Kelly Sammut

HUME’S private schools are leading the way to further education, with 70 per cent or more of each school’s year 12 students going on to university or TAFE.

Improving on last year’s results, government schools were not too far behind. But it was Upfield’s Isik College that again shone with 97 per cent of last year’s students taking on further studies.

The results are part of the On Track data released last week, which follows what last year’s year 12s are doing now.

Only Sunbury’s two public schools fell below 60 per cent of students in further education.

Both of those schools had higher percentages of students going on to employment or apprenticeships than most.

Yusuf Doger was last year’s Isik College dux with an ENTER of 98.15 and one of the school’s 86 per cent now at university.

Studying for a bachelor of science at Melbourne University, Mr Doger hopes to become a teacher to give back to other students the way his teachers helped him.

“Year 12 was a lot of stress and pressure but all my friends, family and especially the teachers were very supportive,” he said.

“Our teachers stayed back after school and held special classes (at weekends).

“The teachers helped motivate us so much I know if it wasn’t for them I wouldn’t have gotten such a high score.”

Mr Doger is already giving back to the school by tutoring tutor years 7 and 8 students for free.

It’s this sense of community and mentoring that principal Deniz Erdogan said had seen the school near the top of the state’s list of students who went to further study since the school’s first year 12s graduated in 2002.

“I think the secret is our teachers and the amount of support we give our year 12s,” he said.

“And because Isik College has always done very well, previous students success acts as encouragement to achieve similar success.”

For a full breakdown of where Hume’s class of 2008 is now, go to humeleader.com.au