Research Briefing
Key Stage 4 Attainment Data

Author: **Michael Dauncey**
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Contact Us

Research Service
National Assembly for Wales
Tŷ Hywel
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

📞 : **0300 200 6293**
✉ : **Michael.Dauncey@Assembly.Wales**
Ⓦ : **seneddresearch.blog**
🐦 : **@SeneddResearch**
🌐 : **Assembly.Wales/Research**

Research Briefing
Key Stage 4 Attainment Data

This Research Briefing presents data on the attainment of pupils at Key Stage 4. It particularly focuses on the attainment of pupils eligible for free school meals. This is the proxy measure to identify children from income deprived households. The Welsh Government aims to improve the attainment of this group of pupils through its Rewriting the Future strategy and targeted funding in the form of the Pupil Development Grant.

The Welsh Government has also aimed to improve attainment in underperforming schools. It targeted funding and support at particular schools through its Schools Challenge Cymru programme, which ran from 2014 to 2017. This paper therefore also looks at pupil attainment within these schools.

This Research Briefing updates a previous version of this paper, published in November 2017, to incorporate the final 2017 attainment data from the Welsh Government. It is intended to inform the Children, Young People and Education Committee's Targeted funding to improve educational outcomes inquiry.

This paper comments on changes in pupils' attainment in 2017 from previous years, based on the Welsh Government's data. However, some comparisons between years are no longer statistically valid due to changes in performance measures. These changes particularly affect the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive measures. This Research Briefing therefore also draws on GCSE A*-C attainment rates in the core subjects.

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Contents

1. Introduction

The **latest published data on attainment at Key Stage 4** was released by the Welsh Government in December 2017, following the summer 2017 examinations. These final statistics updated the provisional data, published in October 2017. The Welsh Government updated its **My Local School website** with school-level 2016/17 data on 1 February 2018.

This Research Briefing uses this data to analyse progress in improving pupil outcomes, particularly amongst pupils eligible for free school meals (eFSM) who are the targeted beneficiaries of the Welsh Government's **Pupil Development Grant (PDG)**, and in schools which received additional support under the **Schools Challenge Cymru Programme**.

Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive

The main performance measure used by the Welsh Government in recent years is the Level 2 threshold inclusive. However, changes to the way in which qualifications can count towards it from 2017 onwards present **difficulties in making comparisons with previous years**.

− The Level 2 threshold measure equals 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C or the vocational equivalent.

− The Level 2 threshold inclusive means that these 5 or more GCSEs or the vocational equivalent must include English or Welsh and Mathematics.

The vocational equivalence is the aspect of the measures that has changed most significantly. From 2017, **vocational qualifications may make up no more than 40%** of the 5 or more GCSEs in the Level 2 threshold, ie a pupil must gain a minimum of three actual GCSEs at grades A*-C to achieve it. This builds upon the change introduced in 2016 whereby no vocational qualification can be worth more than the equivalent of two GCSEs in performance measures.

The proportion of pupils achieving the revised Level 2 threshold and the Level 2 threshold inclusive measures in 2017 was **lower than the proportion achieving the previous versions of the measures** in 2016 (see chapter 2 for the data.) This **followed year on year increases** dating back to the last decade. It is difficult to analyse what the 2017 results signal about performance as, due to the changes in how the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive are now measured, the Welsh Government has said **comparisons between 2017 and previous years are not statistically valid**.[1]

Although the changes to performance measures apply to both eFSM and non eFSM pupils, they appear to have resulted in a more pronounced reduction in attainment of the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive amongst eFSM pupils. The **attainment gap** between eFSM pupils and their peers was **wider in 2017, under the revised Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive measures,** than it was in earlier years under the previous versions of the measures. **This followed sustained reductions** in the gap since 2010.

As the Welsh Government's Chief Statistician noted in his **blog in December 2017**:

> *the cap on the value of non-GCSEs has contributed to a shift away from vocational qualifications towards GCSEs, reversing the trends seen in some subjects in recent years.*

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[1] Another change to the Level 2 threshold inclusive measure is that only English and Welsh Language may count, rather than English or Welsh Literature also. See page 1 and the Notes section of the **December 2017 statistical release**, the **Chief Statistician's blog** and the **Welsh Government media release** of 6 December for further explanation.

The 2017 data arguably demonstrates the contribution vocational qualifications made to previous years' performance against the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive. It is also possible that the restriction of the number of vocational qualifications that can be included in the threshold has affected eFSM pupils to a greater extent if they are more likely to take vocational qualifications instead of GCSEs.

GCSE attainment in core subjects

The difficulties in comparing the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive data with previous years mean a closer look at data for individual subjects becomes more relevant and useful.

Pupils in Year 11 in 2017 were the **first annual cohort of pupils examined against the new specifications** for GCSE English, Welsh and Mathematics (including for the first time, Mathematics Numeracy). It is generally accepted that there is often a 'sawtooth effect' following the reform of qualifications.[2] Qualifications Wales and the WJEC operate a '**comparable outcomes' model** to maintain grade stability, which should mitigate to some extent against any distortion that new specifications might cause in the overall results of the cohort. However, this would not always fully offset the impact, particularly where there is no comparable predecessor as in GCSE Mathematics Numeracy.

Information on comparable outcomes and the setting of grade boundaries is available on the **Qualifications Wales website**. Further explanation of the changes to the examination of English, Welsh and Mathematics in 2017, including tiers of entry and coursework, can be found in a **guest article written by Qualifications Wales** for the National Assembly Research Service blog in August 2017.

Attainment data for GCSE English, Maths and Science (presented in chapter 2 of this paper) indicates a **decrease in attainment in 2017 and widening of the gap** between the attainment of eFSM pupils and their peers. A brief overview is provided below:

− The proportion of all pupils attaining grades A*-C in **GCSE English** (best result from Language or Literature) decreased from 69.3% in 2016 to 66.2% in 2017. This followed year on year increases since 2012 when it was 62.2%. The gap in GCSE English attainment between eFSM pupils and non FSM pupils widened from 28.4 percentage points in 2016 to 30.8 percentage points in 2017, after sustained progress in narrowing the gap since 2010. (See **Table 3** of this paper)

− The proportion of all pupils attaining grades A*-C in **GCSE Welsh** (First Language, best of Language or Literature) decreased from 75.1% in 2016 to 74.5% in 2017. However, the eFSM attainment rate rose from 50.9% in 2016 to 54.4% in 2017. The gap in GCSE Welsh attainment between eFSM pupils and non FSM pupils narrowed from 26.8 percentage points in 2016 to 22.2 in 2017. (See **Table 4** of this paper)

− The proportion of all pupils attaining grades A*-C in **GCSE Mathematics** decreased from 66.9% in 2016 to 62.5% in 2017. This followed year on year increases since 2010 when it was 55.7%. The eFSM attainment rate decreased similarly from 43.6% in 2016 to 38.3% in 2017. The gap in GCSE Mathematics attainment between eFSM and non FSM pupils was relatively the same, widening slightly from 29.6 percentage points in 2016 to 30.3 in 2017. (See **Table 5** of this paper)

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[2] For more discussion on this, see the Ofqual publication*, An investigation into the 'Sawtooth Effect' in GCSE and AS / A level assessments,* September 2016

– The proportion of all pupils attaining grades A*-C in **GCSE Science** decreased from 84.0% in 2015 to 82.4% in 2016 and 75.6% in 2017. This followed year on year increases since 2010 when it was 63.6%. The gap in GCSE Science attainment between eFSM pupils and non FSM pupils widened from 15.0 percentage points in 2016 to 24.0 percentage points in 2017, after sustained progress in narrowing the gap between 2010 and 2015. From 2018, vocational science qualifications will not count towards the Capped Points score, which is a key performance measure. It is possible that this has brought about a shift away from entries for vocational science qualifications towards GCSE Science qualifications, in anticipation of the changes in 2018. This may have affected eFSM pupils more than non FSM pupils. (See **Table 6** of this paper)

School categorisation

The Welsh Government published the 2017 **school categorisation outcomes** on 1 February 2018. The main purpose of the categorisation system is to identify schools which are in most need of support. The **Welsh Government highlighted** the following:

– 85.3% of primary schools and 68.3% of secondary schools are now in the **green and yellow categories**. This increase from last year continues the **upward trend since 2015**.

– There has been a **very small rise in the proportion of red schools** – those identified as needing most support – by 0.4 percentage points in the primary sector and 2.9 percentage points in the secondary sector.

– 45% of special schools have been categorised as green, and needing less support, with no schools categorised as red and in need of most support.

Tackling the deprivation attainment gap

This Research Briefing presents statistics on achievement of eFSM pupils compared to both pupils who are not eligible for free school meals and the total cohort of pupils. FSM eligibility is the proxy used by the Welsh Government for deprivation amongst school pupils.

This is significant because, as well as raising school standards and pupil performance generally, the Welsh Government has a specific objective of narrowing the gap between the attainment of pupils from deprived backgrounds and their peers. The **Pupil Development (formerly 'Deprivation') Grant**, which provides additional funding to schools based on the number of eFSM pupils on their roll, is the main financial lever used by the Welsh Government to achieve this aim.

The Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kirsty Williams, told the Children, Young People and Education Committee during **2017-2018 draft budget scrutiny (PDF 565KB)** in November 2016:

> *I expect all our policies to help raise standards and further narrow the attainment gap between pupils from our most deprived communities and those from more prosperous areas.*

Supporting underperforming schools

This paper also includes data on pupil attainment in schools which participated in the **Schools Challenge Cymru** programme. Through this programme, which ran between 2014 and 2017, the Welsh Government provided **additional funding and support** to schools which were **underperforming** and facing the greatest challenges. These schools were known as 'Pathways to Success' schools.

The Welsh Government **did not continue the programme** beyond its three financial and academic years, stating it had always been a 'time-limited' programme. The Cabinet Secretary for Education has said that the lessons and legacy of Schools Challenge Cymru will be applied to inform school improvement more generally.

The Children, Young People and Education Committee's inquiry

The National Assembly's Children, Young People and Education Committee are undertaking an inquiry into Welsh Government **funding targeted at improving educational outcomes amongst particular groups of pupils and schools**. This inquiry will mainly focus on the ongoing Pupil Development Grant and the discontinued Schools Challenge Cymru programme. It will not look specifically at the general £100 million pledged by the Welsh Government within this Assembly (until March 2021) for raising school standards across the board.

The Committee issued a call for written evidence between November 2017 and January 2018 and will be taking oral evidence in February and March 2018. By presenting and summarising key attainment data, this Research Briefing intends to inform the Committee's evidence gathering and deliberations.

2. Tackling the impact of deprivation on attainment

The Pupil Development Grant

Tackling the impact of deprivation on educational outcomes was one of the Welsh Government's three education priorities in the previous Assembly. Upon her appointment to the Cabinet, **Kirsty Williams agreed ten education priorities with the First Minister**, which included a commitment to maintain the Pupil Deprivation Grant throughout this Assembly. In April 2017, the Cabinet Secretary renamed this as the Pupil Development Grant (PDG), although confirmed that the PDG would retain the same emphasis on pupils from deprived backgrounds.[3]

The PDG was introduced in financial year 2012-13. It provides **extra money to schools based on the number of pupils eligible for free school meals (eFSM)** on their roll. £1,150 is paid per eligible pupil. The PDG also provides money to regional consortia to be spent on looked after and adopted children, also on the basis of £1,150 per child.

In 2015-16, the PDG was extended to Early Years (3-5 year olds: up to and including the Reception year) on the basis of £300 per eligible child. This rose in 2017-18 to £600.

The Welsh Government's budget for the PDG in 2018-19 is stated as **£94 million**.

How many children are eligible for PDG funds and how is the money allocated?

Below is a breakdown of how the PDG has been allocated in 2017-18[4] (extrapolated from information on the **Welsh Government website):**

– Approximately **67,000 eFSM pupils** in maintained schools (Year 1 to Year 11) attract £1,150 at a cost of £77 million.

– 605 eFSM children educated otherwise than at school (EOTAS) (Year 1 to Year 11) attract £1,150 PDG at a cost of £700,000.

– Approximately **13,000 children in nursery and reception classes** in maintained schools estimated as eFSM attract £600 of Early Years PDG at a cost of £8.2 million.

– 158 children in nursery schools estimated as eFSM attract £600 of Early Years PDG at a cost of £95,000.

– 1,011 children EOTAS in early years attract £600 of PDG at a cost of £600,000.

– **£4.5 million** will be paid to the regional education consortia to distribute for use on **looked after and adopted children**, on the basis of **3,907 children** registered as looked after.

Evaluation

The Welsh Government commissioned **two evaluations** of the PDG. **Ipsos MORI and WISERD** carried out a process and impact evaluation of the school-age PDG in three annual stages, whilst the **National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER)** is evaluating how the Early Years PDG is being interpreted and implemented in practice.

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[3] In answer to **WAQ73368 in April 2017** and in the **Children, Young People and Education Committee on 14 June 2017 (PDF 340KB)**
[4] Funding is paid by the Welsh Government to either regional consortia, local authorities or schools rather than pupils or their families.

The **final evaluation report** by **Ipsos MORI and WISERD** was published by the Welsh Government on 13 December 2017. The Welsh Government has said that the NFER report will be published soon.

Ipsos MORI and WISERD concluded that analysis of pupil outcome **data 'paints an encouraging picture** with regards to the impact of the PDG on educational outcomes'. However, they also note that some of the greatest improvements in the narrowing of the attainment gap between eFSM pupils and their peers **pre-dated the introduction of the PDG**. This makes it difficult to determine how much of this trend is directly attributable to the PDG.

Ipsos MORI and WISERD report that 'a **longer-term view** of pupils' progress is **essential** in evaluating the effectiveness of the grant'. Note also that Ipsos MORI and WISERD only analysed data up to 2015 and there have been two further years of attainment data since then. After several years of a narrowing in the attainment gap between eFSM pupils and their peers, this widened in 2017, as measured by the revised Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive and the new GCSEs in English, Maths and Science.

Below is a summary of some of Ipsos MORI and WISERD's other findings:

– Schools see PDG funding as **invaluable**. It is used to a greater extent on teaching assistants rather than teachers, perhaps due to a lack of long-term certainty over the funding.

– Schools apply a **broader concept of disadvantage than just eligibility for free school meals**. They top up PDG income from their own budget to fund interventions that support a wider group of pupils.

– There is **ambiguity and inconsistency** about whether PDG is to be used for all eFSM pupils (including More Able and Talented eFSM pupils) or for only low-attaining eFSM pupils.

– The PDG has brought about a **change in culture** and raised the profile of the deprivation/attainment agenda. There is an increased focus on whole-school strategies.

– Schools make **insufficient use of the Sutton Toolkit** and external academic expertise.

– The **regional consortia** have an important role to play in supporting effective use of the PDG.

All Wales attainment data, by FSM eligibility

Tables 1-6 below show the latest published data on the attainment of eFSM pupils on an all-Wales basis. For comparative purposes, the data is presented alongside the data for non FSM pupils, and all pupils (total cohort comprising both eFSM and non FSM pupils).

− Table 1 shows data on achievement of the Level 2 threshold inclusive.

− Table 2 shows data on achievement of the Level 2 threshold.

− Table 3 shows data on attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE English (best of Language or Literature).

− Table 4 shows data on attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh (First Language, best of Language or Literature).

− Table 5 shows data on attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Mathematics.

− Table 6 shows data on attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Science.

