

TITLE	Information on Schools' Performance Including Narrowing the Gap
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20 March 2018
WARD	None Specific;
DIRECTOR	Interim Director of People Services - Paul Senior

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

Clear understanding of schools' performance in order to recognise and promote success.

RECOMMENDATION

To note Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 released data.
To note the analysis on narrowing the gap for all key stages

SUMMARY OF REPORT

In 2017 across Wokingham at the end of KS4 GCSE, average attainment 8 score per pupil (51.5), and average progress 8 scores (0.35), were both above national average.

The new indicators for this year are % of passes 9-5 and % of 9-4 passes in English and Maths combined, which are 54.8% and 76%, both being above national average of 39.1% and 58.5% respectively.

By the end of Key Stage 5 (A Levels), the pass rate increased marginally from 98.8% in 2016 to 99.1% in 2017, though exceeded the 2017 national figure of 97.9%
The percentage of pupils achieving AAB or better at A level this year increased from 18.5% in 2016 to 19.3% this year, however Wokingham did not exceed the national figure of 20.1% (state funded schools only).

The percentage of pupils achieving 3 A*-A or better at A level this year increased from 9.7% in 2016 to 10.9% this year, however Wokingham did not exceed the national figure of 11.7% (state funded schools only).

Background

On the 23rd January Overview and Scrutiny received a report on 2017 results at Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 for Wokingham Borough. At that point the confirmed results for individual schools at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 were not available.

Analysis of Issues

1.1 The revised School Improvement Policy 2017 prioritises schools needing support as a result of their pupil outcomes, Ofsted inspection or due to other circumstances. School whose 2017 outcomes were not as good as they should have been visited by the School Improvement team in the Autumn term if they are not categorised as Red or Purple.

1.2 The data for GCSE performance indicates that out of the 9 secondary schools 7 performed at least on average with three schools scoring well above national averages for Progress 8.

1.3 All but two scored average or above national averages for attainment 8. Seven schools recorded English and maths combined at average or above national averages. There is a break down for English and maths separately but there is not a national average for either. Two schools were below average for Ebac, one of which was only 1% point below.

1.4 All schools were at or above average for NEET.

1.5 Although all schools performed at the national average or above for average grades none of the schools performed at average or above for point scores.

1.6 All schools bar one, which overall achieved well above average for Progress 8, achieved AAB or higher in at least two facilitating subjects at above the national state funded schools average but only two achieved at or above national averages for all schools.

1.7 Only one school was below national averages for state funded schools in grade and points for a student's best 3 A level, however only five were at least average for all schools.

1.8 NB It is not possible to provide a breakdown of all subjects at GCSE and A level due to the wide range of subjects taken at both levels.

2. There continues to be an LA and Ofsted focus on the difference schools are making for their disadvantaged pupils. Wokingham has a relatively low number of pupils who are eligible for the pupil premium. Ofsted leaders for the south east region have recognised that 'diminishing differences' in outcomes between disadvantaged pupils and their peers is a particular challenge in relatively wealthy areas with low numbers of disadvantaged families, and Wokingham therefore shares this challenge with other similar areas.

Diminishing the gaps is established as a priority for Wokingham

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)	N/A		
Next Financial Year (Year 2)	N/A		
Following Financial Year (Year 3)	N/A		

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision
N/A

Cross-Council Implications
N/A

List of Background Papers
16-18 A Level performance Tables 2017; GCSE Performance tables 2017; Narrowing the Gap March 2018

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