



Key Stage 2, 2018/19

Key findings for the Lancashire-14 area

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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 were 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, 64% of KS2 pupils reached the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics. The Lancashire-12 (64%) proportion was slightly worse than the England (65%) and North West (65%) performance, as well as that of the neighbouring unitary authorities - Blackpool (66%) and Blackburn with Darwen (67%). The Lancashire-12 performance dropped from the previous year (65%, 2017/18 but was better than in 2016.17 (61%). 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 Fylde (74%), Chorley (69%), West Lancashire (66%), Wyre (67%), Ribble Valley (66%) and Rossendale (65%) was higher than Lancashire-12 and the same as its regional and national comparators (both 65%) but lower than its neighbouring unitary authorities of Blackburn with Darwen and Blackpool (both 66%). Attainment in areas with higher levels of deprivation was lower and was particularly low in Hyndburn (60%), Pendle (57%) and Burnley (56%).

Table 1: Key stage 2 headline indicator, 2018/19 by area of school location

Area	% reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics
Burnley	56%
Chorley	69%
Fylde	74%
Hyndburn	60%
Lancaster	64%
Pendle	57%
Preston	65%
Ribble Valley	68%
Rossendale	65%
South Ribble	65%
West Lancashire	66%
Wyre	66%
Lancashire-12	64%
Blackburn with Darwen	66%
Blackpool	66%
Lancashire-14	64%
North West	65%
England	65%

Source: Department for Education (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 2018/19, the proportion of FSM pupils reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at the end of key stage 2 in Lancashire-12 (45%) was lower than that of non-FSM pupils (68%). The Lancashire-12 FSM pupil's rate was lower when compared with the England (47%), North West (47%) and Blackburn with Darwen (51%) and Blackpool (57%) rates.

The percentage gap between FSM and non-FSM was wider for Lancashire-12 (+23%) than all the other comparator groups. The Lancashire-12 non-FSM pupil performance (68%) was the same as that of England and was slightly lower than that of the other comparator groups.

Table 2: Proportion reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 by FSM eligibility, 2018/19

Area	FSM (%)	Non-FSM (%)	Gap (%)
Lancashire-12	45%	68%	23%
Blackburn with Darwen	51%	71%	20%
Blackpool	57%	69%	12%
North West	47%	69%	22%
England	47%	68%	21%

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, 2018/19

Area	Boys	Girls
Lancashire-12	60%	68%
Blackburn with Darwen	62%	70%
Blackpool	61%	72%
North West	60%	69%
England	61%	70%

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 2018/19 at KS2, the attainment gap remained within Lancashire-12 with the proportion of pupils with a statement or EHC plan reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 (9%) significantly

lower than non-SEND pupils (73%), with a percentage point gap of 64%. The performance of Lancashire-12 SEND pupils is the same as North West (9%) and England (9%) performance.

Table 4: Proportion reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 by SEND, 2018/19

Area	Pupils with no identified SEN	SEN with a statement or EHC plan
Lancashire-12	73%	9%
Blackburn with Darwen	77%	10%
Blackpool	76%	15%
North West	74%	9%
England	74%	9%

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 2018/19, the proportion of looked after children reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 in Lancashire-12 (31%) was several percentage points lower than both the North West (38%) and England (37%) performance. The 2019/20 data will be published in March 2020.

Table 5: Proportion reaching expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at KS2 by looked after children 2018/19

Area	%
Lancashire-12	31%
Blackburn with Darwen	40%
Blackpool	36%
North West	38%
England	37%

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 largely similar to the England 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](#).