Table 1: Achievement of Level 2 threshold inclusive by FSM eligibility – All Wales

				Percentage of pupils achieving Level 2 threshold inclusive		
	eFSM	non eFSM	**% point gap**	eFSM	All pupils	**% point gap**
2009	20.1	52.1	**32.0**	20.1	47.2	**27.1**
2010	20.7	54.6	**33.9**	20.7	49.4	**28.7**
2011	22.0	55.7	**33.7**	22.0	50.1	**28.1**
2012	23.4	56.6	**33.2**	23.4	51.1	**27.7**
2013	25.8	58.5	**32.7**	25.8	52.7	**26.9**
2014	27.8	61.6	**33.8**	27.8	55.4	**27.6**
2015	31.6	64.1	**32.5**	31.6	57.9	**26.3**
2016	35.6	66.8	**31.2**	35.6	60.3	**24.7**
2017	28.6	61.0	**32.4**	28.6	54.6	**26.0**

Source: Welsh Government, Statistical First Release: *Examination results in Wales 2016/17*, Tables 1 and 5, 6 December 2017. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i) Level 2 threshold inclusive = 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C including Mathematics and English/Welsh Language, or the vocational equivalent. In 2017, the Welsh Government changed the way the Level 2 threshold inclusive is recorded, placing a cap on the number of vocational qualifications that may be counted. From 2017, this is limited to 40%, ie vocational qualifications may only count as up to 2 of the 5 GCSEs. The Welsh Government says comparisons between 2017 and previous years are not statistically valid.

ii) See page 1 and the Notes section of the **December 2017 statistical release**, the **Chief Statistician's blog** and **Welsh Government media release** of 6 December for further discussion of the issue of comparisons between years. Other changes in 2017 include the first examination of new specifications of English, Welsh and Mathematics (including for the first time Mathematics Numeracy) GCSEs and the discounting of English and Welsh Literature for the purpose of the Level 2 threshold inclusive.

iii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 2: Achievement of Level 2 threshold by FSM eligibility – All Wales

Percentage of pupils achieving Level 2 threshold

	eFSM	non eFSM	% point gap	eFSM	All pupils	% point gap
2009	32.5	66.4	**33.9**	32.5	60.7	**28.2**
2010	35.3	69.6	**34.3**	35.3	63.8	**28.5**
2011	40.9	73.5	**32.6**	40.9	67.3	**26.4**
2012	50.9	78.0	**27.1**	50.9	72.6	**21.7**
2013	57.8	83.0	**25.2**	57.8	77.8	**20.0**
2014	65.3	87.4	**22.1**	65.3	82.3	**17.0**
2015	69.4	88.9	**19.5**	69.4	84.1	**14.7**
2016	71.6	89.0	**17.4**	71.6	84.0	**12.4**
2017	41.3	73.6	**32.3**	41.3	67.0	**25.7**

Source: Welsh Government, Statistical First Release: *Examination results in Wales 2016/17*, Tables 1 and 5, 6 December 2017. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service.

Notes:

i) Level 2 threshold = 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C or the vocational equivalent. In 2017, the Welsh Government changed the way the Level 2 threshold is recorded, placing a cap on the number of vocational qualifications that may be counted. From 2017, this is limited to 40%, ie vocational qualifications may only count as up to 2 of the 5 GCSEs. The Welsh Government says comparisons between 2017 and previous years are not statistically valid.

ii) See page 1 and the Notes section of the **December 2017 statistical release**, and the **Chief Statistician's blog** and **Welsh Government media release** of 6 December for further discussion of the issue of comparisons between years. Other changes in 2017 include the first examination of new specifications of English, Welsh and Mathematics (including for the first time, Mathematics Numeracy) GCSEs and the discounting of English and Welsh Literature for the purpose of the Level 2 threshold.

iii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 3: Attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE English – All Wales

Percentage of pupils achieving A*-C in GCSE English Language or Literature

	eFSM	non eFSM	% point gap	eFSM	All pupils	% point gap
2009	34.3	66.4	**32.1**	34.3	61.0	**26.7**
2010	34.8	68.3	**33.5**	34.8	62.7	**27.9**
2011	35.6	68.7	**33.1**	35.6	62.8	**27.2**
2012	35.9	67.8	**31.9**	35.9	62.2	**26.3**
2013	36.6	68.6	**32.0**	36.6	62.9	**26.3**
2014	39.8	72.3	**32.5**	39.8	66.2	**26.4**
2015	45.1	74.5	**29.4**	45.1	68.6	**23.5**
2016	47.1	75.5	**28.4**	47.1	69.3	**22.2**
2017	41.7	72.5	**30.8**	41.7	66.2	**24.5**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. 2017 data provided by Welsh Government on request. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i) The cohort examined in 2017 were the first to undertake the new specifications of GCSE English Language and GCSE English Literature.

ii) This table provides the 2017 data for pupils' best result in GCSE English Language or Literature to facilitate comparisons with previous years. The 2017 data published by the Welsh Government records attainment of A*-C in GCSE English Language rather than best of Language or Literature, in line with its changes to performance measures.

iii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 4: Attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh (First Language) – All Wales

Percentage of pupils achieving A*-C in GCSE Welsh Language or Literature

	eFSM	non eFSM	% point gap	eFSM	All pupils	% point gap
2009	51.1	76.9	**25.8**	51.1	75.0	**23.9**
2010	46.3	75.6	**29.3**	46.3	73.4	**27.1**
2011	48.7	76.7	**28.0**	48.7	74.6	**25.9**
2012	46.0	76.2	**30.2**	46.0	73.8	**27.8**
2013	53.8	75.3	**21.5**	53.8	73.5	**19.7**
2014	48.6	75.8	**27.2**	48.6	73.7	**25.1**
2015	51.5	77.2	**25.7**	51.5	75.2	**23.7**
2016	50.9	77.7	**26.8**	50.9	75.1	**24.2**
2017	54.4	76.6	**22.2**	54.4	74.5	**20.1**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. 2017 data provided by Welsh Government on request. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i) The cohort examined in 2017 were the first to undertake the new specifications of GCSE Welsh Language and GCSE Welsh Literature.

ii) This table provides the 2017 data for pupils' best result in GCSE Welsh Language or Literature to facilitate comparisons with previous years. The 2017 data published by the Welsh Government records attainment of A*-C in GCSE Welsh Language rather than best of Language or Literature, in line with its changes to performance measures.

iii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 5: Attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Mathematics — All Wales

Percentage of pupils achieving A-C in GCSE Mathematics*

	eFSM	non eFSM	% point gap	eFSM	All pupils	% point gap
2010	27.0	61.0	**34.0**	27.0	55.7	**28.7**
2011	29.0	62.2	**33.2**	29.0	56.5	**27.5**
2012	31.3	63.8	**32.5**	31.3	58.4	**27.1**
2013	33.7	65.9	**32.2**	33.7	60.3	**26.6**
2014	34.5	67.7	**33.2**	34.5	61.7	**27.2**
2015	39.2	70.1	**30.9**	39.2	64.4	**25.2**
2016	43.6	73.2	**29.6**	43.6	66.9	**23.3**
2017	38.3	68.6	**30.3**	38.3	62.5	**24.2**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i) The cohort examined in 2017 were the first to undertake two new specifications of GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Mathematics Numeracy.

ii) The 2017 data is based on pupils' best result from either GCSE Mathematics or GCSE Mathematics Numeracy. The data prior to 2017 is based on the previous GCSE Mathematics.

iii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 6: Attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Science — All Wales

Percentage of pupils achieving A-C in GCSE Science*

	eFSM	non eFSM	% point gap	eFSM	All pupils	% point gap
2010	36.3	69.2	**32.9**	36.3	63.6	**27.3**
2011	40.5	71.8	**31.3**	40.5	65.9	**25.4**
2012	50.7	75.9	**25.2**	50.7	70.6	**19.9**
2013	59.6	79.5	**19.9**	59.6	74.8	**15.2**
2014	71.5	86.6	**15.1**	71.5	82.3	**10.8**
2015	74.4	88.4	**14.0**	74.4	84.0	**9.6**
2016	71.8	86.8	**15.0**	71.8	82.4	**10.6**
2017	57.1	81.1	**24.0**	57.1	75.6	**18.5**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i) Figures include single or double science, or vocational equivalent. From 2018, vocational science qualifications will not count towards the Capped Points score, which is a key performance measure. It is possible that this has brought about a shift away from entries for vocational science qualifications towards GCSE Science qualifications, in anticipation of the changes in 2018.

ii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Summary analysis

A summary of the main points from the data in Tables 1-6 is provided below. Note that comparisons in relation to the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive measures between 2017 and previous years should not be considered on a like for like basis as the Welsh Government has changed the way the threshold is measured.[5]

Level 2 threshold inclusive *(5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C including Mathematics and English/Welsh language, or the vocational equivalent)* ***(Table 1)***

- The proportion of **eFSM pupils** achieving the Level 2 threshold inclusive rose year on year between 2009 and 2016, from 20.1% to 35.6%, until a **decrease** in 2017 **to 28.6%**.

- A similar trend occurred for **all pupils**. The proportion achieving the Level 2 threshold inclusive rose year on year, from 47.2% in 2009 to 60.3% in 2016, before **decreasing to 54.6% in 2017**.

- The **gap** between the proportion of eFSM pupils achieving the Level 2 threshold inclusive and **non FSM pupils** narrowed from 33.9 percentage points in 2010 to 31.2 in 2016, before **widening to 32.4 percentage points in 2017**.

Level 2 threshold *(5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C, or the vocational equivalent)* ***(Table 2)***

- The re-widening of the deprivation attainment gap in 2017, after sustained progress since 2010, is **more pronounced amongst the Level 2 threshold measure** (5 or more A*-C GCSEs, not necessarily including Maths and English/Welsh). The **gap between eFSM pupils and non FSM pupils** narrowed from 34.3 percentage points in 2010 to 17.4 in 2016, but has **almost doubled to 32.2 percentage points in 2017**.

- This is a result of a **decrease** in the proportion of **eFSM** pupils achieving the Level 2 threshold from **71.6% in 2016 to 41.3% in 2017**.

- The **all pupil** Level 2 threshold attainment rate **reduced from 84.0% in 2016 to 67.0% in 2017**, whilst among **non FSM pupils** it **decreased from 89.0% in 2016 to 73.6% in 2017**.

As stated above, drawing conclusions about the 2017 performance against the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive measures is not a statistically valid comparison. However, this arguably demonstrates the contribution which vocational qualifications have made over the years to the proportions of pupils achieving the threshold. The data suggests this might be the case to a greater extent amongst eFSM pupils.

GCSE English (Table 3)

- The proportion of **all pupils** attaining grades A*-C in GCSE English (best result from Language or Literature) rose year on year between 2012 and 2016, from 62.2% to 69.3%, until a **decrease in 2017 to 66.2%**.

- The **eFSM** A*-C GCSE English rate decreased by more than amongst all pupils, **reducing** from 47.1% in 2016 to **41.7% in 2017**. This followed year on year rises since 2009 when it was 34.3%.

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[5] The Welsh Government has said comparisons between years are no longer statistically valid due to changes in the way the Level 2 threshold is measured. See page 1 and the Notes section of the **December 2017 statistical release**, and the **Chief Statistician's blog** and **Welsh Government media release** of 6 December. The main changes relate to new specifications of English, Welsh and Mathematics GCSEs, first examined against in 2017, a limit of 2 vocational qualifications that may be counted and the exclusion of literature from attainment of English or Welsh for the purposes of the measurement of the Level 2 threshold.

- The **gap** between the proportion of eFSM pupils attaining grades A*-C in GCSE English and non FSM pupils narrowed from 33.5 percentage points in 2010 to 28.4 in 2016, before **widening to 30.8 percentage points in 2017**.

2017 saw the first annual cohort of pupils examined against the new GCSE English specifications.

GCSE Welsh (Table 4)

- The proportion of **eFSM pupils** attaining grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh (First Language, best of Language or Literature) **rose from 50.9% in 2016 to 54.4% in 2017**.

- This is despite a **reduction amongst all pupils**, from 75.1% in 2016 to 74.5% in 2017.

- As a result, the GCSE Welsh **attainment gap** between eFSM pupils and non FSM pupils **narrowed** from 26.8 percentage points in 2016 to **22.2 in 2017**. This is the lowest it has been within this data series used in this paper lasting back to 2009, other than 2013 when it was 21.5 percentage points.

2017 saw the first annual cohort of pupils examined against the new GCSE Welsh specifications.

GCSE Mathematics (Table 5)

- The proportion of **eFSM pupils** attaining grades A*-C in GCSE Mathematics rose year on year between 2010 and 2016, from 27.0% to 43.6%. However, it **decreased to 38.3% in 2017**.

- A similar trend occurred for **all pupils**. The proportion attaining grades A*-C increased year on year from 55.7% in 2010 to 66.9% in 2017, before **decreasing to 62.5% in 2017**.

- The **gap** between the proportion of eFSM pupils attaining grades A*-C in Mathematics and non FSM pupils narrowed from 34.0 percentage points in 2010 to 29.6 in 2016, before **widening to 30.3 percentage points in 2017**.

2017 saw the first annual cohort of pupils examined against the new GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Mathematics Numeracy specifications. The 2017 data cited in this Research Briefing is based on pupils' best result from either of the two Maths GCSEs.

GCSE Science (Table 6)

- The proportion of **eFSM pupils** attaining grades A*-C in GCSE Science rose year on year between 2010 and 2015, from 36.3% to 74.4%. It has **decreased in each of the last two years**, to 71.8% in 2016 and **57.1% in 2017**.

- A similar trend occurred for **all pupils**. The proportion attaining grades A*-C increased year on year from 2010 to 2015, from 63.6% to 84.0%, before **decreasing** to 82.4% in 2016 and **75.6% in 2017**.

- The **gap** between the proportion of eFSM pupils attaining grades A*-C in Science and non FSM pupils narrowed from 32.9 percentage points to 14.0 in 2015. It widened to 15.0 in 2016 before **widening further to 24.0 percentage points in 2017**.

Figures include single or double science, or vocational equivalent. From 2018, vocational science qualifications will not count towards the Capped Points score, which is a key performance measure. It is possible that this has brought about a shift away from entries for vocational science qualifications towards GCSE Science qualifications, in anticipation of the changes in 2018.

Local authority and regional level data, by FSM eligibility

Tables 7-16 contains eFSM attainment data for each local authority and region, along with the gap with all pupils and with non FSM pupils

- Tables 7 and 8 show data for the Level 2 threshold inclusive.

- Tables 9 and 10 show data for GCSE English (best of Language or Literature).

- Tables 11 and 12 show data for GCSE Welsh (best of Language or Literature).

- Tables 13 and 14 show data for GCSE Mathematics.

- Tables 15 and 16 show data for GCSE Science.

Table 7: Level 2 threshold inclusive attainment gap between eFSM and all pupils by local authority and region

percentage achieving

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with All pupils
North Wales	**25.4**	**26.6**	**23.2**	**30.0**	**29.6**	**26.3**	**30.5**	**26.6**	**30.1**	**27.3**	**34.3**	**25.3**	**26.9**	**26.7**
Isle of Anglesey	23.3	24.6	24.5	27.8	39.1	15.1	41.4	12.3	35.9	21.0	28.7	30.1	34.9	15.6
Gwynedd	25.0	28.4	24.4	30.6	30.2	27.8	32.0	29.1	31.8	31.5	42.4	23.5	44.6	13.5
Conwy	25.0	24.8	25.2	24.1	30.9	25.1	25.3	30.2	31.0	23.1	39.3	16.6	27.1	26.7
Denbighshire	28.2	24.3	24.8	29.9	24.1	29.3	25.9	29.7	30.3	25.8	40.0	18.7	18.8	31.2
Flintshire	33.2	25.0	26.0	33.6	35.7	26.4	37.3	24.6	35.2	25.5	33.7	27.8	25.2	31.8
Wrexham	17.7	28.5	16.0	29.3	22.5	25.9	26.7	24.3	21.1	30.9	23.6	31.7	20.4	28.9
South West and Mid Wales	**25.9**	**28.0**	**28.5**	**26.3**	**29.0**	**26.6**	**28.9**	**29.0**	**34.8**	**26.2**	**38.4**	**25.6**	**30.4**	**26.9**
Powys	33.3	24.8	29.1	32.4	31.4	26.7	38.0	21.6	35.6	28.3	41.7	23.6	31.7	30.5
Ceredigion	28.4	26.8	22.2	29.9	27.0	35.0	32.3	29.2	35.1	27.6	49.1	21.3	34.9	27.5
Pembrokeshire	21.1	29.9	27.8	28.3	28.2	23.7	25.0	28.2	25.0	29.2	24.7	34.6	30.3	25.0
Carmarthenshire	26.2	28.5	27.6	23.5	29.3	24.6	28.9	29.9	33.7	27.4	41.5	23.7	30.2	27.0
Swansea	23.9	29.3	29.7	24.9	28.1	27.3	27.3	31.8	39.5	24.4	40.2	24.6	32.4	25.4
Neath Port Talbot	28.3	23.4	28.6	25.5	30.1	25.9	29.4	26.4	34.6	23.7	37.7	23.3	26.8	24.6
Central South Wales	**19.6**	**27.5**	**21.5**	**26.2**	**22.7**	**26.7**	**26.7**	**27.4**	**31.7**	**26.8**	**37.8**	**23.1**	**29.3**	**25.2**
Bridgend	23.8	20.8	25.4	25.3	26.4	25.9	25.1	29.7	37.4	22.3	35.7	26.0	29.4	23.6
The Vale of Glamorgan	27.5	28.5	27.8	27.5	32.5	23.0	30.7	31.5	32.7	32.2	46.5	20.6	30.6	29.8
Rhondda Cynon Taf	18.8	24.6	21.5	22.3	21.7	24.6	26.3	24.2	27.9	26.8	33.5	23.1	24.2	25.6
Merthyr Tydfil	11.3	28.0	13.2	19.2	12.3	26.4	22.8	26.0	32.1	19.9	41.2	12.7	23.5	18.9
Cardiff	18.3	30.1	20.3	28.9	20.9	29.0	27.4	26.7	32.2	27.1	39.3	23.2	33.9	24.6
South East Wales	**18.3**	**26.1**	**20.1**	**26.3**	**23.9**	**25.1**	**26.2**	**26.0**	**29.4**	**25.8**	**30.5**	**25.1**	**26.9**	**26.0**
Caerphilly	18.5	24.9	22.6	22.5	24.1	22.2	26.5	23.5	25.9	26.7	30.1	23.0	25.3	24.6
Blaenau Gwent	18.9	16.4	15.0	19.3	18.6	20.0	20.9	20.9	31.8	15.9	32.2	16.0	22.8	18.3
Torfaen	14.7	28.3	15.8	29.8	28.3	22.2	31.1	22.3	33.3	23.4	19.1	34.3	30.3	20.9
Monmouthshire	15.1	36.3	25.7	30.6	26.7	30.6	25.0	40.6	39.4	27.5	31.0	36.0	27.9	39.1
Newport	21.1	26.5	20.0	29.2	22.5	28.8	25.9	26.9	26.4	27.8	36.3	20.9	28.8	26.7
Wales	**22.0**	**28.1**	**23.4**	**27.7**	**25.8**	**26.9**	**27.8**	**27.7**	**31.6**	**26.3**	**35.6**	**24.7**	**28.6**	**26.0**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 key indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area* [accessed January 2018]. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service.

