

DfE: National Curriculum Assessments at Key Stage 2 in England, 2017 (Provisional)

This report is based on the DfE Statistical First Release (SFR) on 31 August 2017 of provisional KS2 results. Please see the briefing below regarding Southampton's performance against Statistical Neighbours, Core Cities and National for Key Stage 2.

2016 was the first time that the new National Curriculum was assessed and this was coupled with the introduction of a new accountability framework. Pupils are no longer assessed using National Curriculum Levels but through test-derived scaled scores in Reading, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling and Mathematics whilst Writing remains teacher assessed. A scaled score of 100 in the tests means the pupil has achieved the Expected Standard while a scaled score of 110 would equate to the pupil achieving a High Score / Higher Standard. Pupils are teacher assessed in Writing as reaching the Expected Standard or working at a Greater Depth within the Expected Standard.

This provisional Key Stage 2 statistical first release contains only attainment outcomes. Progress is now calculated using a value-added measure and this SFR will be available in December 2017.

Floor standards under the new accountability has been set at 65% of pupils achieving the Expected Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined and for pupils to have made sufficient progress in all of Reading, Writing and Maths. To be above the floor standard, a school needs to meet either the attainment or all of the progress elements.

On a number of occasions, within this briefing note, Southampton's ranking is given as being out of 150 Local Authorities rather than 152. The reason for this is that the Key Stage 2 outcomes for two small Local Authorities (City of London and Isles of Scilly) have been suppressed. Please take care when interpreting Southampton's ranking for certain indicators. Due to the narrow distribution of results and outcomes being rounded to whole percentages, a high ranking shared with many other Local Authorities could potentially overinflate perception of performance.

Headline

- **Southampton's 2017 KS2 achievement for the percentage of pupils achieving the Expected Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths was 61%. This is in line with the National performance of 61% and sustains Southampton's performance of being in line or above National for the main attainment headline indicator since 2013 (previously Level 4+ in Reading, Writing and Maths). Southampton's 2017 KS2 cohort achieved a joint rank position of 66th with 13 other Local Authorities out of a total of 150 Local Authorities.**

- The proportion of Southampton pupils achieving the Higher Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths is 8%, 1% below the National average for this indicator (9%).
- 73% of Southampton's KS2 pupils achieved the Expected Standard in Reading, 2% greater than the National average of 71%. In 2016, Southampton (66%) equalled the National average (66%) for pupils achieving the Expected Standard in Reading, therefore Southampton has had a 2% improvement relative to National from 2016 to 2017. Subsequently, Southampton's rank has improved from 78th in 2016 to 53rd out of 150 Local Authorities in 2017.
- 77% of Southampton's KS2 pupils achieved the Expected Standard in Writing, 1% above the National average of 76% and ranking Southampton 49th with 17 other Local Authorities out of a total of 150 Local Authorities. Southampton made no improvement to the 2016 percentage achieving the Expected Standard in Writing of 77%, whilst the National average increased from 74% in 2016 to 76% in 2017. This indicates that Southampton have regressed, relative to National, by 2%.
- 74% of Southampton's KS2 pupils achieved the Expected Standard in Maths, 1% below the National average of 75%. In 2016, Southampton (71%) was 1% above the National average (70%) for pupils achieving the Expected Standard in Maths, resulting in Southampton's ranking dropping from 65th in 2016 to 82nd out of a total of 150 Local Authorities in 2017.

Good News

- 25% of Southampton KS2 pupils achieved the Higher Standard in Reading equalling the National average (25%). In 2016, Southampton (17%) were 2% below the National average (19%) for pupils achieving the Higher Standard in Reading. This resulted in an improvement from Southampton's 2016 ranking of 96th to a 2017 ranking of 57th out of a total of 150 Local Authorities in 2017.
- In 2017, Southampton's KS2 pupils achieved an Average Scaled Score in Reading of 104, equalling the National average of 104. Southampton's Average Scaled Score in Reading improved by 2 from 2016 (102) to 2017 (104) while the National Average Scaled Score in Reading improved by 1 from 2016 (103) to 2017 (104). Therefore Southampton improved by 1 more Average Scaled Score in Reading compared to National from 2016 to 2017.
- The Statistical Neighbour and Core City average for the percentage of pupils achieving the Expected Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined was 58%, 3% less than the Southampton average of 61%.
- 7% of Southampton's Boys achieved the Higher Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined, 1% greater than the Statistical Neighbour and Core City average of 6%.

- The Statistical Neighbour and Core City average for the percentage of Girls achieving the Expected Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined was 62%, 4% less than the Southampton average of 66%.
- 74% of Southampton's KS2 pupils achieved the Expected Standard in Maths, 2% above the Statistical Neighbour average (72%) and 1% above the Core City average (73%).
- 77% of Southampton's KS2 pupils achieved the Expected Standard in Writing, 3% above the Statistical Neighbour average (74%) and 4% above the Core City average (73%).

Areas to improve on

- The proportion of Southampton pupils working at a Greater Depth in Writing is 13%, 5% below the National average (18%) and 3% below the Statistical Neighbour average (16%), ranking Southampton a joint 127th with 7 other Local Authorities out of a total of 150 Local Authorities. The gap between Southampton and National for percentage of pupils achieving a Greater Depth in Writing has widened by 2% from a gap of 3% in 2016 (Southampton 12%, National 15%) to a gap of 5% in 2017 (Southampton 13%, National 18%).
- 8% of Southampton Girls achieved the Higher Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined, 2% below the National average (10%), ranking Southampton girls a joint 106th with 20 other Local Authorities out of a total of 150 Local Authorities. The Southampton outcome of 8% of Girls achieving the Higher Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined was 1% below the Statistical Neighbour and Core City averages (9%).
- The proportion of Southampton pupils achieving the Higher Standard in Maths is 20%, 3% below the National average (23%) and 2% below the Core City average (22%), ranking Southampton a joint 99th with 20 other Local Authorities out of a total of 150 Local Authorities. The gap between Southampton and National for percentage of pupils achieving the Higher Standard in Maths has widened by 1% from a gap of 2% in 2016 (Southampton 15%, National 17%) to a gap of 3% in 2017 (Southampton 20%, National 23%).
- In Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS), 75% of Southampton pupils achieved the Expected Standard which was 2% below the National average (77%) while 28% of Southampton students achieved the Higher Standard in Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling, 3% below the National average (31%).

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