Appendix 3

Flintshire County Council Key Stage 3 National Curriculum Assessment Results in Wales: 2017 Background Summary

The information provided relates to assessments of pupils in their final year of Key Stage 3 (Year 9) during 2016-17. For 14 year olds in Key Stage 3 the general expectation is the majority of pupils will attain at least level 5 in each subject. Higher than expected level is Level 6 and exceptionally high level performance is level 7 or above.

The core National Curriculum subjects at Key Stage 3 are English/Welsh (first language), mathematics and science. To achieve the Core Subject Indicator (CSI) a pupil must have an assessment that they are working at or above Level 5 in each of these core areas.

Non-core subjects include art, technology, geography, history, ICT, modern foreign language, music, physical education and Welsh second language.

The teacher assessments at Key Stage 3 were finalised before the end of the summer term 2017. In deciding upon a pupil's level of attainment at the end of the key stage, teachers judge which level descriptor 'best fits' the pupil's performance and will draw upon evidence from practical and oral work, written work and any school-based tests and assessments. Schools are required to ensure that teacher assessment is based securely on a collective understanding of the standards set out in the level descriptions and this shared understanding must be achieved through internal standardisation and moderation. From 2008/2009 primary and secondary schools have also been required to have in place effective arrangements for consortium group moderation of samples of learners' work in order to strengthen teacher assessment. This is a statutory process at KS3 and some Flintshire schools were previously monitored as part of the national programme of external verification.

The data makes it possible to identify how Flintshire outcomes compare to those of other local authorities in Wales. Based on Free School Meals data, Flintshire would be expected to be in 6th position in the ranking of performance.

Flintshire LA Summary Results by Core Subject Indicator 2017

To achieve the Core Subject Indicator (CSI), pupils must achieve at least Level 5 in the three core subjects of English or Welsh (First Language), maths and science.

CSI	2015		20	16	2017		
	%	Rank	%	Rank	%	Rank	
Flintshire	87.1	7	88.4	6	89.5	5	
Wales	83.9		85.9		87.4		

- 89.5% of Flintshire pupils achieved the Core Subject Indicator in 2017, an increase of 1.1% from 2016.
- This is 2.1% above the Wales average and 0.8% above the average for GwE Flintshire ranked 5th of the 22 LAs in this indicator in 2017, an improvement of one place from 2016 and above the expected FSM benchmark for the authority.

Flintshire Results by Subject 2017

Analysis of the results illustrates the following indicators in terms of the percentage of pupils achieving level 4 or above in English, Welsh (first language), mathematics or science.

Subject	LA 2015LA 2016%Ranking%%Ranking		LA	2016	LA	2017	Wales 2017
Level 5+			%	Ranking	%		
English	91.4	5	91.1	6	92.5	6	90.5
Welsh 1 st Lang	80.0	18/18	96.8	4	95.1	7	93.5
Mathematics	92.0	3	92.7	5	92.7	5	90.8
Science	94.3	6	94.8	7	95.1	10	93.5

- English and science improved their performance in 2017 and mathematics equalled performance of 2016. Mathematics is ranked higher than Flintshire's expected performance of 6th.
- For Welsh (first language) Flintshire only has one Welsh medium secondary school on which these results are based. W1L at level 5+ in 2017 is 1.6% above the Wales average but 1.7% below performance in 2016.

Subject	LA 2015		LA	2016	LA	2017	Wales 2017	
Level 6+	%	Ranking	%	Ranking	%	Ranking	%	
English	60.3	4	61.2	7	61.5	8	58.7	
Welsh 1 st Lang	36.7	18	63.5	4	61.0	11	62.9	
Mathematics	65.8	5	67.1	6	67.9	7	65.4	
Science	62.3	7	64.6	10	67.4	10	65.5	

- English, mathematics and science performance at Level 6+ improved in 2017 and were above the Wales average for each subject. Rankings for English and mathematics however dropped by 1 place and to below Flintshire's expected performance.
- For Welsh (first language) Flintshire only has one Welsh medium secondary school on which these results are based. W1L at level 6+ in 2017 is 2.5% below performance in 2016 and 1.9% below the Wales average. At level 7+ however, performance improved from 14.3% in 2016 to 22% in 2017.
- Performance at level 7(exceptionally higher than average performance) is 22.4% for English, 34.3% for mathematics and 30.3% for science.