Notes:

i) Level 2 threshold inclusive = 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C including Mathematics and English/Welsh Language, or the vocational equivalent. Changes to the measure mean that data in 2017 is not comparable to previous years. See page 1 and the Notes section of the **December 2017 statistical release**, the **Chief Statistician's blog** and the **Welsh Government media release** of 6 December.

ii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 8: <u>Level 2 threshold inclusive</u> attainment gap between eFSM and <u>Non FSM pupils</u> by local authority and region

percentage achieving

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining L2 Inc	% point gap with Non FSM pupils
North Wales	**25.4**	**32.4**	**23.2**	**35.8**	**29.6**	**31.9**	**30.5**	**32.3**	**30.1**	**32.9**	**34.3**	**31.6**	**26.9**	**32.4**
Isle of Anglesey	23.3	29.6	24.5	33.0	39.1	18.6	41.4	15.8	35.9	24.9	28.7	36.4	34.9	20.2
Gwynedd	25.0	32.8	24.4	36.0	30.2	32.2	32.0	33.9	31.8	35.8	42.4	30.3	44.6	17.5
Conwy	25.0	32.0	25.2	29.2	30.9	30.9	25.3	37.6	31.0	29.6	39.3	22.4	27.1	32.7
Denbighshire	28.2	29.9	24.8	36.7	24.1	35.4	25.9	36.2	30.3	31.2	40.0	25.5	18.8	40.4
Flintshire	33.2	29.6	26.0	38.3	35.7	31.8	37.3	30.1	35.2	30.8	33.7	33.2	25.2	36.5
Wrexham	17.7	36.3	16.0	36.5	22.5	32.8	26.7	29.9	21.1	37.7	23.6	38.6	20.4	34.8
South West and Mid Wales	**25.9**	**33.7**	**28.5**	**31.7**	**29.0**	**32.1**	**28.9**	**34.6**	**34.8**	**31.6**	**38.4**	**31.7**	**30.4**	**32.9**
Powys	33.3	28.5	29.1	36.4	31.4	30.3	38.0	24.9	35.6	31.9	41.7	27.5	31.7	34.7
Ceredigion	28.4	31.1	22.2	33.5	27.0	39.6	32.3	32.4	35.1	32.0	49.1	25.1	34.9	31.6
Pembrokeshire	21.1	35.9	27.8	33.6	28.2	28.6	25.0	32.8	25.0	34.5	24.7	41.1	30.3	30.7
Carmarthenshire	26.2	33.7	27.6	27.3	29.3	28.6	28.9	34.6	33.7	32.5	41.5	29.4	30.2	31.9
Swansea	23.9	37.2	29.7	32.1	28.1	35.1	27.3	40.2	39.5	30.9	40.2	31.4	32.4	32.6
Neath Port Talbot	28.3	28.4	28.6	32.4	30.1	32.7	29.4	32.9	34.6	30.2	37.7	31.5	26.8	32.3
Central South Wales	**19.6**	**34.4**	**21.5**	**32.5**	**22.7**	**33.3**	**26.7**	**34.3**	**31.7**	**33.4**	**37.8**	**29.9**	**29.3**	**32.4**
Bridgend	23.8	26.0	25.4	31.1	26.4	31.7	25.1	36.3	37.4	27.2	35.7	32.5	29.4	29.1
The Vale of Glamorgan	27.5	34.0	27.8	32.5	32.5	27.5	30.7	37.6	32.7	37.1	46.5	25.2	30.6	36.2
Rhondda Cynon Taf	18.8	31.6	21.5	28.4	21.7	31.7	26.3	31.4	27.9	34.0	33.5	30.7	24.2	32.6
Merthyr Tydfil	11.3	36.7	13.2	25.6	12.3	33.6	22.8	33.8	32.1	27.0	41.2	21.3	23.5	27.3
Cardiff	18.3	37.7	20.3	35.6	20.9	36.2	27.4	33.3	32.2	34.3	39.3	29.8	33.9	32.8
South East Wales	**18.3**	**32.5**	**20.1**	**32.7**	**23.9**	**31.5**	**26.2**	**32.5**	**29.4**	**31.9**	**30.5**	**32.1**	**26.9**	**32.1**
Caerphilly	18.5	31.7	22.6	29.3	24.1	28.8	26.5	29.8	25.9	33.4	30.1	30.9	25.3	31.0
Blaenau Gwent	18.9	23.6	15.0	26.4	18.6	27.7	20.9	29.9	31.8	23.3	32.2	22.6	22.8	24.2
Torfaen	14.7	33.1	15.8	35.3	28.3	26.9	31.1	27.5	33.3	27.8	19.1	41.0	30.3	25.0
Monmouthshire	15.1	41.6	25.7	34.9	26.7	35.0	25.0	46.0	39.4	31.6	31.0	41.2	27.9	43.7
Newport	21.1	33.2	20.0	35.9	22.5	35.7	25.9	33.0	26.4	34.2	36.3	27.5	28.8	33.6
Wales	**22.0**	**33.8**	**23.4**	**33.2**	**25.8**	**32.7**	**27.8**	**33.8**	**31.6**	**32.4**	**35.6**	**31.3**	**28.6**	**32.4**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 key indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area* [accessed January 2018]. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service.

Notes:

i)   Level 2 threshold inclusive = 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C including Mathematics and English/Welsh Language, or the vocational equivalent. Changes to the measure mean that data in 2017 is not comparable to previous years. See page 1 and the Notes section of the **December 2017 statistical release**, the **Chief Statistician's blog** and the **Welsh Government media release** of 6 December.

ii)   2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 9: GCSE English attainment gap between eFSM and all pupils by local authority and region

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with All pupils
North Wales	**37.8**	**25.1**	**34.0**	**28.6**	**40.2**	**25.2**	**42.0**	**25.6**	**44.5**	**23.7**	**46.7**	**22.0**	**39.0**	**25.6**
Isle of Anglesey	35.0	19.4	28.7	28.4	45.2	16.3	51.5	13.7	50.0	13.8	42.5	24.4	48.8	13.9
Gwynedd	36.7	27.5	35.3	28.8	36.5	30.2	43.3	25.9	43.9	28.4	53.4	18.0	52.7	14.5
Conwy	45.3	18.1	36.1	24.6	45.5	18.6	38.6	27.0	47.6	18.2	53.8	13.1	38.2	27.1
Denbighshire	36.4	24.8	36.0	28.1	33.9	30.4	37.3	29.3	40.6	26.3	54.7	13.9	35.2	26.8
Flintshire	44.4	25.6	39.2	30.0	50.5	22.1	49.7	23.6	50.3	21.9	45.0	26.5	38.7	28.3
Wrexham	28.2	29.0	27.3	28.0	32.6	25.8	36.7	25.2	38.7	26.2	33.5	31.2	29.3	32.4
South West and Mid Wales	**38.6**	**26.7**	**40.3**	**24.5**	**40.0**	**24.8**	**39.1**	**28.6**	**47.4**	**23.9**	**48.3**	**23.8**	**46.0**	**24.3**
Powys	54.4	16.2	49.6	21.8	45.5	22.7	47.9	21.8	49.2	25.1	55.0	20.1	56.7	19.9
Ceredigion	48.6	18.2	37.0	25.4	41.3	29.6	45.2	27.5	59.7	14.2	58.5	18.2	49.2	25.1
Pembrokeshire	36.1	26.8	38.9	26.1	37.6	21.8	36.9	29.1	39.1	27.0	38.9	31.1	42.4	25.0
Carmarthenshire	40.6	27.1	38.1	23.8	42.9	23.0	37.5	31.8	47.7	24.4	54.7	19.7	46.4	23.7
Swansea	34.5	28.5	40.3	24.4	37.5	25.6	36.4	30.8	52.0	20.6	47.5	22.7	48.0	21.9
Neath Port Talbot	36.1	26.5	39.9	23.8	40.4	24.3	40.9	22.8	42.1	26.4	44.8	24.2	40.9	25.4
Central South Wales	**34.8**	**26.9**	**36.3**	**24.2**	**33.8**	**26.7**	**40.5**	**24.8**	**46.0**	**24.2**	**51.9**	**19.2**	**42.0**	**23.3**
Bridgend	39.8	21.1	42.2	23.3	37.8	24.4	42.3	24.2	50.8	20.9	49.8	21.8	38.0	26.3
The Vale of Glamorgan	45.0	23.4	40.7	25.5	39.9	25.7	39.6	31.3	47.0	29.6	55.9	18.0	46.8	24.9
Rhondda Cynon Taf	32.2	25.7	36.8	19.1	32.7	25.2	39.4	22.1	40.6	25.5	50.6	18.4	34.6	24.3
Merthyr Tydfil	26.0	28.8	21.2	20.8	24.0	23.1	33.1	26.2	45.0	15.8	51.5	9.7	42.9	15.4
Cardiff	34.5	28.9	35.9	27.3	33.0	29.1	42.4	23.6	48.4	23.2	52.8	20.4	47.7	21.5
South East Wales	**31.8**	**27.4**	**31.8**	**27.7**	**34.3**	**25.9**	**38.5**	**26.2**	**41.8**	**23.9**	**39.5**	**24.6**	**38.1**	**26.2**
Caerphilly	30.4	27.2	31.6	24.3	32.3	23.4	35.0	25.6	38.3	23.9	39.6	20.4	36.9	24.5
Blaenau Gwent	35.0	17.2	29.5	22.3	29.4	20.4	31.4	23.3	41.9	17.4	39.6	16.8	37.7	19.4
Torfaen	25.0	30.4	26.6	33.0	37.9	23.2	43.5	21.2	43.1	22.6	25.3	36.3	40.1	23.6
Monmouthshire	35.5	34.2	34.7	32.4	36.2	31.1	45.0	30.8	52.5	23.6	42.9	32.6	41.0	36.2
Newport	34.9	27.2	35.8	27.6	37.0	28.5	42.3	26.9	42.0	25.7	46.4	22.1	38.1	26.8
Wales	**35.6**	**27.2**	**35.9**	**26.3**	**36.6**	**26.3**	**39.8**	**26.4**	**45.1**	**23.5**	**47.1**	**22.3**	**41.7**	**24.5**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. 2017 data provided by Welsh Government on request. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i)   Data for all years is based on pupils' best result from either English Language or Literature. The 2017 Year 11 cohort was the first to be examined against the new GCSE English specifications.

ii)   2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 10: GCSE English attainment gap between eFSM and non FSM pupils by local authority and region

percentage achieving

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE English	% point gap with Non FSM pupils
North Wales	**37.8**	**30.7**	**34.0**	**34.3**	**40.2**	**30.7**	**42.0**	**31.4**	**44.5**	**28.8**	**46.7**	**29.0**	**39.0**	**31.5**
Isle of Anglesey	35.0	23.6	28.7	33.9	45.2	20.1	51.5	17.7	50.0	16.6	42.5	29.7	48.8	18.2
Gwynedd	36.7	32.1	35.3	34.2	36.5	35.0	43.3	30.4	43.9	32.4	53.4	24.2	52.7	18.8
Conwy	45.3	24.2	36.1	30.0	45.5	23.6	38.6	34.2	47.6	23.9	53.8	18.8	38.2	33.6
Denbighshire	36.4	30.7	36.0	35.0	33.9	37.0	37.3	36.0	40.6	31.9	54.7	20.1	35.2	36.1
Flintshire	44.4	30.3	39.2	34.0	50.5	26.8	49.7	29.1	50.3	26.6	45.0	32.0	38.7	32.6
Wrexham	28.2	36.7	27.3	35.3	32.6	32.7	36.7	31.2	38.7	32.4	33.5	37.9	29.3	38.9
South West and Mid Wales	**38.6**	**32.3**	**40.3**	**29.8**	**40.0**	**30.1**	**39.1**	**34.1**	**47.4**	**28.9**	**48.3**	**29.5**	**46.0**	**30.1**
Powys	54.4	19.2	49.6	25.1	45.5	25.9	47.9	25.3	49.2	28.6	55.0	23.5	56.7	23.5
Ceredigion	48.6	21.9	37.0	29.0	41.3	33.7	45.2	30.7	59.7	17.1	58.5	21.1	49.2	29.2
Pembrokeshire	36.1	32.6	38.9	31.3	37.6	26.4	36.9	33.9	39.1	32.0	38.9	37.1	42.4	30.9
Carmarthenshire	40.6	32.2	38.1	27.9	42.9	26.7	37.5	36.8	47.7	29.0	54.7	25.1	46.4	28.1
Swansea	34.5	36.4	40.3	31.7	37.5	33.3	36.4	38.9	52.0	26.2	47.5	28.6	48.0	28.7
Neath Port Talbot	36.1	32.1	39.9	30.3	40.4	30.7	40.9	28.4	42.1	33.6	44.8	32.8	40.9	33.4
Central South Wales	**34.8**	**34.0**	**36.3**	**30.3**	**33.8**	**33.4**	**40.5**	**31.2**	**46.0**	**30.4**	**51.9**	**25.4**	**42.0**	**30.3**
Bridgend	39.8	26.6	42.2	28.8	37.8	29.9	42.3	29.8	50.8	25.4	49.8	27.6	38.0	32.4
The Vale of Glamorgan	45.0	28.7	40.7	30.5	39.9	30.7	39.6	37.6	47.0	34.4	55.9	22.1	46.8	30.9
Rhondda Cynon Taf	32.2	33.4	36.8	24.7	32.7	32.7	39.4	28.9	40.6	32.6	50.6	25.3	34.6	31.1
Merthyr Tydfil	26.0	38.0	21.2	27.8	24.0	29.5	33.1	34.2	45.0	22.1	51.5	18.1	42.9	24.0
Cardiff	34.5	36.4	35.9	33.8	33.0	36.5	42.4	29.7	48.4	29.7	52.8	26.4	47.7	29.3
South East Wales	**31.8**	**34.3**	**31.8**	**34.6**	**34.3**	**32.5**	**38.5**	**32.9**	**41.8**	**29.8**	**39.5**	**31.7**	**38.1**	**32.5**
Caerphilly	30.4	34.8	31.6	31.9	32.3	30.6	35.0	32.5	38.3	30.0	39.6	27.8	36.9	30.9
Blaenau Gwent	35.0	25.7	29.5	31.0	29.4	28.5	31.4	33.7	41.9	25.7	39.6	23.9	37.7	26.3
Torfaen	25.0	35.8	26.6	39.2	37.9	28.1	43.5	26.3	43.1	26.8	25.3	43.3	40.1	28.2
Monmouthshire	35.5	39.4	34.7	36.9	36.2	35.6	45.0	35.2	52.5	27.2	42.9	37.6	41.0	40.6
Newport	34.9	34.3	35.8	34.3	37.0	35.6	42.3	33.1	42.0	31.9	46.4	29.2	38.1	34.0
Wales	**35.6**	**33.1**	**35.9**	**31.9**	**36.6**	**32.1**	**39.8**	**32.5**	**45.1**	**29.5**	**47.1**	**28.4**	**41.7**	**30.8**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. 2017 data provided by Welsh Government on request. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i) Data for all years is based on pupils' best result from either English Language or Literature. The 2017 Year 11 cohort was the first to be examined against the new GCSE English specifications.

