

Flintshire County Council

Key Stage 4 National Curriculum Assessment Results in Wales: 2014

Background Summary

- 1.1 The National Assembly for Wales issue comparative data for Key Stage 4 much later than for the earlier Key Stages. The report “Examination Results in Wales 2013/14” was issued in December 2014.
- 1.2 Statistics include results of external examinations taken by pupils in their final year of compulsory education. These are the group of pupils aged 15 at the beginning of the academic year, in schools in Wales. The report allows for a ranking of outcomes by Local Authority area. Based on Free School Meals analysis, Flintshire should rank sixth in this list.
- 1.3 Schools receive individual analysis of the results of their pupils in their “SSSP” form. The SSSP reports on performance including the Level 1 and Level 2 Thresholds, achieved by learners who get 5A*-G grades and 5A*-C grades or the vocational course equivalent, but including a wider range of alternative qualifications than were counted in the past. This form also provides information on the performance of pupils in the Local Authority area and across Wales. In December schools received a “Core Data Pack” which helps analyse performance set against schools in similar circumstances.

1.4 LA SUMMARY RESULTS GCSE/GNVQ

Key Indicators of performance at GCSE and equivalent qualifications show:

Proportion of pupils who achieved the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE pass in English or Welsh first language and mathematics.

2014	Flintshire 61.9%	Wales 55.4%
2013	Flintshire 62.2%	Wales 52.7%

Flintshire ranked third of the twenty two Local Authority areas for this indicator in 2014.

Proportion of pupils who achieved the Core Subject Indicator, i.e. achieved an A* to C grade in English or Welsh first Language, Mathematics and Science:

2014	Flintshire 58.3%	Wales 52.6%
2013	Flintshire 59.0%	Wales 49.2%

Flintshire ranked fifth of the twenty two Local Authority areas for this indicator in 2014.

Proportion of pupils who achieved the Level 2 Threshold

2014	Flintshire 82.7%	Wales 82.3%
-------------	-------------------------	--------------------

2013	Flintshire 79.6%	Wales 77.8%
------	------------------	-------------

Flintshire ranked fifteenth of the twenty two Local Authority areas for this indicator in 2014.

Proportion of pupils who achieved the Level 1 Threshold.

2014	Flintshire 94.1%	Wales 94.0%
-------------	-------------------------	--------------------

2013	Flintshire 94.3%	Wales 93.2%
------	------------------	-------------

Flintshire ranked fourteenth of the twenty two Local Authority areas for this indicator in 2014.

Average wider points score per pupil:

2014	Flintshire 547	Wales 524
-------------	-----------------------	------------------

2013	Flintshire 527	Wales 501
------	----------------	-----------

Flintshire ranked eighth of the twenty two Local Authority areas for this indicator in 2014.

Average capped wider points score per pupil (calculated using the best 8 results for each pupil):

2014	Flintshire 341.5	Wales 340.8
-------------	-------------------------	--------------------

2013	Flintshire 337.1	Wales 331.1
------	------------------	-------------

Flintshire ranked thirteenth of the twenty two Local Authority areas for this indicator in 2014.

The curriculum offered to learners effects outcomes in the indicators for Level 1 & 2 Thresholds and points scores more significantly than in the Core Subject Indicator or the Level 2 Threshold including Mathematics and English or Welsh First Language where the quality of outcomes achieved in core subjects is more important. Future Welsh Government indicators will limit the effect multiple awards for vocational courses has on these indicators.

1.5 Value Added

Welsh Government now provides a KS4 Value Added Summary for Key Stage 4 outcomes matched to prior attainment at Key Stage 2. Model 1 is measured only against each pupil's prior attainment. Model 2 also includes a range of pupil and school context indicators. Value added is shown as a percentage and measured in quartiles, with quartile 1 indicating the best performance. An S next to the indicator denotes a "significant" value.

Outcomes	Value Added Model 1 2014	Value Added Model 1 2013	Value Added Model 2 2014	Value Added Model 2 2013
Level 2 Threshold inc. English/Welsh & Maths	6.2% (1) S	7.5% (1) S	3.3% (1) S	4.6% (1) S
Core Subject Indicator	5.0% (1) S	7.4% (1) S	1.9% (2) S	4.5% (1) S
Level 2 Threshold	-0.6% (3)	0.0% (3)	-0.4% (3)	-0.9% (3)
Level 1 Threshold	-1.0% (3) S	-0.2% (3)	1.1% (1) S	0.8% (2)
Wider Points Score	12.4 (2) S	12.7 (2) S	10.5 (2) S	9.2 (2) S
Capped Points Score	-4.1 (3) S	-1.3 (3)	-0.4 (3)	-1.0 (3)

1.6 Analysis of Results for Girls and Boys

- The following table reflects the percentage of Flintshire boys and girls achieving the key indicators in 2014 and 2013.

	BOYS		GIRLS		DIFFERENCE	
	% 2014	% 2013	% 2014	% 2013	% 2014	% 2013
Level 2 Threshold inc English/Welsh and Maths	59	57	65	67	6	10
Core Subject Indicator	55	54	61	64	6	10
Level 2 Threshold	81	75	85	84	4	9
Level 1 Threshold	93	93	95	96	2	3
Capped points score	332	325	351	349	19	24

- Although girls do better, performance of boys in Flintshire still compares well to Wales in 2014, with 59% of Flintshire boys achieving the Level 2 Inclusive Threshold compared to 51% of boys across Wales. Flintshire boys therefore performed 8% better than Wales on this indicator. Flintshire girls, with 65% were 5% above Wales girls average of 60%.

1.7 Results in Core Subjects

English/Welsh First Language

73% of pupils in Flintshire achieved an A* to C grade in English/Welsh in 2014. This compared to 67% for Wales as a whole. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 73% and Wales 64%.

The average points per pupil score in English/Welsh in Flintshire was 40 in 2014, compared to 39 across Wales. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 40 and Wales was 38.

Mathematics

68% of pupils in Flintshire achieved an A* to C grade in Mathematics in 2014. This compared to 62% for Wales as a whole. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 68% and Wales 60%.

The average points per pupil score in Mathematics in Flintshire was 38 in 2014, compared to 36 across Wales. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 38 and Wales was 36.

Science

84% of pupils in Flintshire achieved an A* to C grade in Science in 2014. This compared to 82% for Wales as a whole. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 76% and Wales 72%.

The average points per pupil score in English/Welsh in Flintshire was 52 in 2014, compared to 47 across Wales. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 40 and Wales was 38.

1.8 Welsh Government Data Categories

Welsh government Data Categorisation combines the Level 2 Threshold including English/Welsh First Language and Mathematics, Capped Point Score including English/Welsh First Language and Mathematics, 5A*-A Grades at GCSE or equivalent and Attendance, with a set of analysis based on overall performance during the last three years, performance of learners entitled to Free School Meals (eFSM) during the last three years, relative progress based on overall performance and performance set against the Free School Meal level of the school. The best performing schools score 1 on each indicator with the lowest performing given a score of 4 and a series of weightings and sums gives each school and overall weighted score.

The weighted scores are then used to place schools into one of four categories, with Category 1 being the best performing schools.

The Flintshire profile for 2014 is:

Category 1 – two schools

Category 2 – five schools

Category 3 – two schools

Category 4 – two schools