Analysis of Results for Girls and Boys

• The table below shows the difference in performance between boys and girls for the LA and Wales for 2017 across the core subject areas and CSI for KS3.

			2016 %		2017 %			
		Girls	Boys	B/GDiff	Girls	Boys	B/GDiff	
ENGLISH	LA	95.0	87.2	-7.8	95.9	89.2	-6.7	
	Wales	93.3	85.3	-8.0	94.1	87.0	-7.2	
WELSH	LA	97.6	95.2	-2.4	95.3	94.9	-0.5	
	Wales	94.9	89.1	-5.8	95.9	91.1	-4.8	
MATHEMATICS	LA	93.6	91.7	-1.9	94.1	91.3	-2.8	
	Wales	92.1	88.2	-3.9	93.1	88.7	-4.4	
SCIENCE	LA	96.5	93.0	-3.5	96.1	94.1	-2.0	
	Wales	95.1	90.7	-4.4	95.8	91.4	-4.4	
CSI	LA	91.3	85.6	-5.7	92.4	86.8	-5.6	
	Wales	89.7	82.3	-7.4	91.2	83.8	-7.4	

- Nationally girls continue to outperform boys in all subjects at KS3.
- Analysis of the Flintshire results supports the national trend that girls continue to outperform boys in all subjects.
- The gap between boys and girls performance in Flintshire in 2017 has reduced across all core subject areas and the CSI except for mathematics when compared to outcomes in 2016.
- The gender gap in Flintshire in 2017 is narrower than the Wales average across all subject areas and CSI.
- The largest gap in performance between boys and girls in Flintshire is in English and this reflects the national trend.

CSI%	2015			2016			2017		
	e- n- Variance		e-	n-	n- Variance		n-	Variance	
	FSM	FSM		FSM	FSM		FSM	FSM	
Flintshire	71.6	89.9	-18.3	76.2	90.9	-14.7	71.7	92.7	-20.9
Wales	88.1	65.9	-22.2	89.8	69.4	-20.4			

Key Stage 3 – performance of FSM pupils 2017

- The gap between e-FSM pupils and n-FSM pupils in achieving the Core Subject Indicator at KS3 has been closing steadily over the last 5 years, from 29.5% in 2012 to 14.7% in 2016. However, it has increased again in 2017 to -20.9%.
- The gap is the 5th widest in GwE in 2017.

Non-core Teacher Assessment results for all pupils 2017

The following table indicates the percentage of pupils achieving level 5 or above in teacher assessment of non-core subjects in 2017 and 2016 and the LA's ranked position (expected FSM benchmark is 6^{th}).

Subject	Flintshire 2016 %	+/- From 2015	Wales 2016 %	Rank 2016	Flintshire 2017 %	Wales 2017 %	Rank 2017
Art	96.8	+0.8	92.0	3	96.5%	93.6%	=3
Design Technology	95.7	-0.1	92.1	5	96.5%	93.3%	3
Geography	94.0	+0.2	89.9	7	94.7%	92.0%	6
History	94.8	+0.8	89.6	4	94.6%	91.9%	6
Information Technology	96.4	+1.0	92.7	4	93.9%	93.9%	15
Modern Foreign Language	88.1	-0.5	84.1	7	88.6%	86.7%	9
Music	94.7	-0.2	91.6	7	95.2%	93.3%	6
Physical Education	94.5	+0.7	91.4	8	94.5%	93.3%	7
Welsh 2 nd Language	86.4	+0.7	81.2	5	87.9%	83.8%	4

- 6 subjects equalled or improved on their 2016 performance.
- 6 subjects were ranked equal to or better than Flintshire's expected ranking of 6th.
- 2017 rankings for History and Modern Foreign Language dipped by two places in 2017 and ICT ranking moved from 4th to 15th in 2017.