ii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 11: GCSE Welsh attainment gap between eFSM and all pupils by local authority and region

percentage achieving

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with All pupils
North Wales	**43.0**	**30.0**	**45.9**	**25.7**	**50.2**	**21.0**	**49.2**	**23.6**	**50.3**	**25.3**	**52.4**	**22.7**	**48.8**	**22.3**
Isle of Anglesey	38.1	28.2	38.3	24.1	57.4	9.0	61.8	9.8	56.7	14.9	51.3	25.7	38.8	27.2
Gwynedd	46.8	27.8	46.7	30.1	41.3	31.6	41.4	31.9	43.7	35.1	50.6	23.8	51.1	21.2
Conwy	50.0	29.3	63.6	16.7	50.0	21.2	*	*	90.9	-18.6	85.7	-6.7	80.0	-9.7
Denbighshire	28.6	45.6	72.7	-3.1	40.0	29.7	41.7	31.3	43.8	28.6	50.0	23.6	75.0	4.3
Flintshire	50.0	23.3	11.1	50.7	63.6	7.7	*	*	42.9	29.2	25.0	43.0	60.0	13.0
Wrexham	42.9	29.1	54.5	8.7	91.7	-11.7	55.6	13.5	57.1	19.5	50.0	26.7	28.6	33.3
South West and Mid Wales	**47.6**	**29.4**	**46.2**	**30.3**	**56.5**	**18.2**	**45.5**	**27.7**	**54.8**	**21.0**	**48.5**	**26.5**	**51.7**	**24.7**
Powys	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	25.0	49.3	57.1	8.0	46.2	24.9
Ceredigion	48.0	28.4	47.1	26.6	45.8	29.0	42.1	30.7	37.5	37.3	42.1	31.4	50.0	29.0
Pembrokeshire	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	50.0	28.4	66.7	22.0	85.7	-4.4
Carmarthenshire	36.6	37.6	37.5	36.6	52.1	19.2	45.1	24.0	62.5	11.9	38.7	34.1	48.3	24.4
Swansea	57.1	29.0	75.0	12.8	75.0	12.2	52.6	32.5	77.3	6.6	77.3	5.4	66.7	20.1
Neath Port Talbot	54.5	23.6	30.8	39.7	57.1	14.7	40.0	40.6	56.3	15.5	45.0	23.5	48.3	25.0
Central South Wales	**57.1**	**18.8**	**42.7**	**29.5**	**58.7**	**17.4**	**46.2**	**29.2**	**54.5**	**22.2**	**54.5**	**23.0**	**66.1**	**13.0**
Bridgend					56.3	20.1	25.0	42.0	85.7	-6.3	71.4	14.4	75.0	8.8
The Vale of Glamorgan	80.0	-7.4	50.0	23.3	66.7	16.0	100.0	-21.1	37.5	40.0	37.5	39.8	70.0	9.3
Rhondda Cynon Taf	57.9	15.1	44.6	25.4	58.0	12.3	42.1	28.3	46.6	23.7	58.3	15.9	66.1	8.6
Merthyr Tydfil														
Cardiff	50.0	32.1	36.0	39.3	56.5	25.0	57.9	25.1	69.2	14.9	50.0	29.8	60.7	22.6
South East Wales	**60.0**	**7.9**	**54.1**	**22.7**	**52.3**	**21.7**	**60.0**	**16.1**	**39.0**	**27.2**	**44.1**	**23.9**	**56.3**	**12.6**
Caerphilly	72.7	2.0	60.9	19.4	40.0	26.8	29.4	43.9	18.2	37.8	40.9	20.7	45.0	21.2
Blaenau Gwent														
Torfaen	25.0	32.3	42.9	*	78.6	5.4	82.6	-2.6	63.2	15.5	50.0	28.8	75.0	-1.4
Monmouthshire														
Newport														
Wales	**48.7**	**26.0**	**46.0**	**27.8**	**53.8**	**19.7**	**48.6**	**25.1**	**51.5**	**23.7**	**50.9**	**24.2**	**54.4**	**20.1**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. 2017 data provided by Welsh Government on request. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i)   Data for all years is based on pupils' best result from either Welsh Language or Literature. The 2017 Year 11 cohort was the first to be examined against the new GCSE Welsh specifications.

ii)   2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year. Percentages are of pupil entries.

iii)   Some of the samples are relatively small. Data marked with an asterix is a value or 5 or less and therefore disclosive.

Table 12: GCSE Welsh attainment gap between eFSM and non FSM pupils by local authority and region

percentage achieving

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh	% point gap with Non FSM pupils
North Wales	**43.0**	**32.4**	**45.9**	**28.2**	**50.2**	**23.1**	**49.2**	**25.8**	**50.3**	**27.4**	**52.4**	**25.9**	**48.8**	**24.7**
Isle of Anglesey	38.1	31.0	38.3	26.7	57.4	10.3	61.8	11.2	56.7	16.1	51.3	28.5	38.8	31.1
Gwynedd	46.8	30.0	46.7	33.2	41.3	34.9	41.4	35.2	43.7	38.3	50.6	28.3	51.1	24.3
Conwy	50.0	30.6	63.6	18.2	50.0	21.9	*	*	90.9	-19.8	85.7	-6.4	80.0	-9.9
Denbighshire	28.6	48.5	72.7	-3.3	40.0	30.9	41.7	33.1	43.8	30.6	50.0	24.3	75.0	4.4
Flintshire	50.0	25.6	11.1	57.5	63.6	8.5	*	*	42.9	31.6	25.0	48.1	60.0	13.8
Wrexham	42.9	32.9	54.5	9.5	91.7	-13.2	55.6	14.5	57.1	21.8	50.0	28.6	28.6	35.6
South West and Mid Wales	**47.6**	**31.2**	**46.2**	**32.3**	**56.5**	**19.4**	**45.5**	**29.5**	**54.8**	**22.6**	**48.5**	**28.6**	**51.7**	**26.8**
Powys	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	25.0	51.6	57.1	8.2	46.2	27.2
Ceredigion	48.0	30.3	47.1	28.0	45.8	30.7	42.1	32.1	37.5	40.1	42.1	33.4	50.0	31.1
Pembrokeshire	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	50.0	29.9	66.7	22.8	85.7	-4.6
Carmarthenshire	36.6	39.8	37.5	38.7	52.1	20.7	45.1	26.0	62.5	12.7	38.7	37.3	48.3	26.3
Swansea	57.1	31.2	75.0	14.7	75.0	13.3	52.6	35.3	77.3	7.3	77.3	5.2	66.7	21.3
Neath Port Talbot	54.5	25.6	30.8	43.6	57.1	16.1	40.0	43.1	56.3	17.4	45.0	27.4	48.3	30.0
Central South Wales	**57.1**	**20.7**	**42.7**	**32.4**	**58.7**	**19.3**	**46.2**	**31.9**	**54.5**	**24.5**	**54.5**	**25.1**	**66.1**	**14.7**
Bridgend					56.3	23.5	25.0	48.2	85.7	-6.9	71.4	15.6	75.0	10.1
The Vale of Glamorgan	80.0	-7.7	50.0	24.8	66.7	18.2	100.0	-21.9	37.5	42.5	37.5	43.5	70.0	10.9
Rhondda Cynon Taf	57.9	17.0	44.6	28.4	58.0	13.7	42.1	32.0	46.6	27.0	58.3	17.6	66.1	10.1
Merthyr Tydfil														
Cardiff	50.0	34.6	36.0	42.5	56.5	26.8	57.9	26.5	69.2	16.0	50.0	32.3	60.7	24.6
South East Wales	**60.0**	**8.8**	**54.1**	**25.5**	**52.3**	**24.7**	**60.0**	**18.0**	**39.0**	**30.2**	**44.1**	**26.6**	**56.3**	**14.0**
Caerphilly	72.7	2.3	60.9	21.8	40.0	31.3	29.4	47.5	18.2	41.9	40.9	23.0	45.0	23.5
Blaenau Gwent														
Torfaen	25.0	34.5	42.9	*	78.6	6.0	82.6	-3.0	63.2	17.3	50.0	32.4	75.0	-1.6
Monmouthshire														
Newport														
Wales	**48.7**	**28.0**	**46.0**	**30.2**	**53.8**	**21.5**	**48.6**	**27.2**	**51.5**	**25.7**	**50.9**	**26.8**	**54.4**	**22.2**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. 2017 data provided by Welsh Government on request. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i) Data for all years is based on pupils' best result from either Welsh Language or Literature. The 2017 Year 11 cohort was the first to be examined against the new GCSE Welsh specifications.

ii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year. Percentages are of pupil entries.

iii) Some of the samples are relatively small. Data marked with an asterix is a value or 5 or less and therefore disclosive.

Table 13: GCSE Maths attainment gap between eFSM and all pupils by local authority and region

percentage achieving

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with All pupils
North Wales	**33.4**	**25.5**	**32.5**	**28.4**	**38.0**	**25.5**	**38.4**	**25.0**	**39.2**	**25.1**	**43.7**	**23.0**	**37.5**	**23.9**
Isle of Anglesey	35.9	22.3	36.2	24.8	43.5	18.7	48.5	11.7	41.3	23.2	41.4	24.7	47.7	10.3
Gwynedd	30.5	26.5	29.5	29.2	36.5	25.7	34.7	30.5	37.1	29.8	48.3	22.0	50.0	12.9
Conwy	30.7	24.7	34.2	23.3	43.0	23.3	38.6	24.4	41.4	21.2	49.0	14.6	33.3	28.8
Denbighshire	36.4	23.8	37.3	26.4	31.6	29.9	35.7	27.2	42.9	20.7	49.3	17.3	30.3	28.1
Flintshire	43.9	22.7	37.6	31.8	45.1	23.4	46.6	21.8	47.3	22.2	45.6	23.9	43.9	23.7
Wrexham	24.4	28.7	23.2	29.2	31.7	26.1	31.1	26.2	27.8	29.3	31.3	31.5	28.7	27.5
South West and Mid Wales	**34.4**	**26.5**	**37.2**	**25.7**	**37.3**	**26.3**	**37.2**	**27.2**	**43.2**	**24.2**	**46.8**	**23.4**	**38.9**	**25.5**
Powys	47.4	18.8	35.9	33.7	39.7	27.1	47.1	19.9	44.9	25.6	50.8	20.7	33.7	34.4
Ceredigion	33.8	27.7	29.6	30.6	34.9	33.2	45.2	22.9	40.3	27.4	54.7	20.6	46.0	23.8
Pembrokeshire	29.4	28.8	34.0	28.4	38.1	22.1	29.5	29.4	35.3	26.2	35.2	29.9	39.4	23.3
Carmarthenshire	35.3	25.2	36.2	23.1	38.0	23.3	36.0	28.1	38.7	28.4	48.8	21.9	38.3	25.9
Swansea	30.3	29.1	39.0	23.4	37.1	26.9	36.6	28.8	47.5	22.8	49.1	22.6	41.7	23.2
Neath Port Talbot	38.7	21.8	38.8	25.1	35.9	27.7	38.1	25.7	46.0	19.0	45.4	21.8	35.7	23.7
Central South Wales	**25.7**	**27.3**	**28.9**	**25.7**	**30.5**	**25.8**	**33.2**	**27.0**	**36.9**	**26.7**	**43.9**	**22.6**	**39.6**	**22.7**
Bridgend	30.1	22.3	32.4	25.8	30.7	28.7	33.3	29.2	42.0	23.8	41.6	25.6	37.1	24.1
The Vale of Glamorgan	33.9	28.5	38.3	22.9	42.5	19.8	36.1	31.8	39.9	30.1	55.9	18.2	40.5	26.8
Rhondda Cynon Taf	25.0	24.5	27.4	23.6	29.8	22.7	33.8	23.0	34.4	26.1	38.2	23.4	37.1	22.2
Merthyr Tydfil	16.7	29.3	22.5	20.3	22.6	26.0	29.9	25.6	35.9	22.4	46.4	16.0	34.5	14.9
Cardiff	24.6	28.7	27.9	27.4	28.5	28.2	32.3	26.9	36.3	26.9	45.7	21.6	43.3	22.1
South East Wales	**24.2**	**26.3**	**26.9**	**25.8**	**31.3**	**25.4**	**30.6**	**27.1**	**38.3**	**23.9**	**39.7**	**23.9**	**36.1**	**25.4**
Caerphilly	24.5	25.6	32.1	21.1	32.3	23.4	30.1	26.4	36.7	24.7	40.4	21.9	33.0	25.3
Blaenau Gwent	25.6	15.3	19.7	18.7	24.3	22.9	27.9	20.3	41.9	12.9	40.9	16.5	30.7	19.5
Torfaen	20.1	29.9	20.3	31.6	36.5	21.4	36.8	22.8	41.4	22.5	34.6	28.5	40.1	20.0
Monmouthshire	19.4	35.7	36.6	27.2	38.1	28.5	30.0	40.8	50.5	22.4	39.3	33.6	39.3	35.4
Newport	26.8	26.3	23.4	30.0	27.3	28.1	28.9	27.5	31.6	28.0	41.2	22.6	39.7	24.6
Wales	**29.0**	**27.5**	**31.3**	**27.1**	**33.7**	**26.6**	**34.5**	**27.2**	**39.2**	**25.2**	**43.6**	**23.3**	**38.3**	**24.2**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i) The 2017 data is based on pupils' best result from either GCSE Mathematics or GCSE Mathematics Numeracy. The data prior to 2017 is based on the previous GCSE Mathematics. The cohort examined in 2017 were the first to undertake two new specifications of GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Mathematics Numeracy.

ii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 14: GCSE Maths attainment gap between eFSM and non FSM pupils by local authority and region

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Maths	% point gap with Non FSM pupils
North Wales	**33.4**	**31.1**	**32.5**	**34.0**	**38.0**	**30.9**	**38.4**	**30.7**	**39.2**	**30.3**	**43.7**	**29.1**	**37.5**	**29.6**
Isle of Anglesey	35.9	27.0	36.2	29.7	43.5	22.5	48.5	15.2	41.3	27.5	41.4	30.3	47.7	14.2
Gwynedd	30.5	30.7	29.5	34.1	36.5	29.8	34.7	35.5	37.1	34.0	48.3	28.5	50.0	17.0
Conwy	30.7	31.6	34.2	28.4	43.0	29.0	38.6	31.1	41.4	27.5	49.0	20.1	33.3	35.5
Denbighshire	36.4	29.4	37.3	33.1	31.6	36.2	35.7	33.4	42.9	25.1	49.3	24.0	30.3	37.4
Flintshire	43.9	27.0	37.6	35.9	45.1	28.2	46.6	27.2	47.3	26.8	45.6	29.0	43.9	27.7
Wrexham	24.4	36.4	23.2	36.6	31.7	33.1	31.1	32.2	27.8	35.9	31.3	38.5	28.7	32.9
South West and Mid Wales	**34.4**	**31.9**	**37.2**	**31.1**	**37.3**	**31.7**	**37.2**	**32.5**	**43.2**	**29.3**	**46.8**	**29.0**	**38.9**	**31.4**
Powys	47.4	22.1	35.9	37.9	39.7	30.6	47.1	23.3	44.9	29.1	50.8	24.1	33.7	39.1
Ceredigion	33.8	32.2	29.6	34.0	34.9	37.8	45.2	25.6	40.3	31.8	54.7	23.9	46.0	27.4
Pembrokeshire	29.4	34.8	34.0	33.9	38.1	26.8	29.5	34.2	35.3	31.0	35.2	35.7	39.4	28.9
Carmarthenshire	35.3	29.9	36.2	27.1	38.0	27.0	36.0	32.6	38.7	33.7	48.8	27.4	38.3	30.6
Swansea	30.3	37.0	39.0	30.4	37.1	34.6	36.6	36.6	47.5	29.0	49.1	28.8	41.7	30.1
Neath Port Talbot	38.7	26.6	38.8	31.9	35.9	34.8	38.1	32.0	46.0	24.3	45.4	29.5	35.7	31.3
Central South Wales	**25.7**	**34.3**	**28.9**	**31.9**	**30.5**	**32.3**	**33.2**	**33.9**	**36.9**	**33.3**	**43.9**	**29.2**	**39.6**	**29.6**
Bridgend	30.1	28.0	32.4	31.9	30.7	35.2	33.3	35.8	42.0	28.9	41.6	32.2	37.1	29.9
The Vale of Glamorgan	33.9	34.2	38.3	27.3	42.5	23.7	36.1	38.1	39.9	34.7	55.9	22.3	40.5	33.0
Rhondda Cynon Taf	25.0	31.6	27.4	30.1	29.8	29.5	33.8	30.0	34.4	33.2	38.2	31.1	37.1	28.5
Merthyr Tydfil	16.7	38.6	22.5	27.3	22.6	33.3	29.9	33.4	35.9	30.4	46.4	25.9	34.5	22.4
Cardiff	24.6	36.0	27.9	33.9	28.5	35.2	32.3	33.6	36.3	34.1	45.7	27.7	43.3	29.9
South East Wales	**24.2**	**32.8**	**26.9**	**32.2**	**31.3**	**31.9**	**30.6**	**33.8**	**38.3**	**29.7**	**39.7**	**30.8**	**36.1**	**31.4**
Caerphilly	24.5	32.8	32.1	27.7	32.3	30.6	30.1	33.4	36.7	30.9	40.4	29.6	33.0	32.0
Blaenau Gwent	25.6	22.5	19.7	25.8	24.3	31.8	27.9	29.2	41.9	19.5	40.9	23.3	30.7	25.7
Torfaen	20.1	35.1	20.3	37.5	36.5	26.0	36.8	28.1	41.4	26.7	34.6	34.2	40.1	24.0
Monmouthshire	19.4	40.9	36.6	31.1	38.1	32.6	30.0	46.3	50.5	25.9	39.3	38.6	39.3	39.8
Newport	26.8	33.0	23.4	36.9	27.3	35.0	28.9	33.8	31.6	34.5	41.2	29.5	39.7	31.3
Wales	**29.0**	**33.2**	**31.3**	**32.5**	**33.7**	**32.2**	**34.5**	**33.2**	**39.2**	**30.9**	**43.6**	**29.6**	**38.3**	**30.3**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i) The 2017 data is based on pupils' best result from either GCSE Mathematics or GCSE Mathematics Numeracy. The data prior to 2017 is based on the previous GCSE Mathematics. The cohort examined in 2017 were the first to undertake two new specifications of GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Mathematics Numeracy.

