

## 2020 Provisional Headline KS4 GCSE Results for Southampton Local Authority

Key Stage 4 GCSE results were released to schools on the 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020. Southampton schools agreed to inform the LA of their results so that citywide performance can be calculated. The short briefing note below, based on early provisional data, provides an overview of Southampton's performance.

Oasis Academy Lord's Hill informed the Local Authority that Oasis Principals had been advised by their Trust not to share any information about headline outcomes externally. As a result, this summary does not include Oasis Academy Lord's Hill, Oasis Academy Mayfield and Oasis Academy Sholing data.

The Department for Education (DfE) [announced on the 8<sup>th</sup> April](#) that school, college or multi-academy trust (MAT) level performance data based on summer 2020 tests, assessments and exams at any phase would not be published. This includes the performance tables that were due to be released in December 2020, and March 2021. Schools and colleges should not be held to account on the basis of exams and assessment data from summer 2020 and that data will not be used by others, such as Ofsted and local authorities, to hold schools and colleges to account.

The KS4 accountability of Attainment 8 and Progress 8 was introduced in 2016. In 2017, new, reformed English and Maths GCSEs were first examined and a new grading of 9-1 was introduced, with 9 being the highest grade. In 2018, reformed EBacc GCSEs and a number of other key subjects were first examined using the 9-1 grading. In 2019 further reformed GCSE qualifications were introduced on the 9-1 grade scale. For the first time in 2020 all GCSEs had been converted to a scale of 9-1 with no unreformed GCSEs graded A\*-G remaining. Consequently, any trend comparisons made between 2016 and 2020 results for the key headline performance measures must be treated with caution.

The current indication is that National and Local Authority data will not be published by the DfE in October 2020, as is usually the case. It will therefore not be possible to issue a further briefing note outlining Southampton's performance compared to Statistical Neighbours, Core Cities and National in 2020.

The focus of this 2020 briefing note will follow the 2019 accountability measures outlined by the DfE in the Performance Tables Statement of Intent (indicated in bold text within the commentary below):

- Progress 8 (not available until mid-September)
- Attainment 8
- The percentage of pupils achieving a 5 or above (strong pass) in English and Maths
- EBacc Average Points Score
- The percentage of pupils entering the English Baccalaureate
- The percentage of students staying in education or employment after Key Stage 4 (destinations)

In addition to the headline indicators above, the DfE also focus on the following measures:

- The proportion of pupils achieving a standard pass in English and Maths – grade 4 or above
- The proportion of pupils achieving a grade 5 or above in all EBacc subject areas (C and above in unreformed qualifications)
- The proportion of pupils achieving a grade 4 or above in all EBacc subject areas (C and above in unreformed qualifications)

The Progress 8 indicator relies on National calculations completed by the DfE and is currently unavailable at either School or Local Authority level. The current indication is that 2020 Progress 8 figures will not be published by the DfE.

Southampton Schools have reported substantial differences between teacher assessment grades submitted to examination bodies and the results day outcomes awarded to pupils following the adjusted methodology for 2020. The approach applied by the DfE resulted in 80.2% and 77.2% of candidates nationally achieving a 4 or above in English and Maths respectively.

### **Headlines – Based on 9 Schools**

- **In 2020, Southampton pupils achieved an Attainment 8 score of 47.0.**
- **In 2020, 43% of Southampton pupils achieved a 9-5 in English and Maths GCSE.**
- In 2020, 66% of Southampton pupils achieved a 9-4 in English and Maths GCSE.
- **The 2020 EBacc Average Points Score is 4.25.**
- In 2020, 58% of Southampton pupils achieved a 9-5 in English GCSE.
- In 2020, 50% of Southampton pupils achieved a 9-5 in Maths GCSE.
- In 2020, 76% of Southampton pupils achieved a 9-4 in English GCSE.
- In 2020, 70% of Southampton pupils achieved a 9-4 in Maths GCSE.
- In 2020, 15% of Southampton pupils achieved the EBacc at grade 5 or above.
- **In 2020, 32% of Southampton pupils entered the EBacc.**
- Southampton's 2020 Attainment 8 outcomes in the English, Maths, EBacc and the Open elements were 9.7, 9.0, 13.7 and 14.6 respectively.

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