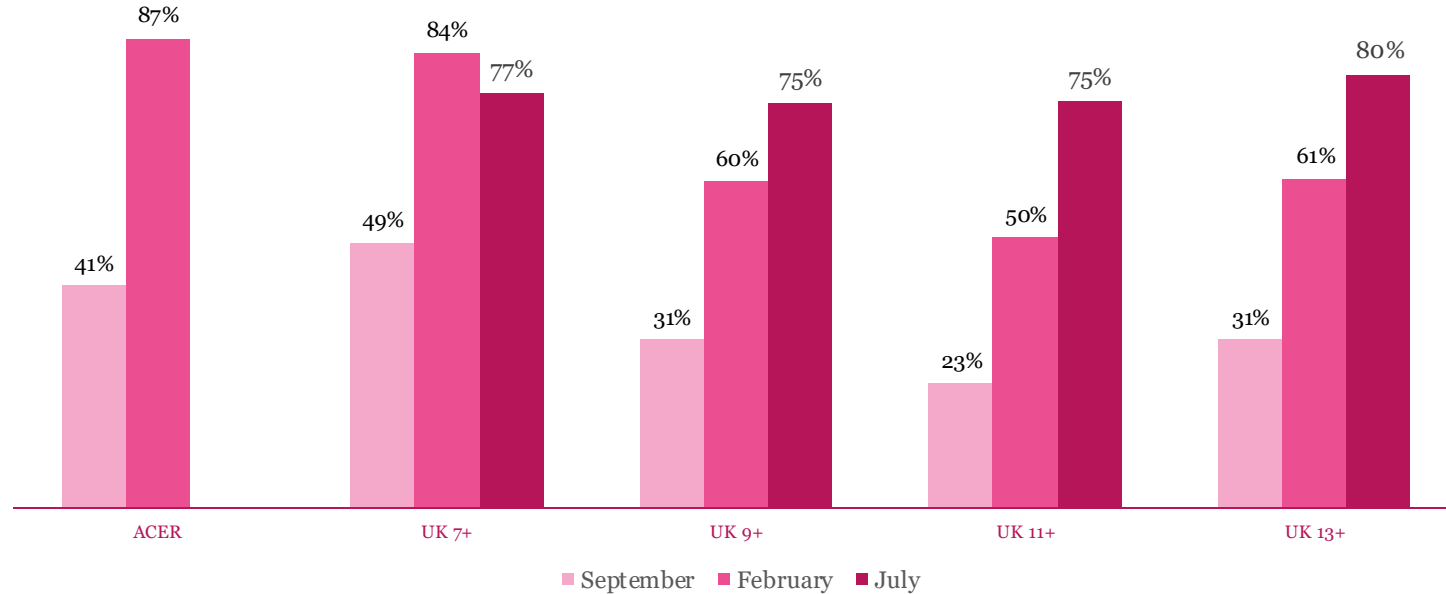


English Average Percentages per Level



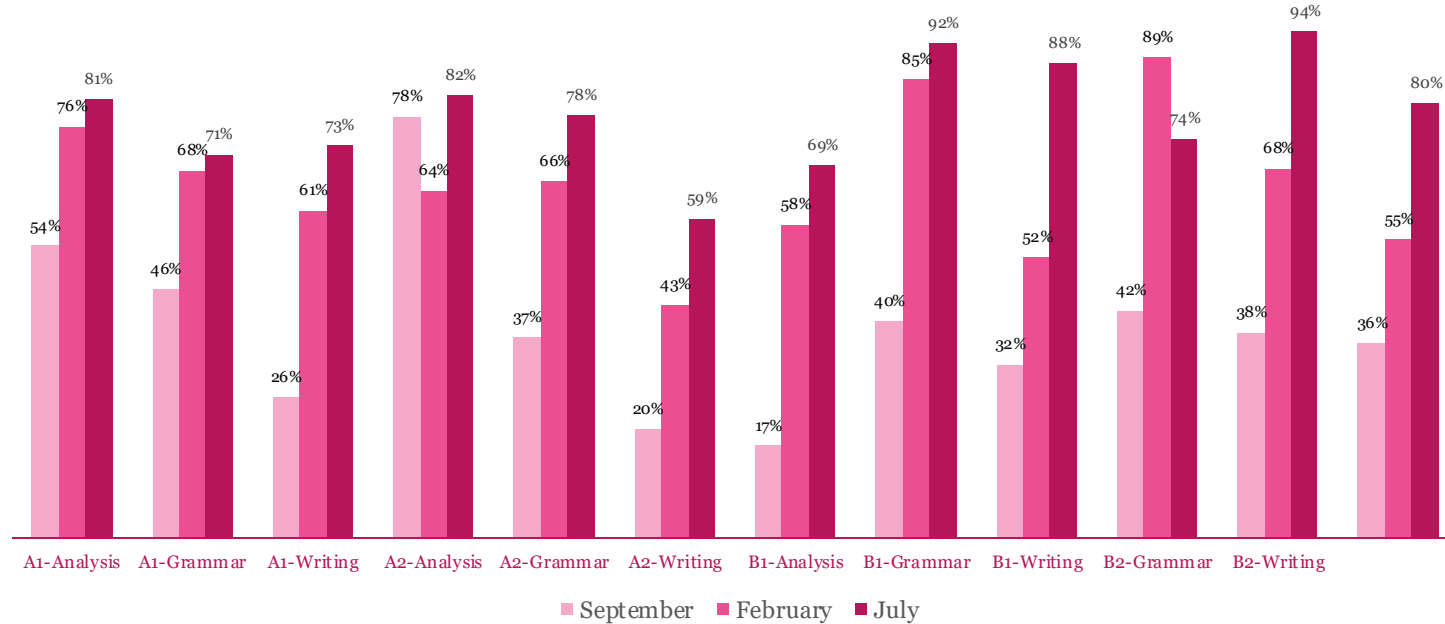
Results have also been strong in Maths – a significant 3.3x improvement in UK 11+ level

Maths Average Percentages per Level



Progress has also been made in Arabic – an average of 2.4x improvement in B1 and B2 grammar is a particular highlight