ii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 15: GCSE Science attainment gap between eFSM and all pupils by local authority and region

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with All pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with All pupils
North Wales	**41.7**	**25.7**	**50.4**	**22.4**	**61.9**	**16.0**	**77.6**	**8.4**	**75.6**	**9.5**	**75.0**	**8.0**	**56.1**	**18.3**
Isle of Anglesey	49.5	15.6	60.6	14.2	74.8	4.4	81.8	6.4	85.9	5.9	75.9	6.1	61.6	10.7
Gwynedd	39.8	26.1	46.2	25.3	69.2	15.5	89.3	4.4	84.8	9.3	91.5	-0.7	63.4	9.4
Conwy	42.2	24.8	49.0	20.5	73.3	8.0	78.3	6.8	85.5	-1.2	71.0	5.4	64.6	13.7
Denbighshire	44.6	25.6	63.4	16.4	59.8	17.5	82.2	6.0	72.6	8.9	77.3	3.2	41.8	25.0
Flintshire	47.1	26.9	49.7	26.2	62.6	15.3	77.0	7.0	74.5	11.3	74.0	9.9	60.6	19.4
Wrexham	31.1	28.0	39.7	25.4	42.2	24.7	60.6	17.3	60.8	15.3	65.9	16.4	50.9	22.7
South West and Mid Wales	**41.6**	**30.1**	**47.5**	**22.0**	**59.3**	**15.4**	**69.9**	**11.6**	**78.2**	**7.3**	**69.9**	**12.9**	**52.4**	**22.1**
Powys	53.5	14.3	48.7	23.6	55.4	17.6	69.4	10.4	72.0	11.3	63.3	17.7	51.0	25.9
Ceredigion	45.9	25.7	53.7	21.4	41.3	30.0	66.1	16.0	77.9	9.2	84.9	5.5	65.1	21.8
Pembrokeshire	36.1	29.2	51.9	19.5	62.4	13.0	68.8	11.3	72.8	12.0	64.8	18.2	37.6	27.3
Carmarthenshire	36.0	26.4	38.9	24.3	53.0	16.8	64.4	15.1	78.1	7.9	82.2	3.0	61.3	17.6
Swansea	40.5	26.2	50.0	21.5	63.5	14.1	72.9	9.4	80.7	5.7	68.2	14.0	58.0	17.5
Neath Port Talbot	46.8	20.6	47.2	21.2	61.5	17.6	71.3	13.7	80.3	4.8	64.7	13.4	43.9	23.2
Central South Wales	**41.1**	**24.4**	**52.6**	**18.5**	**59.8**	**15.3**	**71.9**	**11.4**	**71.7**	**13.9**	**76.4**	**9.5**	**64.3**	**16.0**
Bridgend	53.9	14.8	54.7	18.7	67.6	12.1	76.3	13.1	72.9	16.6	80.0	9.1	56.7	19.0
The Vale of Glamorgan	35.7	31.6	56.2	17.8	67.5	9.0	77.2	10.2	79.2	11.9	84.1	7.2	81.5	8.5
Rhondda Cynon Taf	44.8	23.4	60.3	14.8	69.7	12.2	75.1	10.4	75.3	11.4	77.1	8.6	60.6	18.0
Merthyr Tydfil	33.3	26.8	55.0	12.9	54.8	18.0	66.9	12.0	72.5	9.3	93.8	-5.5	65.5	4.2
Cardiff	35.8	26.2	43.2	22.8	45.0	21.4	66.4	11.3	65.9	14.8	69.0	12.6	65.0	16.4
South East Wales	**37.8**	**25.7**	**52.2**	**18.8**	**58.6**	**15.7**	**68.8**	**13.7**	**74.3**	**10.4**	**65.8**	**10.9**	**52.9**	**19.1**
Caerphilly	38.3	27.1	52.0	17.1	53.9	16.1	65.5	14.1	74.7	12.2	77.5	3.8	49.4	20.1
Blaenau Gwent	35.6	20.0	39.9	19.2	42.4	18.8	59.9	14.9	64.2	5.7	53.7	9.1	50.0	15.1
Torfaen	28.8	30.7	58.2	19.0	75.3	7.2	83.3	8.2	81.6	8.7	71.6	11.2	60.5	12.3
Monmouthshire	29.0	36.0	35.6	31.3	37.1	30.6	41.3	33.2	72.7	13.4	64.3	21.1	49.2	28.9
Newport	46.6	20.5	63.0	13.3	71.6	10.6	75.7	10.7	76.2	6.8	53.6	15.0	55.3	18.9
Wales	**40.5**	**25.4**	**50.7**	**19.9**	**59.6**	**15.2**	**71.5**	**10.8**	**74.4**	**9.6**	**71.8**	**10.6**	**57.1**	**18.5**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i)   Figures include single or double science, or vocational equivalent. From 2018, vocational science qualifications will not count towards the Capped Points score, which is a key performance measure. It is possible that this has brought about a shift away from entries for vocational science qualifications towards GCSE Science qualifications, in anticipation of the changes in 2018.

ii)   2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

Table 16: GCSE Science attainment gap between eFSM and non FSM pupils by local authority and region

	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016		2017	
	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with Non FSM pupils	% of eFSM pupils attaining A*-C in GCSE Science	% point gap with Non FSM pupils
North Wales	**41.7**	**31.6**	**50.4**	**27.5**	**61.9**	**20.3**	**77.6**	**12.3**	**75.6**	**13.2**	**75.0**	**12.3**	**56.1**	**23.6**
Isle of Anglesey	49.5	19.2	60.6	17.7	74.8	6.0	81.8	9.5	85.9	7.8	75.9	8.9	61.6	15.5
Gwynedd	39.8	30.7	46.2	30.3	69.2	18.4	89.3	6.5	84.8	11.5	91.5	2.9	63.4	13.3
Conwy	42.2	32.0	49.0	25.4	73.3	11.3	78.3	11.5	85.5	3.2	71.0	10.4	64.6	18.5
Denbighshire	44.6	31.7	63.4	22.2	59.8	22.2	82.2	9.1	72.6	12.0	77.3	8.6	41.8	34.3
Flintshire	47.1	31.8	49.7	30.1	62.6	19.8	77.0	11.5	74.5	15.6	74.0	13.8	60.6	23.2
Wrexham	31.1	36.1	39.7	32.6	42.2	31.7	60.6	22.4	60.8	19.9	65.9	21.1	50.9	27.8
South West and Mid Wales	**41.6**	**30.1**	**47.5**	**26.9**	**59.3**	**19.1**	**69.9**	**14.5**	**78.2**	**9.6**	**69.9**	**17.0**	**52.4**	**27.6**
Powys	53.5	17.4	48.7	26.9	55.4	20.3	69.4	13.2	72.0	13.7	63.3	21.1	51.0	30.0
Ceredigion	45.9	30.3	53.7	24.3	41.3	34.3	66.1	18.3	77.9	11.8	84.9	8.1	65.1	25.6
Pembrokeshire	36.1	35.5	51.9	23.9	62.4	16.4	68.8	13.6	72.8	14.7	64.8	22.4	37.6	33.6
Carmarthenshire	36.0	31.4	38.9	28.5	53.0	19.5	64.4	17.9	78.1	10.0	82.2	6.0	61.3	21.3
Swansea	40.5	33.7	50.0	28.3	63.5	19.3	72.9	12.6	80.7	8.1	68.2	18.8	58.0	23.6
Neath Port Talbot	46.8	25.1	47.2	27.1	61.5	22.3	71.3	17.2	80.3	6.7	64.7	18.8	43.9	30.7
Central South Wales	**41.1**	**31.0**	**52.6**	**23.7**	**59.8**	**19.6**	**71.9**	**15.2**	**71.7**	**17.9**	**76.4**	**14.1**	**64.3**	**22.0**
Bridgend	53.9	19.2	54.7	23.3	67.6	15.4	76.3	16.6	72.9	20.3	80.0	12.8	56.7	24.3
The Vale of Glamorgan	35.7	37.9	56.2	22.3	67.5	11.4	77.2	13.7	79.2	14.6	84.1	10.4	81.5	12.6
Rhondda Cynon Taf	44.8	30.7	60.3	19.9	69.7	16.7	75.1	14.6	75.3	15.2	77.1	13.8	60.6	23.8
Merthyr Tydfil	33.3	35.3	55.0	18.3	54.8	23.1	66.9	16.5	72.5	14.3	93.8	1.5	65.5	10.2
Cardiff	35.8	33.0	43.2	28.6	45.0	26.9	66.4	14.9	65.9	19.4	69.0	17.1	65.0	23.4
South East Wales	**37.8**	**32.4**	**52.2**	**24.1**	**58.6**	**20.2**	**68.8**	**17.9**	**74.3**	**13.5**	**65.8**	**15.4**	**52.9**	**24.2**
Caerphilly	38.3	34.8	52.0	22.9	53.9	21.3	65.5	18.4	74.7	15.6	77.5	8.0	49.4	25.8
Blaenau Gwent	35.6	29.6	39.9	27.2	42.4	26.5	59.9	24.0	64.2	10.1	53.7	13.9	50.0	21.2
Torfaen	28.8	36.1	58.2	23.3	75.3	9.1	83.3	11.0	81.6	10.8	71.6	14.0	60.5	15.1
Monmouthshire	29.0	41.3	35.6	35.7	37.1	34.8	41.3	37.8	72.7	15.7	64.3	24.8	49.2	32.8
Newport	46.6	26.2	63.0	17.5	71.6	14.7	75.7	13.7	76.2	9.4	53.6	20.6	55.3	24.7
Wales	**40.5**	**31.3**	**50.7**	**25.2**	**59.6**	**19.9**	**71.5**	**15.1**	**74.4**	**14.0**	**71.8**	**15.0**	**57.1**	**24.0**

Source: Welsh Government, StatsWales: *Key Stage 4 core indicators by Free School Meal entitlement and area*. Calculations by National Assembly for Wales Research Service

Notes:

i) Figures include single or double science, or vocational equivalent. From 2018, vocational science qualifications will not count towards the Capped Points score, which is a key performance measure. It is possible that this has brought about a shift away from entries for vocational science qualifications towards GCSE Science qualifications, in anticipation of the changes in 2018.

ii) 2016 and 2017 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic yea.

3. Improving pupils' outcomes in underperforming schools

Schools Challenge Cymru

Schools Challenge Cymru was **initially announced in February 2014** as a two year programme (financial years 2014-15 and 2015-16) to target investment at specific schools. The Welsh Government said that the programme was targeted at the **schools which 'face the greatest challenge in terms of circumstance and stage of development**'.[6] The previous Minister for Education and Skills, Huw Lewis, responded to **Written Assembly Questions in May 2014** about the criteria used to select the schools.

40 'Pathways to Success' schools were identified and received additional funding for their development and improvement. Two schools (Llantarnam School and Fairwater High School) subsequently amalgamated into Cwmbran High School, meaning there were actually 39 schools within the programme. Another two schools (Michaelston Community College and Glyn Derw High School) federated during the programme and were subsequently amalgamated to form Cardiff West Community High School in September 2017.

There were **four main themes** to Schools Challenge Cymru, centred on Leadership; Learning and Teaching; the Pupil; and the School and the Community. Pathways to Success schools received the following four core entitlements:

− A **'school on a page' template** that provides a snapshot of where their school is on its improvement journey and what its strengths and areas for improvement are.

− A **committed, experienced Adviser** (employed by the regional consortia) to support and challenge the school on how it can improve, and to help broker support.

− A **Single School Development Plan**, showing how the schools efforts for improvement are drawn together, including an entitlement to draw on additional resource, as needed.

− An **Accelerated Improvement Board** to support the school's leadership through its improvement journey.

How was the programme funded?

The programme initially arose from a Barnett consequential uplift resulting from the UK Government's decision in autumn 2013 to introduce free meals for all infant pupils in England. The Welsh Government decided to use the additional £12.1 million to 'continue to drive up educational standards'[7] and put this towards the cost of Schools Challenge Cymru. During the 2016-17 draft budget round, the **previous Minister, Huw Lewis informed the Children, Young People and Education Committee (PDF 1.20MB)** that Schools Challenge Cymru was financed as follows:

− 2014-15: £12.1 million from reserves, £3.99 million from Education Main Expenditure Group (MEG);

− 2015-16: £9.4 million from reserves, £3 million from Education MEG;

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[6] Welsh Government, Draft Budget 2016-17: *Strategic Integrated Impact Assessment*, December 2015
[7] Welsh Government, Cabinet Statements: Minister for Finance, Jane Hutt, *Allocations arising from the Autumn Statement 2013*, 27 January 2014; Minister for Education and Skills, Huw Lewis, *Schools Challenge Cymru*, 10 February 2014.

− 2016-17: £15 million from reserves.

On **11 January 2017**, the Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kirsty Williams, announced **£200,000 of additional funding in 2017-18 to assist transition arrangements** and 'enable the continuation of high quality advisory support to the Pathways to Success schools' **until the end of the 2016/17 academic year**.

In a **letter dated 22 June 2017 (PDF 636KB)** regarding the Final Budget for 2017-18, the Cabinet Secretary informed the Children, Young People and Education Committee that the Welsh Government had also allocated **£1.5 million in financial year 2017-18** to 'provide targeted support for schools', '**building on lessons** learnt from the Schools Challenge Cymru programme'.

The Welsh Government **did not continue Schools Challenge Cymru** beyond the three financial years 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and the three academic years 2014/15, 2015/16, 2016/17. The **Cabinet Secretary explained during draft budget scrutiny in November 2016 (PDF 730KB)** that the annual **£15 million budget for the programme had returned to the Welsh Government's central reserves** and was not available for alternative use in the education budget.

Kirsty Williams confirmed in her **paper on the draft budget 2018-19 (PDF 1MB)** that Schools Challenge Cymru has fully ceased and 'there will be no more direct funding for the programme in 2018-19'.

Evaluation

The Welsh Government commissioned SQW Consulting to evaluate the Schools Challenge Cymru programme. On 20 July 2016, the **first evaluation report** was published which focused on the **process and implementation** of the programme, based on fieldwork undertaken in 2015. The first evaluation report found:

> At the time of our fieldwork (March-July 2015), interviewees were **not able to quantify the effect** of school improvement activity at their schools. Nonetheless, interviewees in the majority of Pathways to Success schools indicated that they felt engagement in SCC had had a **positive impact**. [Research Service's emphasis]

A **second evaluation report (PDF 1.81MB)**, which followed a further **wave of fieldwork** between May and July 2016, considered in **greater depth, the outputs and outcomes** from Schools Challenge Cymru. This report, published in July 2017, concluded:

> The principal aim of the evaluation has been to assess the extent to which the support made available to Pathways to Success schools has been successful in supporting an improvement in their performance i.e. considering issues of outcomes and impact. The two years over which SCC has been running are **not long enough to assess fully its impact on 'hard outcomes'** (attainment and progression) for pupils in Pathways to Success schools.
>
> (…)
>
> In summary, the evaluation provided a rich insight into the complexity of school improvement, demonstrated the value of careful diagnosis of individual schools' trajectories and needs, and highlighted the importance of tailored support that specifically helped to meet those needs. Although school interviewees tended to feel that SCC funding was the main factor in enabling improvements, it was the

intelligent and targeted use of funding that most supported impact. Both Challenge
Advisers and AIBs had a notable (though not always fully acknowledged) role to play
in this. [Research Service's emphasis]

Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive attainment data in Schools Challenge Cymru 'Pathways to Success' schools

Data

Tables 17-20 provide attainment data on attainment of the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive for the **39 Pathways to Success schools**, which received funding and support from the Schools Challenge Cymru programme. 2013/14 can be treated as the baseline as Schools Challenge Cymru commenced in September 2014.

