



# Key Stage 2, 2016/17

Key findings for the Lancashire-14 area

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**04 January 2018**

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# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Background information</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Key findings for the Lancashire-14 area</b> .....	<b>1</b>
2.1	Attainment and free school meals.....	2
2.2	Attainment and gender.....	2
2.3	Attainment and special educational needs.....	2
2.4	Attainment and children looked after.....	3
<b>3</b>	<b>Summary</b> .....	<b>3</b>

## 1 Background information

Pupils aged 11 years sit formal tests in reading, writing and Maths, at the end of Key Stage 2 (KS2). These results are a key performance indicator for primary schools. The 2016 key stage 2 (KS2) assessments are the first which assess the new, more challenging national curriculum which was introduced in 2014. The expected standard has also been raised to be higher than the old level 4. As a result, figures for 2016 are not comparable to those for earlier years.

## 2 Key findings for the Lancashire-14 area

Statistics published by the Department for Education indicates that within Lancashire-12, 61% of KS2 pupils reached the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics. The Lancashire-12 (61%) proportion was similar to the national (61%) and regional (61%) performance and neighbouring unitary authorities (Blackburn with Darwen 60% and Blackpool 62%) averages. The Lancashire-12 performance improved on the previous year (54%, 2015/16). Lancashire-12 are positioned in the third quartile nationally against this indicator.

Analysis of the results by Lancashire-12 districts (table 1) shows the attainment of pupils at the end of key stage 2 was higher in areas with low levels of deprivation. The proportion reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics in Ribble Valley (69%), Chorley (66%), and Fylde (66%) and West Lancashire (65%) was higher than Lancashire-12 and its comparators. Attainment in areas with higher levels of deprivation was lower and was particularly low in Preston (58%), Pendle (55%), and Burnley (53%).

**Table 1: Key stage 2 headline indicator, 2016/17 by area of pupil residence**

Area	% reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics
Burnley	53%
Chorley	66%
Fylde	66%
Hyndburn	59%
Lancaster	62%
Pendle	55%
Preston	58%
Ribble Valley	69%
Rossendale	61%
South Ribble	64%
West Lancashire	65%
Wyre	65%
Lancashire-12	61%
Blackburn with Darwen	60%
Blackpool	62%
Lancashire-14	61%
North West	61%
England	61%

Source: DfE

## 2.1 Attainment and free school meals

The link between educational attainment and deprivation is also evident in the results achieved by pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM). Eligibility for FSM indicates that a pupil is from a low income background. The provision of free school meals has traditionally been a reliable indicator of the extent and degree of child poverty in the United Kingdom.

During 2016/17, the proportion of FSM pupils reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at the end of key stage 2 in Lancashire-12 (40%) was lower than that of non-FSM pupils (65%). The Lancashire-12 FSM pupil's rate was lower when compared with the national (43%), regional (43%) and Blackburn with Darwen (47%) and Blackpool (48%) rates.

The percentage gap between FSM and non-FSM was wider for Lancashire-12 (+25%) than all the other comparator groups. The Lancashire-12 non-FSM pupil performance (65%) was similar to the majority of the comparator groups.

**Table 2: Proportion reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 by FSM eligibility, 2016/17**

Area	FSM (%)	Non-FSM (%)	Gap (%)
Lancashire-12	40%	65%	25%
Blackburn with Darwen	47%	62%	15%
Blackpool	48%	67%	19%
Lancashire-14	42%	65%	23%
North West	43%	65%	22%
England	43%	65%	22%

Source: DfE

## 2.2 Attainment and gender

There are also significant differences in attainment according to gender. Table 3 shows that Lancashire-12 follows a regional and national pattern with girls generally performing better than boys in reading, writing and maths at KS2.

**Table 3: Proportion reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 by gender, 2016/17**

Area	Boys	Girls
Lancashire-12	57%	65%
Blackburn with Darwen	55%	65%
Blackpool	59%	66%
North West	58%	65%
England	58%	66%

Source: DfE

## 2.3 Attainment and special educational needs

Education is a key to a more fulfilling future for children, but for those with special educational needs (SEN) too many barriers can stand in the way of the right education and support. In 2016/17 at KS2, the attainment gap remained within Lancashire-12 with the proportion of SEND pupils reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 (9%) significantly lower than non-SEND pupils (69%), with a percentage point gap of 60%. The performance of Lancashire-

12 SEND pupils is however slightly above regional (7%) and national (8%) performance.

**Table 4: Proportion reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 by SEND, 2016/17**

Area	Pupils with no identified SEN	SEN with a statement or EHC plan
Lancashire-12	69%	9%
Blackburn with Darwen	70%	8%
Blackpool	71%	-
North West	71%	7%
England	71%	8%

Source: DfE

## 2.4 Attainment and children looked after

The educational attainment of children looked after is much lower than that of their peers. There are a number of factors that contribute to this. For example, there tends to be a higher prevalence of children with special educational needs in the looked after population (around two thirds in the looked after population in Lancashire compared to less than one fifth in the general school age population). Another factor is that many of these children may have come from disadvantaged backgrounds, and as shown previously, attainment has strong links to deprivation.

In 2015/16, the proportion of looked after children reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 in Lancashire-12 (24%) was slightly lower than the regional (26%) and national (25%) performance. The 2016/17 data will be published in March 2018.

**Table 5: Proportion reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 by looked after children**

Area	%
Lancashire-12	24%
Blackburn with Darwen	33%
Blackpool	-
North West	26%
England	25%

Source: DfE

## 3 Summary

Although Lancashire-12 has consistently improved at the end of KS2, and with the proportions reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics similar to the national average, there are some groups of pupils that are still under performing due to deprivation, circumstances and needs (these are highlighted above).

The children and young people dashboard created as part of the Neighbourhood JSNA, includes district and ward level data on key stage 2 attainment. This resource can be accessed [here](#).