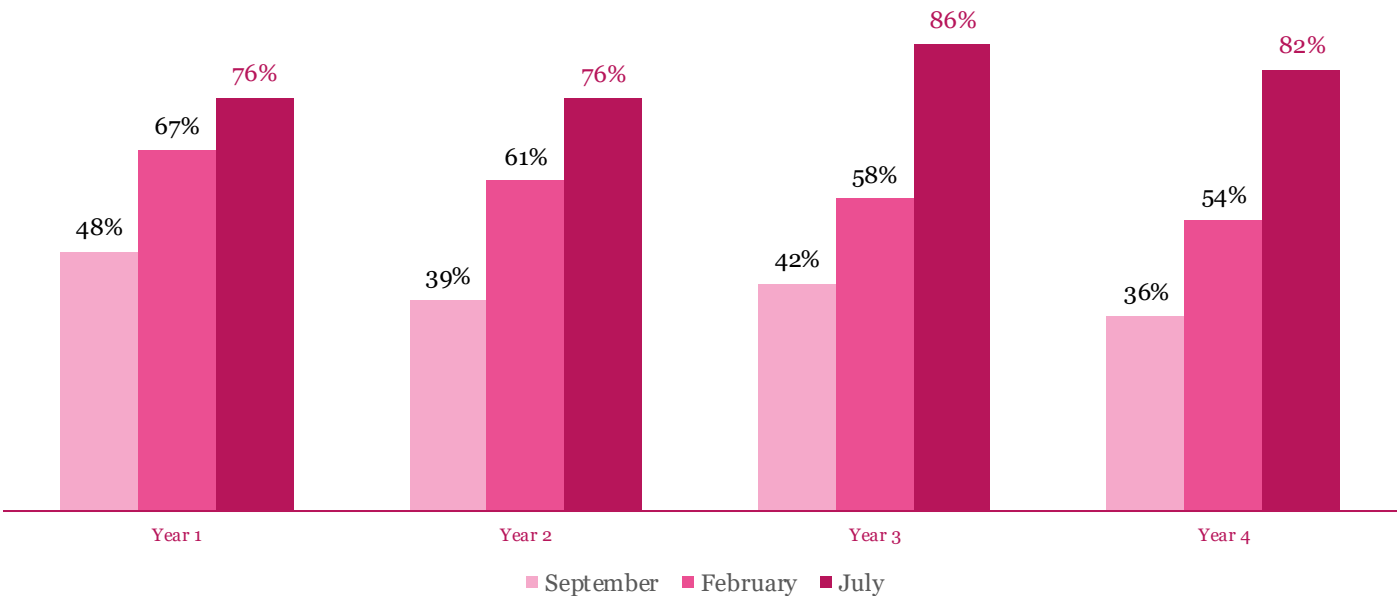
Arabic Average Percentages per Level



Students have shown steady improvement in CTBL across all levels – our top level students improved 2.3x