Due to **changes made by the Welsh Government to performance measures in 2017**, comparisons of the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive achievement rates between years are **only statistically valid up to 2016**.[8]

Data on attainment in GCSE core subjects, which enables some comparisons up to 2017 is contained further on in this paper in Tables 21-28.

The **School Support Categories**, determined under the Welsh Government's **National School Categorisation System**, for each school are also referenced in each table. National School Categorisation uses four colour-coded judgements to assess where a school is in their improvement journey and what level of challenge and support it requires. Schools are categorised as follows: Green, Yellow, Amber, Red.

− Table 17 shows all pupil data for the Level 2 threshold inclusive.

− Table 18 shows eFSM pupil data for the Level 2 threshold inclusive.

− Table 19 shows all pupil data for the Level 2 threshold.

− Table 20 shows eFSM pupil data for the Level 2 threshold.

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[8] The vocational equivalence is the aspect of the measures that has changed most significantly. From 2017, vocational qualifications may make up no more than 40% of the 5 or more GCSEs in the Level 2 threshold, ie a pupil must gain a minimum of three actual GCSEs at grades A*-C to achieve it. Another change to the Level 2 threshold inclusive measure is that only English and Welsh Language may count, rather than English or Welsh Literature. See page 1 and the Notes section of the **December 2017 statistical release**, the **Chief Statistician's blog** and the **Welsh Government media release** of 6 December for further explanation.

Table 17: Achievement of <u>Level 2 threshold inclusive</u> in Pathways to Success schools – <u>All Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of All pupils achieving Level 2 threshold inclusive (i)					School Support Category		
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2015/16	2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)	
Milford Haven School	ERW	38.0	43.3	51.7	13.7	48.9	Amber	Red	⬇
Morriston Comprehensive	ERW	49.7	46.3	62.6	12.9	46.9	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pentrehafod School	ERW	44.3	52.7	53.3	9.0	43.7	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	70.7	63.3	72.7	2.0	64.1	Yellow	Green	⬆
Bedwas High School	EAS	44.1	35.0	51.0	6.9	54.7	Amber	Red	⬇
Tredegar Comprehensive	EAS	41.6	52.4	53.7	12.1	55.1	Amber	Green	⬆
West Monmouth School	EAS	48.0	56.9	52.4	4.4	48.8	Amber	Amber	➡
St Cenydd School	EAS	37.9	50.0	41.9	4.0	45.5	Red	Yellow	⬆
St Julian's School	EAS	50.7	46.6	51.0	0.3	48.6	Amber	Red	⬇
St Martin's School	EAS	50.3	52.3	64.2	13.9	65.2	Red	Yellow	⬆
Heolddu Comprehensive	EAS	35.9	48.9	44.3	8.4	40.4	Red	Amber	⬆
Llanwern High School	EAS	40.8	45.7	44.5	3.7	26.1	Amber	Red	⬇
Lliswerry High School	EAS	40.2	41.3	53.7	13.5	44.6	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Abersychan Comprehensive	EAS	49.2	48.7	41.2	-8.0	43.3	Amber	Red	⬇
Abertillery Comprehensive (iii)	EAS	23.1	34.4	41.2	18.1	25.5	Red	Red	➡
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	53.0	54.3	42.8	-10.2	44.5	Amber	Amber	➡
Blackwood Comprehensive	EAS	48.8	59.8	57.9	9.1	51.1	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Cwmbran High School (iv)	EAS	46.7	46.8	39.0	-7.7	43.1	Amber (2015)	Red	⬇
Ysgol Treffynnon (Holywell High School)	Gwe	43.6	37.6	50.0	6.4	39.3	Red	Red	➡
Ysgol Bryn Alyn	Gwe	47.4	48.1	48.7	1.3	41.0	Yellow	Red	⬇
Ysgol Clywedog	Gwe	48.5	52.8	46.5	-2.0	39.3	Red	Amber	⬆
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	43.4	48.6	48.2	4.8	45.1	Amber	Amber	➡
Rhosnesni High School	Gwe	50.5	49.0	49.7	-0.8	35.3	Red	Red	➡
Pen-Y-Dre High School	CSW	33.9	39.1	52.6	18.7	32.6	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Porth County Community School	CSW	47.2	47.5	51.9	4.7	36.0	Amber	Red	⬇
St. Illtyd's Catholic High School	CSW	45.7	46.1	55.2	9.5	46.9	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pontypridd High School	CSW	52.4	53.3	61.8	9.4	51.1	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Tonypandy Community College	CSW	30.5	49.2	51.9	21.4	44.9	Red	Yellow	⬆
Tonyrefail School	CSW	52.1	47.2	60.6	8.5	46.8	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Willows High School	CSW	49.7	46.9	52.8	3.1	39.2	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Afon Taf High School	CSW	51.2	48.2	58.1	6.9	41.7	Amber	Amber	➡
Barry Comprehensive School	CSW	37.4	50.0	62.7	25.3	49.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
Bishop Hedley High School	CSW	60.4	64.0	60.7	0.3	48.4	Yellow	Green	⬆
Cantonian High School	CSW	35.8	45.0	50.7	14.9	46.1	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	CSW	39.9	44.0	55.8	15.9	41.7	Red	Yellow	⬆
Eastern High School	CSW	22.4	14.9	25.9	3.5	29.9	Red	Yellow	⬆
Glyn Derw High School (v)	CSW	25.6	23.9	28.8	3.2	28.8	Red	Red (v)	➡
Michaelston Community College (v)	CSW	21.5	25.2	24.7	3.2	15.9	Red	Red (v)	➡
Hawthorn High School	CSW	40.5	49.3	61.8	21.3	45.9	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Total (mean average) (vi)		**43.4**	**46.4**	**50.7**	**7.3**	**43.2**			
All Wales		**55.4**	**57.9**	**60.3**	**4.9**	**54.6**			

Source: Welsh Government, **My Local School website**. Calculations by Assembly Research Service. Schools' Support Categories from *Welsh Government website*.

Notes:

i) Level 2 threshold inclusive = 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C including Mathematics and English/Welsh Language, or the vocational equivalent. Changes to the measure mean that data in 2017 is not comparable to previous years. See page 1 and the Notes section of the **December 2017 statistical release**, the **Chief Statistician's blog** and the **Welsh Government media release** of 6 December.

ii) 2016/17 and 2015/16 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

iii) Abertillery Comprehensive became Abertillery Learning Community in September 2016 after its amalgamation with several primary schools and move to a 3-16 age range. It was categorised as Red in both 2014/15 and 2015/16.

(iv) Cwmbran High School was formed in September 2015 following the amalgamation of Llantarnam and Fairwater schools. Llantarnam's category was Red in 2013/14, while Fairwater's was Yellow.

(v) Glyn Derw High School and Michaelston Community College amalgamated to form Cardiff West Community High School in September 2017. The new school's support category is Red.

(vi) This is the average of the schools' totals rather than the average of all individual pupils in each school.

Table 18: Achievement of <u>Level 2 threshold inclusive</u> in Pathways to Success schools – <u>eFSM Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of eFSM pupils achieving Level 2 threshold inclusive (i)					School Support Category	
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2015/16	2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)
Milford Haven School	ERW	33.3	27.5	41.4	8.1	19.2	Amber	Red ⬇
Morriston Comprehensive	ERW	15.0	22.9	44.8	29.8	18.2	Red	Yellow ⬆
Pentrehafod School	ERW	26.9	30.2	29.8	2.9	20.8	Yellow	Yellow ➡
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	35.7	45.0	66.7	31.0	30.0	Yellow	Green ⬆
Bedwas High School	EAS	13.0	19.2	40.7	27.7	21.1	Amber	Red ⬇
Tredegar Comprehensive	EAS	27.3	38.0	41.4	14.1	39.3	Amber	Green ⬆
West Monmouth School	EAS	32.3	22.7	30.8	-1.5	19.0	Amber	Amber ➡
St Cenydd School	EAS	17.4	19.5	25.7	8.3	8.8	Red	Yellow ⬆
St Julian's School	EAS	18.0	18.6	21.6	3.6	32.6	Amber	Red ⬇
St Martin's School	EAS	25.0	6.9	34.8	9.8	29.6	Red	Yellow ⬆
Heolddu Comprehensive	EAS	25.0	29.4	25.6	0.6	32.0	Red	Amber ⬆
Llanwern High School	EAS	26.8	28.9	39.1	12.3	17.8	Amber	Red ⬇
Lliswerry High School	EAS	25.5	31.7	35.6	10.1	28.1	Amber	Yellow ⬆
Abersychan Comprehensive	EAS	24.1	35.1	16.7	-7.4	33.3	Amber	Red ⬇
Abertillery Comprehensive (iii)	EAS	8.5	15.8	28.9	20.4	15.4	Red	Red ➡
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	28.0	30.8	25.0	-3.0	20.0	Amber	Amber ➡
Blackwood Comprehensive	EAS	25.0	36.4	28.6	3.6	12.0	Amber	Yellow ⬆
Cwmbran High School (iv)	EAS	27.9	29.6	14.5	-13.4	27.7	Amber (2015)	Red ⬇
Ysgol Treffynnon (Holywell High School)	Gwe	33.3	16.7	22.2	-11.1	7.7	Red	Red ➡
Ysgol Bryn Alyn	Gwe	40.0	22.2	20.7	-19.3	13.3	Yellow	Red ⬇
Ysgol Clywedog	Gwe	20.5	26.7	22.2	1.7	17.4	Red	Amber ⬆
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	48.0	40.6	25.0	-23.0	35.3	Amber	Amber ➡
Rhosnesni High School	Gwe	15.8	25.6	14.3	-1.5	15.4	Red	Red ➡
Pen-Y-Dre High School	CSW	8.3	24.4	28.6	20.3	17.1	Amber	Yellow ⬆
Porth County Community School	CSW	27.9	30.3	33.3	5.4	27.5	Amber	Red ⬇
St. Illtyd's Catholic High School	CSW	44.0	27.9	50.0	6.0	29.7	Red	Yellow ⬆
Pontypridd High School	CSW	30.3	11.5	29.0	-1.3	26.5	Amber	Yellow ⬆
Tonypandy Community College	CSW	5.9	24.1	27.3	21.4	32.0	Red	Yellow ⬆
Tonyrefail School	CSW	23.7	18.8	35.5	11.8	27.0	Amber	Yellow ⬆
Willows High School	CSW	37.7	32.3	44.7	7.0	26.3	Yellow	Yellow ➡
Afon Taf High School	CSW	24.2	16.1	46.4	22.2	24.0	Amber	Amber ➡
Barry Comprehensive School	CSW	18.9	22.6	46.9	28.0	19.4	Red	Yellow ⬆
Bishop Hedley High School	CSW	40.9	54.2	36.4	-4.5	20.0	Yellow	Green ⬆
Cantonian High School	CSW	14.3	30.0	40.0	25.7	40.0	Amber	Yellow ⬆
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	CSW	12.8	34.0	40.4	27.6	27.7	Red	Yellow ⬆
Eastern High School	CSW	9.7	10.8	16.2	6.5	22.8	Red	Yellow ⬆
Glyn Derw High School (v)	CSW	18.6	14.7	24.0	5.4	17.9	Red	Red (v) ➡
Michaelston Community College	CSW	8.6	14.7	15.8	7.2	11.9	Red	Red (v) ➡
Hawthorn High School	CSW	16.1	29.3	41.0	24.9	23.8	Amber	Yellow ⬆
Total (mean average) (vi)		**24.0**	**26.0**	**32.1**	**8.1**	**23.3**		
All Wales		**27.8**	**31.6**	**35.6**	**7.8**	**28.6**		

Source: Welsh Government, **My Local School website**. Calculations by Assembly Research Service. Schools' Support Categories from *Welsh Government website*.

Notes: Level 2 threshold inclusive = 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C including Mathematics and English/Welsh Language, or the vocational equivalent. Changes to the measure mean that data in 2017 is not comparable to previous years. See page 1 and the Notes section of the **December 2017 statistical release**, the **Chief Statistician's blog** and the **Welsh Government media release** of 6 December. Also, see Notes ii to vi under Table 17.

Table 19: Achievement of <u>Level 2 threshold</u> in Pathways to Success schools – <u>All Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of All pupils achieving Level 2 threshold (i)					School Support Category		
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2015/16	2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)	
Milford Haven School	ERW	68.4	73.9	84.1	15.7	56.2	Amber	Red	⬇
Morriston Comprehensive	ERW	72.9	80.0	89.6	16.7	59.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pentrehafod School	ERW	80.3	86.4	95.9	15.6	60.0	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	96.6	94.1	93.0	-3.6	76.8	Yellow	Green	⬆
Bedwas High School	EAS	69.5	65.8	88.2	18.7	66.7	Amber	Red	⬇
Tredegar Comprehensive	EAS	85.1	91.0	94.8	9.7	69.6	Amber	Green	⬆
West Monmouth School	EAS	81.6	82.6	85.3	3.7	52.1	Amber	Amber	➡
St Cenydd School	EAS	71.1	72.7	68.8	-2.3	58.8	Red	Yellow	⬆
St Julian's School	EAS	80.1	78.5	59.4	-20.7	56.4	Amber	Red	⬇
St Martin's School	EAS	58.0	73.6	92.0	34.0	74.5	Red	Yellow	⬆
Heolddu Comprehensive	EAS	66.9	64.9	58.2	-8.7	55.3	Red	Amber	⬆
Llanwern High School	EAS	73.6	81.9	69.3	-4.3	37.0	Amber	Red	⬇
Lliswerry High School	EAS	73.9	84.5	77.4	3.5	54.6	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Abersychan Comprehensive	EAS	68.3	74.1	63.6	-4.7	53.3	Amber	Red	⬇
Abertillery Comprehensive (iii)	EAS	62.8	56.3	52.2	-10.6	50.9	Red	Red	➡
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	72.2	80.9	58.5	-13.7	62.5	Amber	Amber	➡
Blackwood Comprehensive	EAS	68.2	77.2	73.1	4.9	61.1	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Cwmbran High School (iv)	EAS	84.4	81.6	83.1	-1.3	55.0	Amber (2015)	Red	⬇
Ysgol Treffynnon (Holywell High School)	Gwe	63.8	68.2	88.2	24.4	44.6	Red	Red	➡
Ysgol Bryn Alyn	Gwe	73.3	64.4	57.1	-16.2	55.4	Yellow	Red	⬇
Ysgol Clywedog	Gwe	63.3	68.4	64.8	1.5	51.1	Red	Amber	⬆
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	83.7	80.6	80.3	-3.4	61.3	Amber	Amber	➡
Rhosnesni High School	Gwe	78.0	71.2	84.4	6.4	44.9	Red	Red	➡
Pen-Y-Dre High School	CSW	77.7	78.3	88.7	11.0	58.1	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Porth County Community School	CSW	62.6	96.3	100.0	37.4	50.0	Amber	Red	⬇
St. Illtyd's Catholic High School	CSW	70.3	85.6	96.3	26.0	64.2	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pontypridd High School	CSW	78.6	92.9	98.2	19.6	60.2	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Tonypandy Community College	CSW	90.3	85.2	81.7	-8.6	54.1	Red	Yellow	⬆
Tonyrefail School	CSW	86.5	86.5	99.3	12.8	62.2	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Willows High School	CSW	74.8	78.9	92.7	17.9	49.0	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Afon Taf High School	CSW	84.1	89.3	95.3	11.2	52.2	Amber	Amber	➡
Barry Comprehensive School	CSW	82.1	90.5	91.1	9.0	61.0	Red	Yellow	⬆
Bishop Hedley High School	CSW	88.7	87.0	85.7	-3.0	72.5	Yellow	Green	⬆
Cantonian High School	CSW	93.4	87.5	91.5	-1.9	56.6	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	CSW	63.0	59.2	93.8	30.8	59.1	Red	Yellow	⬆
Eastern High School	CSW	43.9	43.8	35.1	-8.8	33.8	Red	Yellow	⬆
Glyn Derw High School (v)	CSW	67.5	63.6	66.7	-0.8	31.3	Red	Red (v)	➡
Michaelston Community College (v)	CSW	53.7	68.0	60.7	7.0	20.7	Red	Rec (v)	➡
Hawthorn High School	CSW	92.6	93.8	97.1	4.5	65.4	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Total (mean average) (vi)		**74.5**	**77.9**	**80.4**	**5.9**	**55.6**			
All Wales		**82.3**	**84.1**	**84.0**	**1.7**	**67.0**			

Source: Welsh Government, **My Local School website**. Calculations by Assembly Research Service. Schools' Support Categories from ***Welsh Government website***.

