



**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE OVERVIEW AND
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

11 NOVEMBER 2013

**REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG
PEOPLE'S SERVICE**

**ENSURING EDUCATION EXCELLENCE IN LEICESTERSHIRE:
PERFORMANCE OF LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS**

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the 2013 Key Stage statutory assessments, GCSE and Post 16 examination results in the context of attainment over a number of years in comparison with national and statistical neighbour results.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

2. The Local Authority has previously agreed targets each year with the Department for Education (DfE) to support improvements in Key Stage assessments and GCSE results. There is no longer a requirement to do this. However, the local authority continues to have a duty to monitor these results and report upon them. Final results by school and by local authority are made public during the autumn term through the DfE website.

Background

3. There are charts for each Key Stage attached as Appendix 1. Each of these charts highlights the trendline of Leicestershire's results compared with national and statistical neighbour averages.
4. Statistical neighbours are the group of authorities identified by the DfE as most comparable socio-economically with Leicestershire. Therefore it is helpful to compare performance to this group of local authorities as well as to national outcomes. The statistical neighbours are Central Bedfordshire, Essex, Hampshire, Kent, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Sussex and Worcestershire. There are 152 local authorities nationally.

5. It should be noted that some of these results remain provisional until they are formally confirmed by the DfE. Whilst there is not usually any significant change in the results, there is a chance that the final percentages may change slightly.

Conclusions

6. Overall outcomes are broadly in line with national averages and similar to those of our statistical neighbours.

Foundation Stage (age 5)

7. In 2013 there has been a change of assessment arrangements and a different approach to assessing children's achievement in the Foundation Stage Profile. Therefore the information is not directly comparable with previous years.
8. In 2013 46.4% of Leicestershire children achieved a good level of development. This is below the national outcome which is 52%.
9. The average point score for Leicestershire is 32.4 which is broadly in line with national outcome of 32.8. 34 points is the equivalent of children achieving the expected level across all early learning goals.
10. The gap between girls and boys has narrowed from 18 percentage points to 14 percentage points. Nationally the gap is 16 percentage points.
11. The gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers has widened from 24 percentage points to 25 percentage points. However, gap analysis is not exactly like-for-like due to the change in assessment.

Key Stage One (age 7)

12. Leicestershire continues to perform above the national average in reading, writing, mathematics and science at all levels of assessment and standards have improved in all areas.
13. Leicestershire is within the top 20% of local authorities.
14. For Year 1 phonics screening checks, the Leicestershire score improved by 10% on 2012. Leicestershire is above national and statistical neighbours and in the top 10% of local authorities nationally.

Key Stage Two (age 11)

15. Attainment at the end of Key Stage Two is broadly in line with the national average.
16. 74% pupils achieved Level 4+ in combined reading, writing and mathematics.

17. For individual subjects (reading, writing and mathematics) Leicestershire's performance has remained relatively stable with a dip in the proportion of higher attaining pupils in reading in line with the national trend.
18. Compared to statistical neighbours Leicestershire is ranked mid table or above for most indicators. The strongest performance is in reading and mathematics at Level 4 and the new grammar, punctuation and spelling test.
19. Leicestershire is in the top 50% of local authorities for children achieving the stretch target of Level 5+ for all Key Stage Two subjects.
20. Between 85% - 88% of children in Leicestershire are making the expected progress between Key Stage 1 and 2 (according to subject). However, this trails the national average in all areas.

Key Stage Three (age 14)

21. Results are based on teacher assessments following the abolition of end of Key Stage Three tests in 2008.
22. Standards at Key Stage Three continue to be above the national average and have improved in 2013. This is the best relative performance in Leicestershire's history.
23. The percentage of pupils achieving Level 5+ has improved and is high in all three core subjects. These are now at 93% in English, 91% in mathematics and 95% in science.
24. Leicestershire is ranked first amongst statistical neighbours for all Key Stage Three outcomes.

Key Stage Four (age 16)

25. Attainment in all key measures has improved since 2012.
26. 5A* - C overall has improved to 81.8%. This remains below the national average of 82.7% ,but improvement in Leicestershire has been greater than that seen nationally which has reduced the attainment gap.
27. 5A* - C (including English and mathematics) has improved to 59.3% and is now much closer to the national average of 60.4% than in 2012.
28. 5A* - G is similar to 2012 at 96.2% and continues to be a good indicator of the inclusive nature of Leicestershire schools.
29. The English Baccalaureate indicator shows that there has been an improvement of 5.8 percentage points, but the number of entries in Leicestershire remains lower than the national average.

30. Leicestershire has improved in ranking against statistical neighbours and is particularly strong in 5+A* - G where performance is in the top half nationally.

Key Stage Five (age 18)

31. There is an improving picture at Key Stage Five.
32. The percentage of students achieving A* - A increased from 19% to 22% and A* - B increased from 42% to 47%.
33. The average point score per entry has increased, but is still below the national average.
34. The average point score per pupil has also increased and places Leicestershire in the top 50% of local authorities.

Children in Care

35. The number of Children in Care achieving Level 4 in reading, writing and mathematics at the end of Key Stage Two dipped in 2013.
36. When looking at progress data the percentage of pupils making expected progress in English and mathematics over time is good. Progress appears to be better in mathematics than reading and writing.
37. At Key Stage Four there were 45 students in the cohort. Outcomes have declined from 2012 when looking at the proportion of students achieving 5A* - C including English and mathematics.
38. When looking more broadly at performance, 33/45 young people achieved qualifications in both English and mathematics. Although A* -C grades are lower, the number of A* - D grades has risen significantly.
39. All of the students involved in the Education of Children in Care programme either maintained their predicted grades or exceeded them.

Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET)

40. The latest figures for July 2013 show that Leicestershire has 3.3% young people not in education, employment or training against a target of 4%. The national average is 6.5%. Leicestershire is ranked first amongst statistical neighbours.

Equal opportunities Implications

41. These are the results achieved by all Leicestershire children and young people in the summer of 2013. As pupil level results are validated and become available, there is scope for greater analysis at school and group levels. This will lead to further analysis of performance by potentially vulnerable groups (children with SEN, for example), by ethnicity and by

school. Analysis of this type is an ongoing process and informs interventions which are targeted to improve the attainment of these groups. This analysis has yet to be completed.

Circulation Under the Local Issues Alert Procedures

42. None

Background Papers

43. None The figures are derived from the DfE Research and Statistics Department which collates data on behalf of all local authorities.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 – Graphs showing attainment over time

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