

9 March 2015

Agenda Item: 04

**REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, EDUCATION STANDARDS AND
INCLUSION**

**PERFORMANCE FIGURES FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SCHOOLS AND
ACADEMIES – ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/14**

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform Members of the achievements of young people attending Nottinghamshire schools and academies in Key Stage assessments in 2013/14.

Information and Advice

2. At the end of each Key Stage, students are assessed by a combination of teacher assessment and/or testing. The expected level of attainment together with assessment age is summarised below:

Key Stage	Age	Expected level of attainment	Method of assessment
Early Years Foundation Stage Profile	3-5	A 'Good Level of Development' – reaching at least expected in all early learning goals in all prime areas and in the specific areas of literacy and mathematics	Teacher Assessed
Key Stage 1	5-7	Level 2+	Teacher Assessed
Key Stage 2	7-11	Level 4+	Test / Teacher Assessed
Key Stage 3	11-14	Level 5+	Teacher Assessed
Key Stage 4 (GCSE and equivalent qualifications)	14-16	5+ A*-C grades including GCSE English and mathematics	Test
Key Stage 5 (GCE A level and equivalent qualifications)	16-18	Average point score per candidate and per exam entry together with threshold pass rates	Test

3. Early Years Foundation Stage together with Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 3 results are reported directly to the Local Authority (LA) or external agencies. Key Stage 2 test results are reported to schools and the LA by the Standards and Testing

Agency. The LA receives Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 results from the DfE / awarding bodies.

4. For each measure the performance of Nottinghamshire is benchmarked against the England average and that of the Council's children's services statistical neighbours, where available. Statistical neighbours changed in late 2014. For comparative purposes, 2013 and 2014 figures in this document are presented against the new statistical neighbour local authorities who are:
 1. Derbyshire
 2. Staffordshire
 3. Lancashire
 4. Worcestershire
 5. Cumbria
 6. Northamptonshire
 7. Essex
 8. Kent
 9. Cheshire West and Chester
 10. Warwickshire

5. The statistical neighbour average is based on the same methodology as used in the local authority interactive tool (LAIT) in that outcomes for each LA are averaged to create a statistical neighbour figure (as opposed to a weighted average). This will have the effect of treating each LA as having an equal population as opposed to a weighted average which takes into account population size. The statistical neighbour average excludes Nottinghamshire results.

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

6. In 2014, 61.7% of Nottinghamshire pupils achieved a good level of development (reaching at least expected in all early learning goals in all prime areas and in the specific areas of literacy and mathematics). This represents an increase of 4.9 percentage points on the 56.8% reported in 2013. Nationally this figure is 60% which represents an increase of 8 percentage points over the same period.

7. The percentage of Nottinghamshire pupils living in the 30% most deprived areas nationally who achieved a good level of development increased from 45.6% in 2013, to 51.2% in 2014. This is an increase of 5.6 percentage points. This is slightly below the national average of 53% for this measure.

8. 2014 headline figures for Nottinghamshire are:

	Nottinghamshire			National			Statistical Neighbours		
	2014	2013	Difference	2014	2013	Difference	2014	2013	Difference
Good Level of Development (GLD)	61.7%	56.8%	↑ 4.9%	60.0%	52.0%	↑ 8.0%	61.4%	52.5%	↑ 8.9%
GLD for those in 30% most deprived areas nationally	51.2%	45.6%	↑ 5.6%	53.0%	44.0%	↑ 9.0%	-	-	

Key Stage 1

9. Since 2005 (when reporting changed to teacher assessments), at Level 2 or above (the expected level for 7 year olds), Nottinghamshire has remained consistently around the national averages in all KS1 subjects (reading, writing, mathematics and science).
10. Reported figures show that the LA has witnessed a slight increase in all subject areas at Level 2+ from 2013.
11. The greatest increase was seen in writing with an increase of 1.2 percentage points from 2013 to 85.7% of pupils attaining Level 2 or higher.
12. Comparisons against national averages place Nottinghamshire in line in all subjects (when rounded) apart from science where attainment at level 2 or above is 1 percentage point above.
13. At the expected level (Level 2+), 2014 headline figures for Nottinghamshire are:

	Nottinghamshire			National			Statistical Neighbours		
	2014	2013	Difference	2014	2013	Difference	2014	2013	Difference
Reading	88.8%	88.5%	↑ 0.3%	90.0%	89.0%	↑ 1.0%	90.6%	89.3%	↑ 1.3%
Writing	85.7%	84.5%	↑ 1.2%	86.0%	85.0%	↑ 1.0%	87.1%	86.0%	↑ 1.1%
Mathematics	92.0%	91.5%	↑ 0.5%	92.0%	91.0%	↑ 1.0%	92.9%	91.9%	↑ 1.0%
Science	91.9%	91.3%	↑ 0.6%	91.0%	90.0%	↑ 1.0%	91.6%	91.3%	↑ 0.3%

Key Stage 2

14. A new reporting arrangement was introduced in 2013 and there is no longer a test result calculated for English. A new grammar, punctuation and spelling test was introduced for 2013 and pupils continue to undertake a reading test. Writing tests were abolished in 2012 and replaced by writing teacher assessments.
15. Since 2008, achievements at Level 4 or above (the expected level for 11 year olds) have remained above or in line with national averages.
16. At the expected level, 2014 figures in reading are in line with the national average (when rounded), with mathematics slightly above and writing slightly below.
17. Comparisons to 2013 show reading has witnessed the largest increase of 1.5 percentage point to 88.8% of pupils achieving Level 4+. Mathematics has seen the smallest increase of 0.5 percentage points to 86.5%.

18. At the expected level in reading, writing and mathematics, 2014 figures put Nottinghamshire in line with national figures (when rounded). Nationally this measure has witnessed a 4 percentage point increase from 2013 (to 79%) where Nottinghamshire has increased 2 points over the same period (to 78.8%).
19. At the expected level (Level 4+), 2014 headline figures for Nottinghamshire are shown in the table in **Appendix 1**.

Key Stage 3

20. Assessment arrangements for Key Stage 3 were disapplied from 2013 following publication of the new national curriculum. This means that in 2014 outcomes for Key Stage 3 are not available due to there being no requirement for schools to report teacher assessments.

Key Stage 4 (GCSE and equivalent qualifications)

21. Information regarding the achievements of young people in GCSE and equivalent qualifications is based on final data collated for the 2014 Secondary School Performance Tables.
22. It should be noted that there have been significant and multiple changes to Key Stage 4 this year. Changes include the grade for the first entry in English Baccalaureate subjects (English, mathematics, science, history, geography, languages) being counted in performance measures as opposed to best grade used historically.
23. There have also been changes to vocational qualifications in both the number of courses included in performance measures and their qualification weighting / value. Qualifications are now capped at a maximum size of one GCSE. BTEC qualifications for example, previously counting for the equivalent of two / four GCSE, are now capped at one. Only two vocational qualifications can be counted in performance measures where previously this was not restricted.
24. Syllabus changes have occurred with exams now at the end of the course rather than a modular based assessment. Also subjects such as GCSE English / English Language have seen changes to the weighting of coursework with written exams now counting for 60% (previously this was 40%).
25. After witnessing year on year improvements between 2005 and 2013 in the government's preferred indicator of 5 or more GCSEs (or equivalent) at grades A*-C including GCSE English and mathematics, final results show a fall in 2014. This fall has been witnessed nationally and amongst statistical neighbours.
26. Final published data for Nottinghamshire schools show that 58.0% of pupils gained 5+ A*-C including English and mathematics (based on 2014 methodology of first entries) which is a fall of 5.4 percentage points from 2013. This is above the national average of 53.4% for all schools.