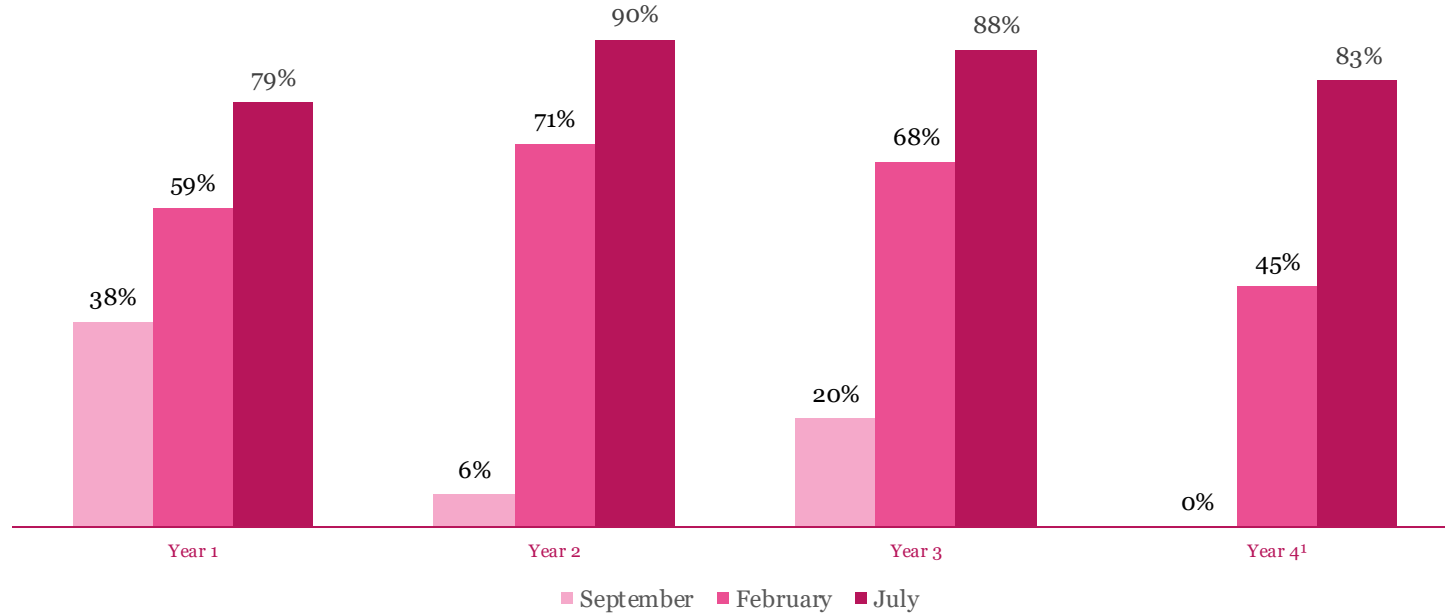


CTBL Average Percentages per Level



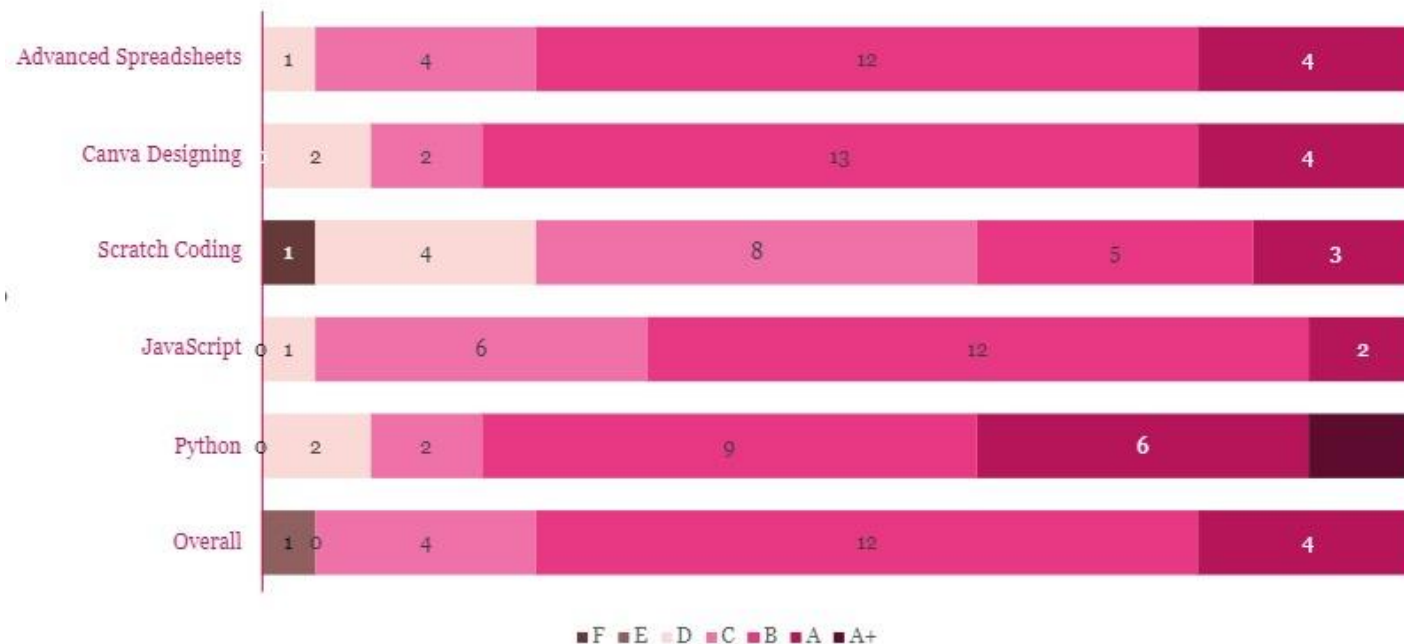
We have seen fantastic progress in IT – especially in Level 2, where students improved by 15x

IT Average Percentages per Level



