

## **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL 17 MARCH 2016**

### **EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES 2015 INCLUDING OFSTED UPDATE**

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#### **Summary**

1. This report provides a summary of the educational outcomes for children and young people educated in Worcestershire schools for 2015. It gives an overview of county wide performance, rather than that of individual schools.
2. Outcomes are now fully validated, and are for learners in all tax payer funded schools in Worcestershire, i.e. maintained schools, academies and free schools.
3. The report also provides an overview of Ofsted inspections of Worcestershire schools.

#### **Educational outcomes**

4. National examination results at all Key Stages have been validated, and so it is possible to confirm outcomes together with comparisons with benchmark figures, for example national averages.
5. Appendix 1 shows a summary of results at each Key Stage. Appendix 2 gives a more detailed picture with analysis of trends and improvement priorities.
6. Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP). 2015 data show another significant jump in the proportion of children achieving a good level of development (+8%). This now puts Worcestershire in line with the national average. These outcomes reflect the re-balancing of EYFSP outcomes since the introduction of a new measure in 2013 and are a more accurate and robust picture of assessment.
7. Key Stage 1. 2015 Key Stage 1 outcomes for reading, writing and mathematics continue to rise and remain at least in line with those seen nationally. There has been consistency in the results over a six-year period.
8. Key Stage 2. Outcomes for L4+ in Reading, Writing and Mathematics show a small drop on 2014, 76.4% compared to 76.6%. Nationally, outcomes rose by 2%, therefore widening the attainment gap. Attainment in Worcestershire remains below national average.
9. Primary (2-tier) outcomes closely reflect the national picture and remain in line with those seen nationally on all measures. Middle school (3-tier) outcomes are little changed from 2014 although the overall figure of L4+ Reading, Writing and Maths shows a 1% drop. The gap in performance between 2 and 3 tier therefore remains.

10. Key Stage 4. Outcomes for 2015 are very positive and show an increase in the key measure of 5+A\*-C including English and maths to 60.7% (+2.2%). Nationally results improved by 0.4% to 53.8%, thus further strengthening Worcestershire schools' strong performance. Outcomes for schools in the 2-tier and 3-tier systems show little difference. Progress rates in both English and maths are above the national average.

11. Key Stage 5. Data for 2015 show a 2.9% fall in the proportion of students attaining 3 or more academic 'A' levels at A\*-E compared to a 0.8% drop nationally. The proportion of students attaining the highest grades also remains below that seen nationally. There has, however, been a large (27.4 points) rise in the average point score per student.

12. Pupils eligible for pupil premium. In comparison to 2014, outcomes for pupils eligible for pupil premium have improved across all Key Stages. However, Worcestershire pupils eligible for pupil premium continue to perform less well than their counterparts nationally in both attainment and progress measures. This remains the case across all key stages although there has been noticeable improvement in both EYFS and Key Stage 1.

13. Looked after children. Key Stage 2 outcomes show an 11% increase in the proportion of looked after children attaining L4+ in Reading, Writing and Maths (45%). Although this remains behind the national average (53%) the gap has narrowed by 5%.

14. The proportion of pupils looked after who attain 5+ GCSEs A\*-C including English and maths increased by 4% to 16%. While a very low figure, this is in line with attainment nationally for looked after children.

## **Ofsted update**

15. In September 2015 a new Ofsted framework was introduced for the inspection of schools. While inspections are ongoing on a regular basis, this report formally gives outcomes for the latest published Ofsted 'data point', which was August 2015. Although not formally confirmed through Ofsted figures, the overall proportion of schools judged to be good or outstanding remains the same as in August 2015.

16. Early Years inspections. Inspection outcomes within Worcestershire have shown a strong and improving picture over the last year. As of August 2015, 88% of Worcestershire early years and childcare settings were judged to be providing at least a good level of education. This compares very favourably against national (85%) and regional (82%) figures. Worcestershire was the strongest performing authority when compared to its statistical neighbours in terms of the percentage of settings rated outstanding.

17. Schools. 88% of all Worcestershire schools have an overall effectiveness inspection judgement of good or better, above the national figure of 84% and in a strong position when compared to similar local authorities.

18. Since 2012 the proportion of schools providing a good or better education as judged by Ofsted has increased by 22% compared to 14% nationally. In particular, there has been a significant increase in the percentage of schools being rated as

outstanding from 12% in 2012 to 20% in 2015. This now brings Worcestershire in line with the national picture for the first time regarding the proportion of outstanding schools.

## **Key priorities**

19. The majority of education services were commissioned to Babcock International with effect from 1 October 2015. While these services are being provided by a commissioned provider, the local authority retains overall accountability for educational outcomes.

20. The contract with Babcock is being monitored against a set of key performance indicators, many of which are directly linked to educational outcomes for children and young people.

21. Key priorities for services directly related to educational outcomes are:

- to raise standards of attainment and improve rates of progress, with a focus on Key Stage 2;
- to close the attainment gap for disadvantaged pupils at all Key Stages;
- to further increase the proportion of schools that are providing a good or better education for their pupils;
- to further strengthen partnership arrangements to increase school to school support, and
- to continually review services with Babcock International.

## **Purpose of the Meeting**

22. The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Panel is asked to:

- consider the information in the update
- determine whether it would wish to carry out any further scrutiny, and
- agree whether it would wish to make any comments to the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Children, Families and Communities

## **Supporting Information**

- Appendix 1 - Worcestershire educational outcomes 2015 – summary report
- Appendix 2 – Educational outcomes 2015

## **Contact Points**

### County Council Contact Points

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## **Background Papers**

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Director of Children, Families and Communities) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

Minutes and Agendas for all County Council meetings are available [here](#).