Notes: i) Level 2 threshold = 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C, or the vocational equivalent. Changes to the measure mean that data in 2017 is not comparable to previous years. See page 1 and the Notes section of the **December 2017 statistical release**, and the **Chief Statistician's blog** and **Welsh Government media release** of 6 December. See Notes ii to vi, Table 17.

Table 20: Achievement of <u>Level 2 threshold</u> in Pathways to Success schools – <u>eFSM Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of eFSM pupils achieving Level 2 threshold (i)						School Support Category		
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2015/16		2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)	
Milford Haven School	ERW	53.3	60.0	75.9	22.6		26.9	Amber	Red	⬇
Morriston Comprehensive	ERW	42.5	54.3	69.0	26.5		29.5	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pentrehafod School	ERW	71.6	72.1	97.9	26.3		39.6	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	85.7	75.0	94.4	8.7		35.0	Yellow	Green	⬆
Bedwas High School	EAS	39.1	53.8	77.8	38.7		42.1	Amber	Red	⬇
Tredegar Comprehensive	EAS	79.5	86.0	89.7	10.2		60.7	Amber	Green	⬆
West Monmouth School	EAS	64.5	40.9	80.8	16.3		19.0	Amber	Amber	➡
St Cenydd School	EAS	45.7	43.9	57.1	11.4		17.6	Red	Yellow	⬆
St Julian's School	EAS	54.1	46.5	40.5	-13.6		34.9	Amber	Red	⬇
St Martin's School	EAS	27.8	27.6	82.6	54.8		40.7	Red	Yellow	⬆
Heolddu Comprehensive	EAS	50.0	29.4	43.6	-6.4		48.0	Red	Amber	⬆
Llanwern High School	EAS	61.0	76.3	60.9	-0.1		24.4	Amber	Red	⬇
Lliswerry High School	EAS	46.8	75.6	60.0	13.2		40.6	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Abersychan Comprehensive	EAS	42.6	59.5	47.2	4.6		38.9	Amber	Red	⬇
Abertillery Comprehensive (iii)	EAS	44.7	36.8	33.3	-11.4		34.6	Red	Red	➡
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	38.0	71.2	40.9	2.9		34.3	Amber	Amber	➡
Blackwood Comprehensive	EAS	37.5	52.3	51.4	13.9		24.0	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Cwmbran High School (iv)	EAS	83.6	63.0	72.7	-10.9		36.2	Amber (2015)	Red	⬇
Ysgol Treffynnon (Holywell High School)	Gwe	50.0	50.0	77.2	27.2		15.4	Red	Red	➡
Ysgol Bryn Alyn	Gwe	46.7	33.3	24.1	-22.6		30.0	Yellow	Red	⬇
Ysgol Clywedog	Gwe	36.4	36.7	51.9	15.5		30.4	Red	Amber	⬆
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	80.0	68.8	45.8	-34.2		47.1	Amber	Amber	➡
Rhosnesni High School	Gwe	47.4	48.7	60.0	12.6		28.2	Red	Red	➡
Pen-Y-Dre High School	CSW	55.6	70.7	75.0	19.4		40.0	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Porth County Community School	CSW	41.9	90.9	100.0	58.1		45.0	Amber	Red	⬇
St. Illtyd's Catholic High School	CSW	60.0	88.4	90.6	30.6		54.1	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pontypridd High School	CSW	57.6	76.9	93.5	35.9		35.3	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Tonypandy Community College	CSW	85.3	79.3	60.6	-24.7		44.0	Red	Yellow	⬆
Tonyrefail School	CSW	76.3	68.8	96.8	20.5		45.9	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Willows High School	CSW	66.0	70.8	89.4	23.4		34.2	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Afon Taf High School	CSW	66.7	71.0	85.7	19.0		36.0	Amber	Amber	➡
Barry Comprehensive School	CSW	73.0	96.8	71.9	-1.1		38.7	Red	Yellow	⬆
Bishop Hedley High School	CSW	68.2	87.5	72.7	4.5		70.0	Yellow	Green	⬆
Cantonian High School	CSW	85.7	70.0	80.0	-5.7		50.0	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	CSW	38.3	44.7	88.5	50.2		34.0	Red	Yellow	⬆
Eastern High School	CSW	33.3	31.1	27.0	-6.3		26.3	Red	Yellow	⬆
Glyn Derw High School (v)	CSW	58.1	50.0	60.0	1.9		17.9	Red	Red (v)	➡
Michaelston Community College (v)	CSW	42.9	70.6	47.4	4.5		14.3	Red	Red (v)	➡
Hawthorn High School	CSW	80.6	80.5	94.9	14.3		52.4	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Total (mean average) (vi)		**56.9**	**61.8**	**68.4**	**11.6**		**36.3**			
All Wales		**65.3**	**69.4**	**71.6**	**6.3**		**41.3**			

34

Source: Welsh Government, **My Local School website**. Calculations by Assembly Research Service. Schools' Support Categories from *Welsh Government website*.

Notes: i) Level 2 threshold = 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C, or the vocational equivalent. Changes to the measure mean that data in 2017 is not comparable to previous years. See page 1 and the Notes section of the **December 2017 statistical release**, the **Chief Statistician's blog** and the **Welsh Government media release** of 6 December. See Notes ii to vi, Table 17.

Achievement of Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive in Pathways to Success schools: Summary analysis across Wales

Due to changes in the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusion performance measures in 2017, this analysis focuses on **changes between 2013/14 and 2015/16, following the first two years** of the Schools Challenge Cymru programme.

Between 2013/14 and 2015/16:

- **34 out of 39** schools **across Wales** showed an improvement in attainment of **Level 2 threshold inclusive**. 12 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **29 out of 39** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of Level 2 threshold inclusive**. 15 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **23 out of 39** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **Level 2 threshold**. 14 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **28 out of 39** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of Level 2 threshold**. 22 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

Summary analysis by Regional Consortia

ERW - Education through Regional Working - (Swansea, Neath Port Talbot, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, Powys, Ceredigion)

Between 2013/14 and 2015/16:

- **4 out of 4** schools in **South West and Mid Wales** showed an improvement in attainment of **Level 2 threshold inclusive**.

- 4 out of 4 schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils'** attainment of Level 2 threshold inclusive.

- **3 out of 4** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **Level 2 threshold**.

- **4 out of 4** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of Level 2 threshold**

EAS - South East Wales Education Achievement Service - (Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen)

Between 2013/14 and 2015/16:

- **11 out of 14** schools in **South East Wales** showed an improvement in attainment of **Level 2 threshold inclusive**.

- **10 out of 14** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils'** attainment of Level 2 threshold inclusive.

- **6 out of 14** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **Level 2 threshold**.

- **9 out of 14** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of Level 2 threshold**

GwE - Regional School Effectiveness & Improvement Service for North Wales - (Flintshire, Conwy, Wrexham, Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey, Denbighshire)

Between 2013/14 and 2015/16:

– **3 out of 5** schools in **North Wales** showed an improvement in attainment of **Level 2 threshold inclusive**.

– **1 out of 5** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils'** attainment of **Level 2 threshold inclusive**.

– **3 out of 5** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **Level 2 threshold**.

– **3 out of 5** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of Level 2 threshold**.

CSW - Central South Consortium Joint Education Service - (Bridgend, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Vale of Glamorgan)

Between 2013/14 and 2015/16:

– **16 out of 16** schools in **Central South Wales** showed an improvement in attainment of **Level 2 threshold inclusive**.

– 14 out of 16 schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils'** attainment of Level 2 threshold inclusive.

– **11 out of 16** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **Level 2 threshold**.

– **12 out of 16** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of Level 2 threshold**

GCSE core subject attainment data in Schools Challenge Cymru 'Pathways to Success' schools

Due to changes in the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive performance measures, this paper's analysis of the continuing impact of the Schools Challenge Cymru programme in academic year 2016/17 focuses on attainment rates in individual core subjects.

Tables 21– 28 present data on eFSM and all pupil attainment rates of grades A*-C in GCSE English, Welsh, Mathematics and Science for each of the Pathways to Success schools.

The **School Support Categories**, determined under the Welsh Government's **National School Categorisation System**, for each school are also referenced in each table. National School Categorisation uses four colour-coded judgements to assess where a school is in their improvement journey and what level of challenge and support it requires. Schools are categorised in descending order as follows: Green, Yellow, Amber, Red.

- Tables 21 and 22 show data for GCSE English (best of Language or Literature).

- Tables 23 and 24 show data for GCSE Welsh (best of Language or Literature).

- Tables 25 and 26 show data for GCSE Mathematics.

- Tables 27 and 28 show data for GCSE Science.

Table 21: Key Stage 4: <u>Attainment of GCSE English</u> in Pathways to Success schools — <u>all Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of All pupils achieving A*-C in GCSE English (i)					School Support Category		
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	2016/17 (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)	
Milford Haven School	ERW	48.5	52.8	58.9	61.3	12.8	Amber	Red	⬇
Morriston Comprehensive	ERW	58.0	54.2	67.5	60.6	2.6	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pentrehafod School	ERW	50.7	59.2	63.5	53.2	2.5	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	81.0	72.3	80.2	74.7	-6.3	Yellow	Green	⬆
Bedwas High School	EAS	55.9	37.6	53.9	66.7	10.8	Amber	Red	⬇
Tredegar Comprehensive	EAS	58.4	62.8	57.5	65.9	7.5	Amber	Green	⬆
West Monmouth School	EAS	60.5	67.4	57.3	57.9	-2.6	Amber	Amber	➡
St Cenydd School	EAS	50.5	58.1	49.5	59.9	9.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
St Julian's School	EAS	66.8	64.9	68.3	62.6	-4.2	Amber	Red	⬇
St Martin's School	EAS	59.1	63.8	70.1	67.1	8.0	Red	Yellow	⬆
Heolddu Comprehensive	EAS	52.1	55.3	52.5	57.0	4.9	Red	Amber	⬆
Llanwern High School	EAS	60.8	68.1	61.3	30.4	-30.4	Amber	Red	⬇
Lliswerry High School	EAS	53.3	60.0	71.8	59.2	5.9	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Abersychan Comprehensive	EAS	56.6	53.4	49.7	54.0	-2.6	Amber	Red	⬇
Abertillery Comprehensive (iii)	EAS	33.3	43.8	46.3	45.5	12.2	Red	Red	➡
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	65.8	69.6	56.8	61.5	-4.3	Amber	Amber	➡
Blackwood Comprehensive	EAS	65.2	74.5	70.1	64.7	-0.5	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Cwmbran High School (iv)	EAS	58.7	58.0	46.9	52.8	-5.9	Amber (2015)	Red	⬇
Ysgol Treffynnon (Holywell High School)	Gwe	62.8	49.4	55.9	48.2	-14.6	Red	Red	➡
Ysgol Bryn Alyn	Gwe	62.2	64.4	60.9	60.4	-1.8	Yellow	Red	⬇
Ysgol Clywedog	Gwe	59.2	65.3	57.2	53.3	-5.9	Red	Amber	⬆
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	48.8	58.3	59.9	54.9	6.1	Amber	Amber	➡
Rhosnesni High School	Gwe	62.9	59.1	62.6	52.6	-10.3	Red	Red	➡
Pen-Y-Dre High School	CSW	43.8	48.7	62.9	45.3	1.5	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Porth County Community School	CSW	62.6	63.8	69.9	43.9	-18.7	Amber	Red	⬇
St. Illtyd's Catholic High School	CSW	59.4	68.3	67.5	66.7	7.3	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pontypridd High School	CSW	60.1	59.2	71.2	61.4	1.3	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Tonypandy Community College	CSW	47.4	59.4	59.5	53.1	5.7	Red	Yellow	⬆
Tonyrefail School	CSW	60.1	64.4	73.9	59.6	-0.5	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Willows High School	CSW	56.5	52.3	66.7	39.2	-17.3	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Afon Taf High School	CSW	55.5	56.5	64.2	54.8	-0.7	Amber	Amber	➡
Barry Comprehensive School	CSW	44.7	60.1	70.9	53.2	8.5	Red	Yellow	⬆
Bishop Hedley High School	CSW	74.5	83.0	76.2	65.9	-8.6	Yellow	Green	⬆
Cantonian High School	CSW	56.6	51.3	60.6	46.1	-10.5	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	CSW	53.4	59.2	65.0	57.8	4.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
Eastern High School	CSW	33.2	29.4	28.2	46.1	12.9	Red	Yellow	⬆
Glyn Derw High School (v)	CSW	40.2	38.6	56.1	42.5	2.3	Red	Red (v)	➡
Michaelston Community College (v)	CSW	39.7	64.1	53.9	30.5	-9.2	Red	Red (v)	➡
Hawthorn High School	CSW	52.1	58.2	68.4	46.6	-5.5	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Total (mean average) (vi)		55.7	58.7	61.4	54.8	-0.9			
All Wales		66.2	68.6	69.3	66.2	0.0			

Notes:

i) Data for all years is based on pupils' best result from either English Language or Literature. The 2017 Year 11 cohort was the first to be examined against the new GCSE English specifications.

ii) 2016/17 and 2015/16 data based on cohort of pupils in Year 11. Data for previous years based on pupils aged 15 at start of academic year.

iii) Abertillery Comprehensive became Abertillery Learning Community in September 2016 after its amalgamation with several primary schools and move to a 3-16 age range. It was categorised as Red in both 2014/15 and 2015/16.

(iv) Cwmbran High School was formed in September 2015 following the amalgamation of Llantarnam and Fairwater schools. Llantarnam's category was Red in 2013/14, while Fairwater's was Yellow.

(v) Glyn Derw High School and Michaelston Community College amalgamated to form Cardiff West Community High School in September 2017. The new school's support category is Red.

(vi) This is the average of the schools' totals rather than the average of all individual pupils in each school.

Table 22: Key Stage 4: <u>Attainment of GCSE English</u> in Pathways to Success schools – <u>eFSM Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of eFSM pupils achieving A*-C in GCSE English (i)					School Support Category		
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	2016/17 (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)	
Milford Haven School	ERW	43.3	35.0	51.7	34.6	-8.7	Amber	Red	⬇
Morriston Comprehensive	ERW	20.0	34.3	44.8	31.8	11.8	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pentrehafod School	ERW	37.3	32.6	42.6	39.6	2.3	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	50.0	60.0	77.8	40.0	-10.0	Yellow	Green	⬆
Bedwas High School	EAS	26.1	23.1	48.1	47.4	21.3	Amber	Red	⬇
Tredegar Comprehensive	EAS	43.2	44.0	44.8	53.6	10.4	Amber	Green	⬆
West Monmouth School	EAS	41.9	31.8	30.8	23.8	-18.1	Amber	Amber	➡
St Cenydd School	EAS	30.4	29.3	37.1	23.5	-6.9	Red	Yellow	⬆
St Julian's School	EAS	37.7	30.2	37.8	44.2	6.5	Amber	Red	⬇
St Martin's School	EAS	33.3	17.2	43.5	29.6	-3.7	Red	Yellow	⬆
Heolddu Comprehensive	EAS	41.7	29.4	33.3	36.0	-5.7	Red	Amber	⬆
Llanwern High School	EAS	48.8	52.6	47.8	20.0	-28.8	Amber	Red	⬇
Lliswerry High School	EAS	31.9	51.2	51.1	46.9	15.0	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Abersychan Comprehensive	EAS	31.5	43.2	25.0	38.9	7.4	Amber	Red	⬇
Abertillery Comprehensive (iii)	EAS	17.0	23.7	31.1	26.9	9.9	Red	Red	➡
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	36.0	48.1	36.4	37.1	1.1	Amber	Amber	➡
Blackwood Comprehensive	EAS	34.4	54.5	48.6	36.0	1.6	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Cwmbran High School (iv)	EAS			18.2	36.2	18.0	Amber (2015)	Red	⬇
Ysgol Treffynnon (Holywell High School)	Gwe	44.4	22.2	27.8	7.7	-36.7	Red	Red	➡
Ysgol Bryn Alyn	Gwe	46.7	40.7	27.6	33.3	-13.4	Yellow	Red	⬇
Ysgol Clywedog	Gwe	34.1	36.7	37.0	21.7	-12.4	Red	Amber	⬆
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	52.0	53.1	25.0	52.9	0.9	Amber	Amber	➡
Rhosnesni High School	Gwe	26.3	35.9	28.6	30.8	4.5	Red	Red	➡
Pen-Y-Dre High School	CSW	13.9	31.7	42.9	34.3	20.4	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Porth County Community School	CSW	53.5	45.5	52.8	32.5	-21.0	Amber	Red	⬇
St. Illtyd's Catholic High School	CSW	56.0	53.5	53.1	54.1	-1.9	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pontypridd High School	CSW	33.3	15.4	45.2	44.1	10.8	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Tonypandy Community College	CSW	20.6	31.0	36.4	48.0	27.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
Tonyrefail School	CSW	31.6	34.4	48.4	40.5	8.9	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Willows High School	CSW	43.4	38.5	63.8	26.3	-17.1	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Afon Taf High School	CSW	27.3	25.8	50.0	36.0	8.7	Amber	Amber	➡
Barry Comprehensive School	CSW	21.6	32.3	56.3	22.6	1.0	Red	Yellow	⬆
Bishop Hedley High School	CSW	63.6	87.5	63.6	55.0	-8.6	Yellow	Green	⬆
Cantonian High School	CSW	32.1	40.0	60.0	40.0	7.9	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	CSW	34.0	42.6	51.9	31.9	-2.1	Red	Yellow	⬆
Eastern High School	CSW		18.9	18.9	38.6	19.7	Red	Yellow	⬆
Glyn Derw High School (v)	CSW	34.9	26.5	44.0	28.6	-6.3	Red	Red (v)	➡
Michaelston Community College (v)	CSW	28.6	64.7	34.2	23.8	-4.8	Red	Red (v)	➡
Hawthorn High School	CSW	29.0	41.5	51.3	23.8	-5.2	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Total (mean average) (vii)		**36.0**	**38.4**	**42.8**	**35.2**	**-0.8**			
All Wales		**39.8**	**45.1**	**47.1**	**41.7**	**1.9**			

Source: Welsh Government, **My Local School website** and information provided to the National Assembly Research Service. Calculations by Assembly Research Service.