And our Level 4 students have successfully completed their 5 IT projects for this year – 95% of the students got a B or higher overall

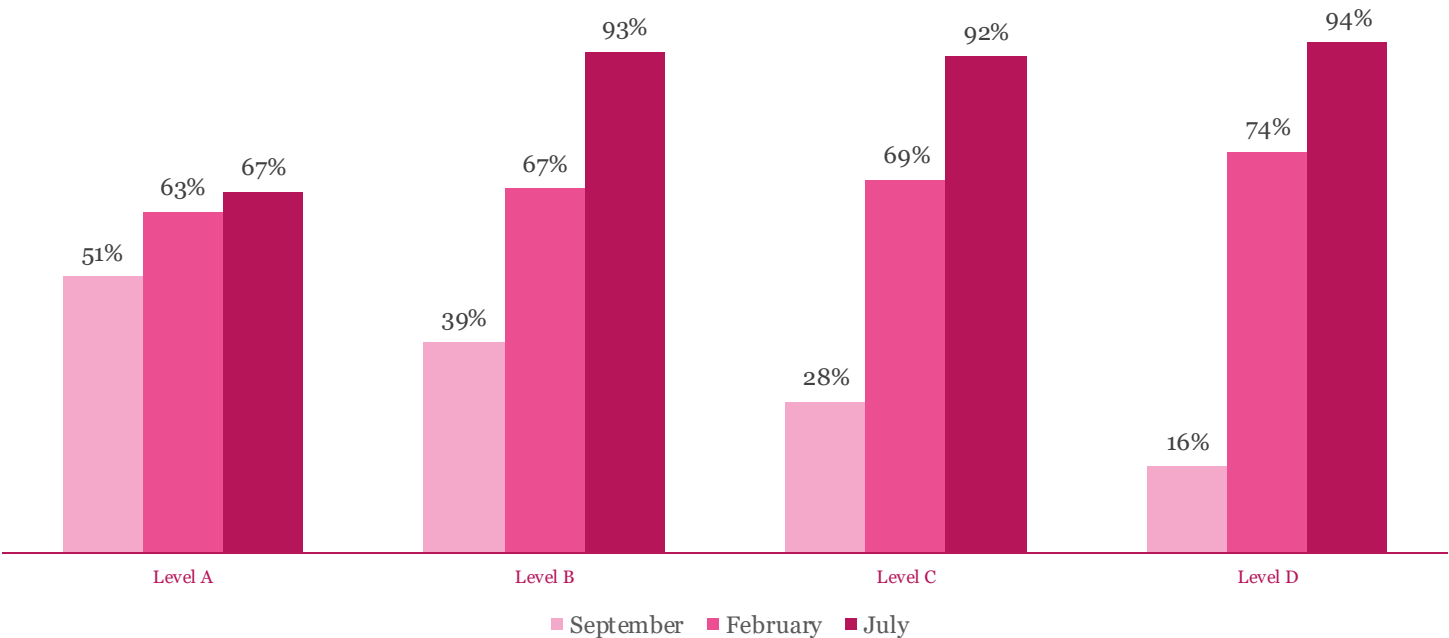
Year 4 students grades in IT projects so far