27. Broxtowe schools witnessed the smallest fall in the percentage of students gaining 5+ A*-C including English and mathematics. 57.1% of students gained this measure, a fall of 1.5 percentage points from 2013.
28. Of all districts, Rushcliffe schools attained the highest in this measure with almost three quarters (72.4%) of students gaining 5+ A*-C including English and mathematics.
29. Comparisons against our former statistical neighbours place Nottinghamshire joint 1st on this measure (along with Kent and Wigan LAs all achieving 58.0%). This is an improvement on our rank of 2nd in 2013.
30. 25.3% of pupils achieved the English Baccalaureate an increase of 2.6 percentage points compared to 2013. The English Baccalaureate measures the percentage of pupils gaining A*-C grades in each of the following GCSE full course qualifications: English, mathematics, two sciences, humanities (of either history or geography) and a language. This is 2.4 percentage points above the national average for all schools.
31. 2014 headline figures for Nottinghamshire are:

	Nottinghamshire			National			Statistical Neighbours		
	2014	2013	Difference	2014	2013	Difference	2014	2013	Difference
5+ A*-C (inc. English & maths)	58.0%	63.4%	↓ 5.4%	53.4%	59.2%	↓ 5.8%	55.1%	60.0%	↓ 4.9%
English Baccalaureate	25.3%	22.7%	↑ 2.6%	22.9%	23.0%	↓ 0.1%	22.2%	21.4%	↑ 0.8%

Key Stage 5 (GCE A / AS and equivalent qualifications)

Based on sixth form centres only unless stated otherwise

32. Information regarding the achievements of young people in GCE A/AS and other Level 3 qualifications is based on final data collated for the 2014 Secondary School Performance Tables.
33. Final data shows for Nottinghamshire sixth-forms that the overall pass rate has increased slightly with 98.4% of full A-level entries gaining an E or above. This compares to 98.6% nationally.
34. 48.5% of A-level qualification entries in sixth-forms achieved a pass at grades A*-B. This compares to a national figure of 53.0%. This represents an increase of 2.3 percentage points from 2013.
35. 6.3% of A-level entries were awarded an A* grade. This is a slight increase of 0.6% from last year. Nationally the figure is 8.6%.
36. The average point score (APS) per entry (which represents the average grade per exam) was 212.3 in sixth-forms which is just above an average grade of C at full A level. This shows a slight increase of 3.8 from 208.5 (just below a C grade) reported in 2013.

37. The APS per candidate (the total points on average that each student has) shows a slight fall of 3.2 points to 766.4 from 2013.
38. 2014 headline figures for Nottinghamshire are:

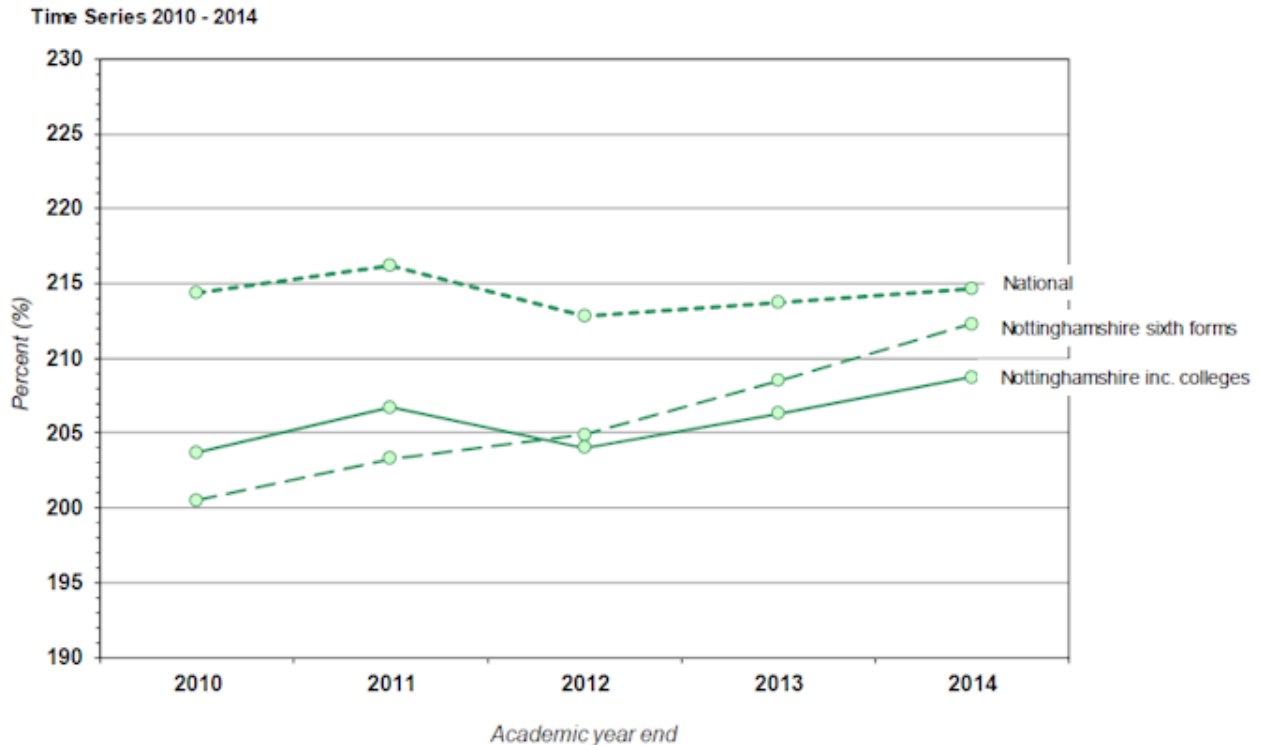
	Nottinghamshire			National			Statistical Neighbours		
	2014	2013	Difference	2014	2013	Difference	2014	2013	Difference
Entry pass rate (A*-E)	98.4%	98.0%	↑ 0.4%	98.6%	98.7%	↓ 0.1%	-	-	
Entry pass rate (A*-B)	48.5%	46.2%	↑ 2.3%	53.0%	53.3%	↓ 0.3%	-	-	
APS per entry	212.3	208.5	↑ 3.8	214.8	213.9	↑ 0.9	212.7	211.6	↑ 1.1
APS per candidate	766.4	769.6	↓ 3.2	775.3	779.6	↓ 4.3	793.3	798.3	↓ 5.0

Figures are based on sixth forms

39. When figures include Nottinghamshire colleges the gap between national and the LA average widens. On APS per entry measure, the gap between Nottinghamshire and national for sixth form centres is 2.5 points where the equivalent figures when colleges are included is more than double at 5.9 points (one grade is the equivalent of 30 points).
40. Since 2010, figures for Nottinghamshire when colleges are included have increased 5 points over this period compared to 11.8 points increase in sixth form centres. Sixth forms have also witnessed year on year increases in this measure and are now above the LA average when it includes colleges.
41. This difference is reflected in statistical neighbour rankings. Out of our new statistical neighbours (introduced October 2014) Nottinghamshire sixth forms is positioned mid-way in the table at 6th position (where 1st is best) whereas when figures include colleges this decreases to 8th position.
42. The diagram below shows the improvement over time (2010 to 2014) comparing Nottinghamshire sixth forms to the Nottinghamshire and national average when data includes colleges.

Average Point Score per Entry

Time series 2010-2014



Other Options Considered

43. This is a report outlining local outcomes against national benchmarks. No other option is appropriate.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

44. Members will wish to note the report so that they are aware of the progress made in Nottinghamshire schools and academies.

Statutory and Policy Implications

45. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the achievements of young people attending Nottinghamshire schools and academies in Key Stage assessments in 2013/14 be noted.

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Constitutional Comments

46. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (SH 20/02/15)

47. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report .

Background Papers and Published Documents

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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