DfE: A Level and Equivalent Results in England, 2015/16 (Revised)

The DfE issued a revised Statistical Release on 19/01/2017. The coverage of this release is 16 to 18 year old students at the end of their final year of post-16 study in schools and colleges in England. The information is based on data published in the 2016 School and College Performance Tables and covers achievements in all Level 3 qualifications.

The National and Southampton average reported within this briefing note is the state funded schools and college average which includes state-funded mainstream schools, academies, free schools, city technology colleges (CTCs), state-funded special schools and FE sector colleges but excludes independent sector schools, pupil referral units (PRUs), alternative provision (AP), hospital schools, non-maintained special schools and other government department funded colleges.
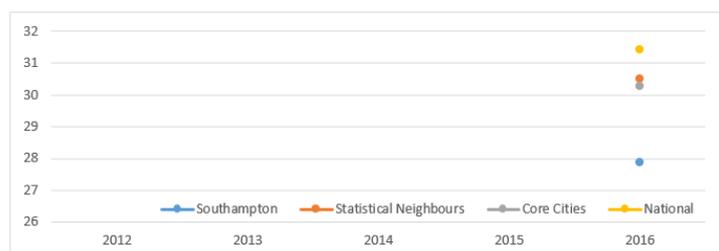
In 2016, the DfE have introduced new accountability measures and changes to the methodology for calculating 16-18 results, therefore direct comparisons with 2015 data are not available. A new average points indicator has been introduced which uses a points scale of 10-60 where a grade A* is given 60 points and a grade E is given 10 points.

Headlines

- **Southampton's Average Point Score per entry for all A-Level students was 25.86 (equivalent of a C-grade) and the National average was 30.44 (equivalent of a C grade), a gap of 4.58 points. This earned Southampton a ranking of 148th out of a possible 150 Local Authorities.**

- **Southampton's Average Point Score per entry for all Level 3 students was 27.87 and the National average was 31.42, a gap of 3.55 points. This earned Southampton a ranking of 147th out of a possible 150 Local Authorities.**

- **The percentage of students achieving grades AAB or better at A Level in Southampton (7.6%) is 10.9% below National (18.5%), ranking Southampton 144th out of 150 Local Authorities.**

- **3.9% of Southampton's of students achieved 3 A*-A grades or better at A level, 6.6% below the National average of 10.5%, earning Southampton a rank of 140th out of 150 Local Authorities.**

- **Southampton's Tech Level students achieved an average points score per entry of 30.44 (equivalent of Distinction-), 0.32 points below the National average of 30.76 (equivalent of Distinction-). Southampton achieved a ranking of 83rd out of 150 Local Authorities for this indicator.**

- **The average points score for Southampton pupils entering at least one Applied General qualification was 32.24 (equivalent of Distinction-), a gap of 2.42 below the National average (34.66, equivalent of Distinction) which ranks Southampton 128th out of 150 Local Authorities.**
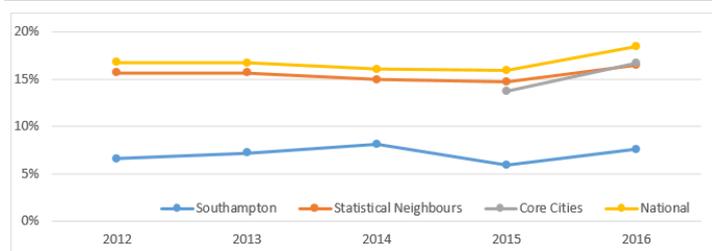
Average Points Score Per Entry (All Level 3)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Southampton					27.87
Statistical Neighbours					30.49
Core Cities					30.27
National					31.42
Gap Southampton vs Statistical Neighbours					-2.62
Gap Southampton vs Core Cities					-2.40
Gap Southampton vs National					-3.55

KS5 Achievement of AAB

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Southampton	6.6%	7.2%	8.1%	5.9%	7.6%
Statistical Neighbours	15.7%	15.7%	15.0%	14.7%	16.5%
Core Cities				13.7%	16.7%
National	16.8%	16.7%	16.1%	15.9%	18.5%
Gap Southampton vs Statistical Neighbours	-9.1%	-8.5%	-6.9%	-8.8%	-8.9%
Gap Southampton vs Core Cities				-7.8%	-9.1%
Gap Southampton vs National	-10.2%	-9.5%	-8.0%	-10.0%	-10.9%

Good News

- The average points score for Southampton students entering at least one Tech Level was broadly in line with the National average (Southampton APS per entry – 30.44, National APS per entry – 30.76). The average point scores for Southampton and National are both equivalent to a Distinction- grade. The average points score per entry of Southampton's Statistical Neighbours and Core Cities for students entering at least one Tech Level was 28.95 and 29.21 respectively, resulting in Southampton's performance of Tech Level students (APS per entry of 30.44) being 1.49 above Statistical Neighbour average and 1.23 above Core City average.

Areas to Improve on

- Southampton Local Authority is ranked in at least the bottom 10 of all Local Authorities for the key A Level performance indicators namely;
    - APS per entry for Level 3 students – a ranking of 147
    - APS per entry for A Level students – a ranking of 148
    - Percentage of students achieving 3 A*-A grades or better at A level – a ranking of 140
    - Percentage of students achieving grades AAB or better at A level – a ranking of 144

- Southampton were below the Statistical Neighbour and Core City average for the following performance indicators:
    - APS per entry for Level 3 students
    - APS per entry for A Level students
    - APS per entry, best 3 for A Level students
    - Percentage of students achieving 3 A*-A grades or better at A level
    - Percentage of students achieving grades AAB or better at A level
    - Percentage of students achieving grades AAB or better at A level, of which at least two are in facilitating subjects
    - APS per entry for Academic students
    - APS per entry for Applied General students

The only performance indicator for which Southampton was above Statistical Neighbour and Core City averages was for the average points score per entry for students entering at least one Tech Level.

- The average points score for academic students (those entered for at least one academic qualification which is at least half an A level or an Extended Project Qualification) was 26.01 (equivalent to a C-) while the National average was 30.63 (equivalent to a C), a gap to National of 4.62.

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