Students have been making strong progress in Awareness – our top level students improved by a significant 5.9x



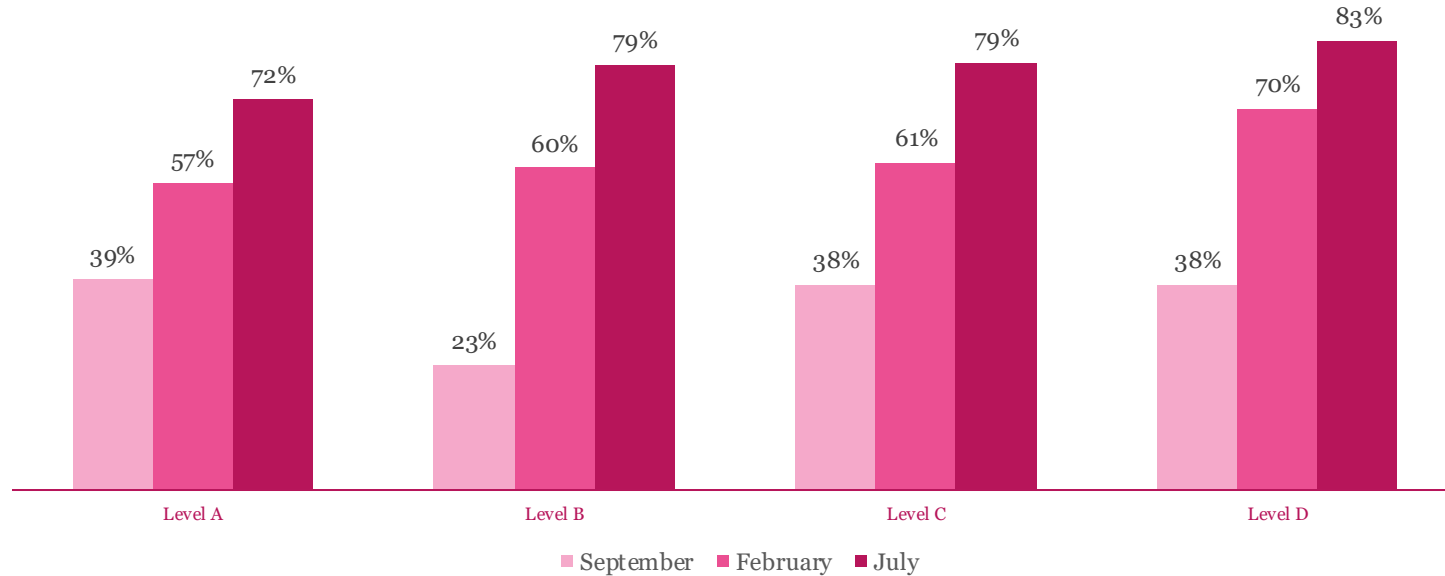
Awareness Average Percentages per Level



In Yoga, students have shown steady progress across all levels – averaging 2.4x improvement

