

**Learning & Culture Overview & Scrutiny
Committee**

21 January 2015

Report of the Director of Children Services, Education and Skills

School Improvement Update: Key Stage 4 Performance 2014

Summary

1. This report provides an update about Key Stage 4 (KS4) performance in 2014.

Key Stage 4 Performance 2014

2. There have been significant changes to both the national KS4 performance indicators and to the examination system in 2014 which means that it is difficult to make direct comparisons between the 2014 KS4 results and performance in previous years.
3. In January 2015 the national performance tables were published, which can be accessed via the Department for Education website www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance
4. On the 29 September 2013 the Secretary of State for Education announced that only a pupil's first entry in a particular subject will count towards a school's performance table's measures. This rule took effect immediately and will apply only to English Baccalaureate subjects in 2014 and then all subjects in 2015.
5. From 2014 onwards, no qualification will count for more than one in the performance tables, irrespective of its size. For example, a BTEC previously counting for two or four GCSEs will now be capped at one.

6. There has also been a move away from modular examinations to linear examinations, meaning that the majority of subjects are now examined at the end of two years of study rather than parts of the subject being examined throughout the two years of study. These changes have created significant turbulence both nationally and regionally in 2014 and it is important to consider this context in order to fully evaluate the performance of York secondary schools in 2014.
7. The data referenced in this report is taken from the unvalidated RAISEonline reports produced by Ofsted. These reports are available both for individual schools and for the Local Authority (LA). The reports are password protected and not available to the general public, however, they use the national data sets which will be available when the Department for Education KS4 performance tables are published in January 2015 and these are accessible to the general public.
8. The RAISEonline reports provide information about both the attainment and progress between KS2 and KS4 achieved by students in York schools.
9. In 2014 KS4 attainment in York remained significantly above the national average across all the main performance indicators (see below)

Performance Indicator	York Average	National Average	Comment
Percentage of students achieving 5+A*-C including English and mathematics (first entry result)	62%	55%	York achieved 7 percentage points above national on this measure and was first in the Yorkshire and Humber region for this indicator in 2014.

Percentage of students achieving 5+A*-C	73%	64%	York's performance was significantly above national in 2014
Percentage of students achieving 5+A*-G	95%	92%	York's performance was significantly above national in 2014
Performance Indicator	York Average	National Average	Comment
Percentage of students achieving the Ebacc	32%	24%	York's performance was significantly above national in 2014
Average Capped Points Score (best 8 subjects)	325.8	306.9	York's performance was significantly above national in 2014 and York's performance against the national improved by 1.5 points between 2013 and 2014.
Average total points score in English	40.7	38.7	York's performance was significantly above national in 2014
Average total points score in mathematics	39.3	38.0	York's performance was significantly above national in 2014
Average total points score in science	43.8	42.5	York's performance was significantly above national in 2014

10. In 2014 KS2-KS4 progress in York remained significantly above the national average. In 2014 the value added for the best 8 subjects was 1006.5. This places York on the 24th percentile nationally for this indicator. This is an improvement from 2013 when York was on the 44th percentile for this indicator.
11. The RAISEonline data shows that the majority of student groups in York achieved significantly above the national average against both national attainment and progress indicators.
12. The pupil group which performed significantly below national in 2014 was disadvantaged pupils (those eligible for free schools meals (FSM) and children looked after (CLA)).
13. Further analysis of the data shows that the gap in achievement (attainment and progress) between disadvantaged pupils in their peers widened in York in 2014. This widening was as a result of non disadvantaged pupils achieving significantly better in 2014. This was not the case nationally where the gap narrowed due to all students achieving less well than in previous years.
14. In order to close the gap York needs to focus on ensuring that disadvantaged pupils progress in English and mathematics improves as their progress in these subjects is significantly below the national average for disadvantaged pupils in these subjects.

Recommendations

15. As this report is for information only there are no specific recommendations

Reason: To update the Committee on secondary school performance in 2013/14.

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Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

For further information please contact the author of the report

Background Papers: None

Annexes:

None

Abbreviations:

KS - Key Stage

CLA – Children Looked After

FSM – Free School Meal

BTEC –Business and Technology Education Council

Ofsted –Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and
Skills

LA – Local Authority

EBACC- English Baccalaureate

GCSE - General Certificate of Secondary Education