

Appendix 1

Flintshire County Council Key Stage 4 Results: 2017

Background Summary

Welsh Government issue final comparative data for Key Stage 4 much later than for the earlier key stages. The statistical release “Examination Results in Wales 2016/17” was issued on 6th December 2017 and provides the results of external examinations taken by pupils in year 11 at the start of the academic year. This updates the provisional figures shared at Education and Youth Overview Scrutiny Committee on 5th October 2017.

It has been acknowledged by Qualifications Wales and the Welsh Government that changes in the content, structure and assessment methodology of some GCSE examinations, including English, Welsh and mathematics, which are being reported for the first time this year, have impacted on the overall results across Wales for 2017. There have also been several key changes made to Key Stage 4 performance measures data in 2016 /2017. It is not possible to quantify the impact of these changes in policy to pupil and school choices around curriculum options and entry. Therefore, comparisons with previous years should be avoided in many cases.

Introduction of the Capped 9 Score

The Capped 9 measure focuses on results from nine of the qualifications available, including subject specific requirements in English/ Welsh, Mathematics Numeracy, Mathematics and two science outcomes.

Cap on Non-GCSEs to threshold measures

From 2017, a maximum of two vocational qualifications will count towards performance measures, depending on the size of the qualification.

Literature in threshold measures

Literature qualifications no longer count towards the literacy elements in Level 2 inclusive (L2+) or Capped 9 score. They can still count in the non- subject specific elements.

New Mathematics GCSEs

For the first time, pupils are expected to sit two GCSEs in mathematics – GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Mathematics Numeracy.

There were 1,602 Flintshire pupils at the start of the academic year 2016/2017.

These learner outcomes include results for maintained schools, including special schools, Pupil Referral Units (PRUs), and pupils receiving education other than that at school that are not in PRUs, achieved during the academic year and any examinations taken at an earlier age.

Key indicators of performance for Flintshire pupils in Year 11 at the start of the academic year 2016/2017:

Performance Indicator	LA 2015	LA 2016	LA 2017	Wales 2017	Ranking
Level 1 Threshold	94.5%	95.3%	94.6%	94.4%	12 th
Level 2 Threshold	83.2%	82.6%	65.8%	67%	12 th
Level 2 Inclusive	60.6%	61.5%	57%	54.6%	9 th
Capped 9 Score			346.8	350.9	11 th
Average capped(c) wider points score	342.1	343.3	319.2	325.8	13 th
5A* / A	14.1%	14.5%	14.5%	16.7%	11 th

- Flintshire’s ranking for the L2 Inclusive improved to 9th in Wales from 10th in 2016.
- Ranking for indicators is below Flintshire’s expected FSM performance of 6th in Wales.

Subject specific indicators of performance for Flintshire pupils in Year 11 at the start of the academic year 2016 /2017:

Indicator	Flintshire 2015	Flintshire 2016	Flintshire 2017	Wales 2017
A*-C in English or Welsh First Language	72.2%	71.6%	66.9%	65%
Best of maths	69.4%	69.5%	67.5%	62.5%
Science	85.8%	83.9%	80.0%	75.6%

- Flintshire had the highest outcomes in the GwE region for performance in individual core subjects of English, Mathematics, Mathematics Numeracy and Science.
- KS4 English/Welsh First Language achievement in Flintshire at L2 was 1.9% above performance across Wales.

- KS4 Mathematics achievement at L2 was 3.7% above performance across Wales and KS4 Mathematics Numeracy was 6% above. Best of maths performance was 5% above the national figure.
- KS4 Science achievement was 4.4% above performance across Wales.
- Good individual performance in each of these subjects was not fully translated into a higher outcome at Level 2+ due to read across data where a pupil might achieve English/ Welsh First Language but not a qualification in mathematics and vice versa. A continued focus this year will be on supporting schools to make more effective and timely use of tracking systems to plan effective intervention and to address any underperformance within this context.

Analysis of KS4 Results by Gender

The table below shows the difference in performance between boys and girls for the LA and Wales for 2017 across the key indicators.

		2016%			2017 %		
		Girls	Boys	Difference	Girls	Boys	Difference
Level 1	LA	97.6	93.1	-4.5	96.3	92.9	-3.4
	Wales	96.7	93.9	-2.8	95.9	93.1	-2.8
Level 2	LA	87.2	78.1	-9.1	72.6	58.8	-13.8
	Wales	87.6	80.7	-6.9	72.5	61.6	-10.8
Level 2 Inclusive	LA	66.3	57	-9.3	62.6	51.4	-11.2
	Wales	64.7	56.1	-8.6	58.8	50.6	-8.2
Capped 9	LA	-	-		365.7	327.7	-38.1
	Wales	-	-		363.6	337.2	-26.4
Capped 8	LA	359.1	328.1	-31	336	302.2	-33.7
	Wales	356.7	333.2	-23.5	337	312.7	-25.2
5A*/A	LA	19.7	9.5	-10.2	19.1	10	-9.1
	Wales	20.1	11.9	-8.2	20.7	12.9	-7.8

- Nationally girls continue to outperform boys in all key indicators at KS4.
- The gender gap in Flintshire in 2017 is wider than the Wales average across all key indicators.
- Girls outperformed boys in all core subjects at L2 in 2017.
- The gender gap was widest for KS4 English /Welsh 1st Language at 15.3%. For Mathematics the gap was 5.1%. For Mathematics Numeracy the gap was 0.3%. For Science the gap was 9.5%.

Analysis of KS4 Results of FSM pupils

L2 Inclusive (% achieving)	2015			2016			2017		
	e- FSM	n- FSM	Diff	e- FSM	n- FSM	Diff	e- FSM	n- FSM	Diff
Flintshire	35.2	65.9	30.8	33.7	66.9	33.2	25.2	61.7	36.5
Wales	31.6	64.1	32.4	35.6	66.8	31.3	28.6	61	32.4

- Flintshire pupils not entitled to free school meals (n-FSM) achieved better than the Wales average in 2017 but pupils entitled to free school meals (e-FSM) achieved below the Wales average in 2017.
- The gap between e-FSM pupils and n-FSM pupils in achieving the L2 Inclusive Indicator at KS4 is wider than that nationally.

Skills Challenge Certificate % of Year 11 pupils achieving:

This is the first year of award for the reformed Welsh Baccalaureate qualification.

Skills Challenge	Flintshire 2017	Wales 2017
National Level 2	51%	51.4%
Foundation Level 1	22.5%	19%