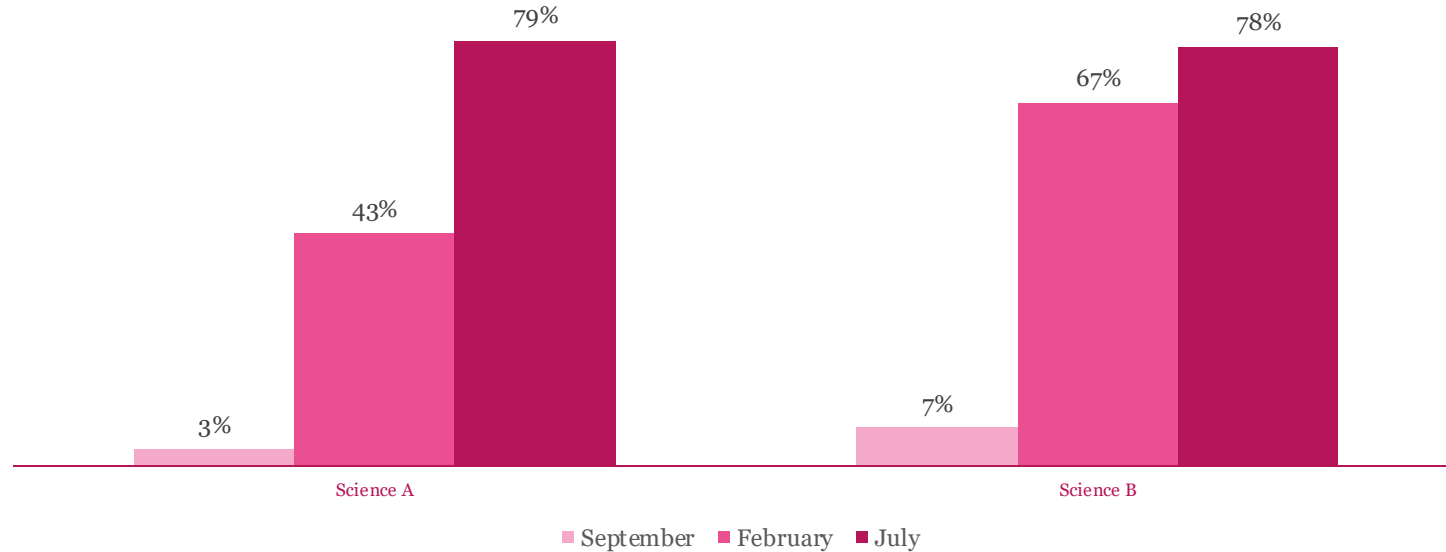


Yoga Average Percentages per Level



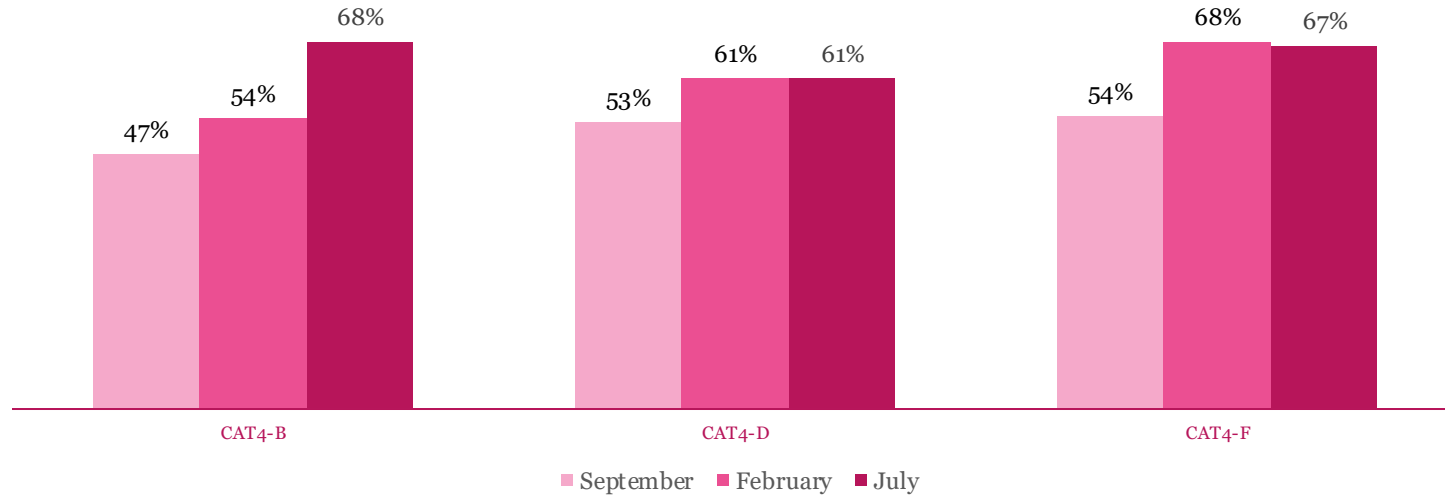
Students have been making outstanding progress in science – achieving 26x and 11x improvement in levels A and B respectively

Science Average Percentages per Level



In Logical Reasoning, students have also shown steady progress just reaching their annual goal

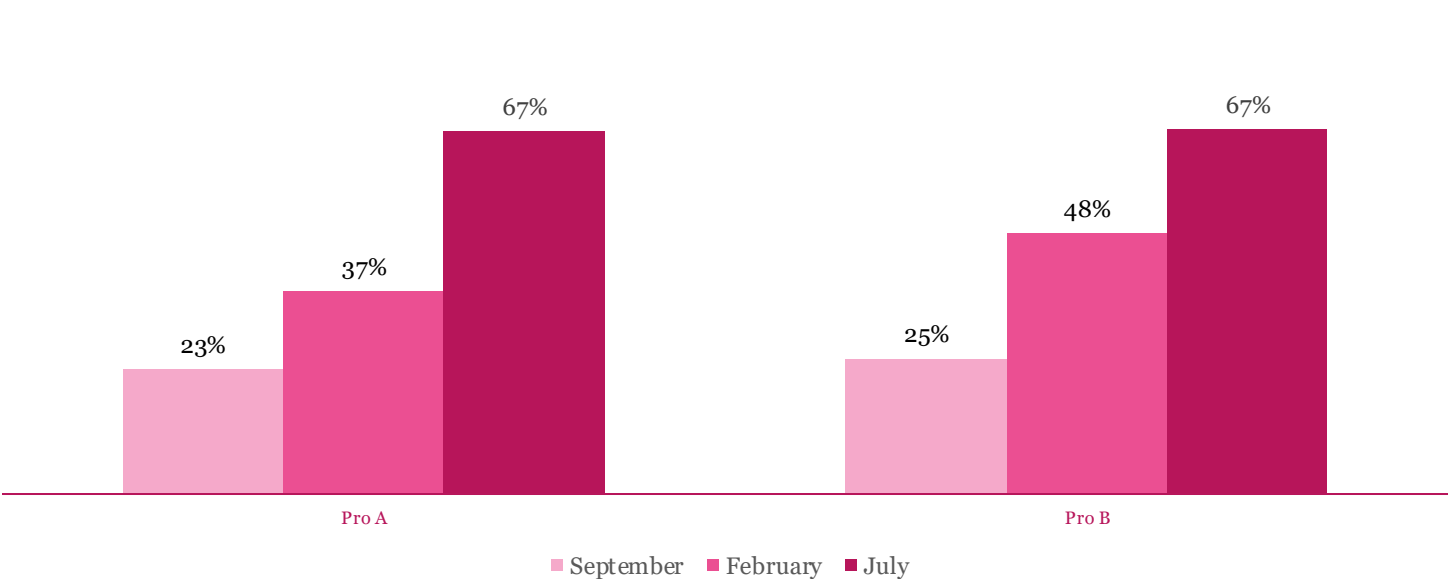
Logical Reasoning Average Percentages per Level



And our professional students have shown almost 2.8x improvement across both levels



Professionalism Average Percentages per Level



Alsama

Thank you

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