Notes: i) Data for all years is based on pupils' best result from either English Language or Literature. The 2017 Year 11 cohort was the first to be examined against the new GCSE English specifications. Also, see Notes ii to vi under Table 21.

Table 23: Key Stage 4: <u>Attainment of GCSE Welsh</u> in Pathways to Success schools — <u>all Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of All pupils achieving A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh (i)					School Support Category		
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	2016/17 (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)	
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	57.7	56.1	70.6	55.1	-2.6	Yellow	Green	⬆
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	47.4	46.2	59.1	33.3	-14.1	Amber	Amber	⮕
Total (mean average) (iv)		52.6	51.2	64.9	44.2	-8.3			
All Wales		73.7	75.2	75.1	74.5	0.8			

Source: Welsh Government, **My Local School website** and information provided to the National Assembly Research Service. Calculations by Assembly Research Service.

Notes:

i) Data for all years is based on pupils' best result from either Welsh Language or Literature. The 2017 Year 11 cohort was the first to be examined against the new GCSE Welsh specifications.

See Notes ii to vi under Table 21.

Table 24: Key Stage 4: <u>Attainment of GCSE Welsh</u> in Pathways to Success schools — <u>eFSM Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of eFSM pupils achieving A*-C in GCSE First Language Welsh (i)					School Support Category		
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	2016/17 (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)	
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	28.6	33.3	40.0	27.3	-1.3	Yellow	Green	⬆
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	66.7	50.0		50.0	-16.7	Amber	Amber	⮕
Total (mean average) (vii)		47.7	41.7	40.0	38.7	-9.0			
All Wales		48.6	51.5	50.9	54.4	5.8			

Source: Welsh Government, **My Local School website** and information provided to the National Assembly Research Service. Calculations by Assembly Research Service.

Notes:

i) Data for all years is based on pupils' best result from either Welsh Language or Literature. The 2017 Year 11 cohort was the first to be examined against the new GCSE Welsh specifications.

See Notes ii to vi under Table 21.

Table 25: Key Stage 4: <u>Attainment of GCSE Maths</u> in Pathways to Success schools – <u>all Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of All pupils achieving A*-C in GCSE Mathematics (i)					School Support Category	
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	2016/17 (i) (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)
Milford Haven School	ERW	45.6	58.3	58.9	63.5	17.9	Amber	Red ↓
Morriston Comprehensive	ERW	57.5	57.4	68.7	52.6	-4.9	Red	Yellow ↑
Pentrehafod School	ERW	50.7	62.5	60.9	54.2	3.5	Yellow	Yellow →
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	76.1	69.7	77.9	76.3	0.2	Yellow	Green ↑
Bedwas High School	EAS	51.7	51.3	70.6	62.4	10.7	Amber	Red ↓
Tredegar Comprehensive	EAS	46.1	59.3	60.4	62.3	16.2	Amber	Green ↑
West Monmouth School	EAS	57.9	61.8	65.7	56.2	-1.7	Amber	Amber →
St Cenydd School	EAS	45.3	58.7	52.2	54.0	8.7	Red	Yellow ↑
St Julian's School	EAS	54.8	51.0	57.4	58.0	3.2	Amber	Red ↓
St Martin's School	EAS	57.5	61.5	73.7	74.5	17.0	Red	Yellow ↑
Heolddu Comprehensive	EAS	39.4	54.3	52.5	50.9	11.5	Red	Amber ↑
Llanwern High School	EAS	46.4	49.1	47.4	38.4	-8.0	Amber	Red ↓
Lliswerry High School	EAS	47.3	44.5	55.4	56.2	8.9	Amber	Yellow ↑
Abersychan Comprehensive	EAS	54.0	64.2	57.0	52.7	-1.3	Amber	Red ↓
Abertillery Comprehensive (iii)	EAS	31.4	46.9	53.7	35.5	4.1	Red	Red →
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	58.5	59.1	54.1	52.5	-6.0	Amber	Amber →
Blackwood Comprehensive	EAS	53.2	63.0	61.4	60.5	7.3	Amber	Yellow ↑
Cwmbran High School (iv)	EAS	55.6	56.0	53.1	52.8	-2.8	Amber (2015)	Red ↓
Ysgol Treffynnon (Holywell High School)	Gwe	51.1	52.9	66.2	48.2	-2.9	Red	Red →
Ysgol Bryn Alyn	Gwe	54.8	59.3	59.0	48.9	-5.9	Yellow	Red ↓
Ysgol Clywedog	Gwe	55.6	59.1	59.1	51.9	-3.7	Red	Amber ↑
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	65.1	57.6	59.9	55.6	-9.5	Amber	Amber →
Rhosnesni High School	Gwe	56.5	52.5	54.7	41.0	-15.5	Red	Red →
Pen-Y-Dre High School	CSW	40.5	41.7	58.8	46.5	6.0	Amber	Yellow ↑
Porth County Community School	CSW	55.8	51.3	58.3	47.6	-8.2	Amber	Red ↓
St. Illtyd's Catholic High School	CSW	52.6	47.9	63.8	62.3	9.7	Red	Yellow ↑
Pontypridd High School	CSW	60.7	62.0	65.9	61.9	1.2	Amber	Yellow ↑
Tonypandy Community College	CSW	38.3	54.7	62.6	60.2	21.9	Red	Yellow ↑
Tonyrefail School	CSW	62.6	52.1	64.8	57.7	-4.9	Amber	Yellow ↑
Willows High School	CSW	53.7	51.6	55.3	61.8	8.1	Yellow	Yellow →
Afon Taf High School	CSW	59.1	55.4	66.2	45.2	-13.9	Amber	Amber →
Barry Comprehensive School	CSW	52.6	56.5	68.4	59.7	7.1	Red	Yellow ↑
Bishop Hedley High School	CSW	64.2	65.0	64.3	57.1	-7.1	Yellow	Green ↑
Cantonian High School	CSW	42.5	51.3	54.9	64.5	22.0	Amber	Yellow ↑
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	CSW	48.3	50.0	61.9	53.0	4.7	Red	Yellow ↑
Eastern High School	CSW	31.8	20.4	40.2	35.7	3.9	Red	Yellow ↑
Glyn Derw High School (v)	CSW	29.9	27.3	31.8	41.3	11.4	Red	Red (v) →
Michaelston Community College (v)	CSW	25.6	26.2	32.6	24.4	-1.2	Red	Red (v) →
Hawthorn High School	CSW	44.8	54.8	64.0	63.2	18.4	Amber	Yellow ↑
Total (mean average) (vi)		**50.6**	**53.3**	**58.8**	**53.9**	**3.2**		
All Wales		**61.7**	**64.4**	**66.9**	**62.5**	**0.8**		

Source: Welsh Government, **My Local School website** and information provided to the National Assembly Research Service. Calculations by Assembly Research Service.

Notes: i) The 2017 data is based on pupils' best result from either GCSE Mathematics or GCSE Mathematics Numeracy. The data prior to 2017 is based on the previous GCSE Mathematics.The cohort examined in 2017 were the first to undertake two new specifications of GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Mathematics Numeracy. Also, see Notes ii to vi under Table 21.

Table 26: Key Stage 4: <u>Attainment of GCSE Maths</u> in Pathways to Success schools – <u>eFSM Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of eFSM pupils achieving A*-C in GCSE Mathematics (i)					School Support Category		
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	2016/17 (i) (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)	
Milford Haven School	ERW	33.3	40.0	48.3	42.3	9.0	Amber	Red	⬇
Morriston Comprehensive	ERW	17.5	34.3	51.7	22.7	5.2	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pentrehafod School	ERW	35.8	39.5	38.3	33.3	-2.5	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	50.0	45.0	72.2	45.0	-5.0	Yellow	Green	⬆
Bedwas High School	EAS	13.0	42.3	51.9	21.1	8.1	Amber	Red	⬇
Tredegar Comprehensive	EAS	29.5	46.0	48.3	50.0	20.5	Amber	Green	⬆
West Monmouth School	EAS	35.5	31.8	42.3	33.3	-2.2	Amber	Amber	➡
St Cenydd School	EAS	21.7	31.7	34.3	11.8	-9.9	Red	Yellow	⬆
St Julian's School	EAS	18.0	20.9	29.7	37.2	19.2	Amber	Red	⬇
St Martin's School	EAS	25.0	10.3	56.5	44.4	19.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
Heolddu Comprehensive	EAS	25.0	29.4	41.0	44.0	19.0	Red	Amber	⬆
Llanwern High School	EAS	34.1	34.2	43.5	28.9	-5.2	Amber	Red	⬇
Lliswerry High School	EAS	27.7	34.1	35.6	40.6	12.9	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Abersychan Comprehensive	EAS	27.8	45.9	33.3	44.4	16.6	Amber	Red	⬇
Abertillery Comprehensive (iii)	EAS	19.1	31.6	42.2	19.2	0.1	Red	Red	➡
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	34.0	38.5	34.1	28.6	-5.4	Amber	Amber	➡
Blackwood Comprehensive	EAS	31.3	38.6	40.0	16.0	-15.3	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Cwmbran High School (iv)	EAS			38.2	36.2	-2.0	Amber (2015)	Red	⬇
Ysgol Treffynnon (Holywell High School)	Gwe	38.9	55.6	44.4	23.1	-15.8	Red	Red	➡
Ysgol Bryn Alyn	Gwe	40.0	48.1	27.6	16.7	-23.3	Yellow	Red	⬇
Ysgol Clywedog	Gwe	27.3	33.3	44.4	21.7	-5.6	Red	Amber	⬆
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	64.0	40.6	33.3	47.1	-16.9	Amber	Amber	➡
Rhosnesni High School	Gwe	21.1	25.6	20.0	30.8	9.7	Red	Red	➡
Pen-Y-Dre High School	CSW	13.9	24.4	35.7	34.3	20.4	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Porth County Community School	CSW	30.2	42.4	41.7	42.5	12.3	Amber	Red	⬇
St. Illtyd's Catholic High School	CSW	48.0	27.9	59.4	51.4	3.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pontypridd High School	CSW	45.5	23.1	29.0	35.3	-10.2	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Tonypandy Community College	CSW	17.6	24.1	30.3	40.0	22.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
Tonyrefail School	CSW	42.1	21.9	48.4	51.4	9.3	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Willows High School	CSW	43.4	38.5	48.9	55.3	11.9	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Afon Taf High School	CSW	36.4	22.6	46.4	32.0	-4.4	Amber	Amber	➡
Barry Comprehensive School	CSW	35.1	35.5	50.0	35.5	0.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
Bishop Hedley High School	CSW	45.5	54.2	36.4	35.0	-10.5	Yellow	Green	⬆
Cantonian High School	CSW	25.0	35.0	40.0	50.0	25.0	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	CSW	14.9	38.3	46.2	34.0	19.1	Red	Yellow	⬆
Eastern High School	CSW		16.2	29.7	29.8	13.6	Red	Yellow	⬆
Glyn Derw High School (v)	CSW	20.9	17.6	28.0	21.4	0.5	Red	Red (v)	➡
Michaelston Community College (v)	CSW	14.3	14.7	28.9	16.7	2.4	Red	Red (v)	➡
Hawthorn High School	CSW	19.4	31.7	46.2	52.4	33.0	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Total (mean average) (vi)		**30.3**	**33.3**	**40.9**	**34.8**	**4.4**			
All Wales		**34.5**	**39.2**	**43.6**	**38.3**	**3.8**			

Source: Welsh Government, **My Local School website** and information provided to the National Assembly Research Service. Calculations by Assembly Research Service.

Notes: i) The 2017 data is based on pupils' best result from either GCSE Mathematics or GCSE Mathematics Numeracy. The data prior to 2017 is based on the previous GCSE Mathematics.The cohort examined in 2017 were the first to undertake two new specifications of GCSE Mathematics and GCSE Mathematics Numeracy. Also, see Notes ii to vi under Table 21.

Table 27: Key Stage 4: <u>Attainment of GCSE Science</u> in Pathways to Success schools — <u>all Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of All pupils achieving A*-C in GCSE Science (i)					School Support Category		
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	2016/17 (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)	
Milford Haven School	ERW	75.4	78.9	81.5	65.7	-9.7	Amber	Red	⬇
Morriston Comprehensive	ERW	85.6	87.9	88.3	84.6	-1.0	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pentrehafod School	ERW	86.7	97.3	94.9	53.7	-33.0	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	77.6	85.1	81.4	75.3	-2.3	Yellow	Green	⬆
Bedwas High School	EAS	56.8	76.1	81.4	76.1	19.3	Amber	Red	⬇
Tredegar Comprehensive	EAS	84.4	89.0	96.3	64.5	-19.9	Amber	Green	⬆
West Monmouth School	EAS	92.1	95.1	86.7	47.9	-44.2	Amber	Amber	➡
St Cenydd School	EAS	48.4	68.6	73.1	82.9	34.5	Red	Yellow	⬆
St Julian's School	EAS	90.8	84.5	49.4	69.5	-21.3	Amber	Red	⬇
St Martin's School	EAS	74.0	85.1	93.4	88.8	14.8	Red	Yellow	⬆
Heolddu Comprehensive	EAS	96.5	98.9	91.0	59.6	-36.9	Red	Amber	⬆
Llanwern High School	EAS	92.8	95.7	23.4	38.4	-54.4	Amber	Red	⬇
Lliswerry High School	EAS	77.2	89.0	89.3	39.2	-38.0	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Abersychan Comprehensive	EAS	83.1	83.4	67.3	88.7	5.6	Amber	Red	⬇
Abertillery Comprehensive (iii)	EAS	64.7	48.4	36.8	89.1	24.4	Red	Red	➡
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	75.6	68.7	47.6	75.0	-0.6	Amber	Amber	➡
Blackwood Comprehensive	EAS	79.1	87.5	75.6	64.7	-14.4	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Cwmbran High School (iv)	EAS	90.2	86.3	87.8	92.7	2.5	Amber (2015)	Red	⬇
Ysgol Treffynnon (Holywell High School)	Gwe	87.2	97.6	95.6	71.4	-15.8	Red	Red	➡
Ysgol Bryn Alyn	Gwe	97.0	90.4	87.2	55.4	-41.6	Yellow	Red	⬇
Ysgol Clywedog	Gwe	78.6	79.3	89.3	61.5	-17.1	Red	Amber	⬆
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	93.8	93.8	86.1	71.1	-22.7	Amber	Amber	➡
Rhosnesni High School	Gwe	84.4	82.3	86.6	78.8	-5.6	Red	Red	➡
Pen-Y-Dre High School	CSW	66.1	63.5	92.8	86.0	19.9	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Porth County Community School	CSW	85.9	88.8	90.4	95.1	9.2	Amber	Red	⬇
St. Illtyd's Catholic High School	CSW	82.3	79.6	96.3	95.7	13.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pontypridd High School	CSW	72.6	63.6	87.6	65.9	-6.7	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Tonypandy Community College	CSW	86.4	87.5	74.8	91.8	5.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
Tonyrefail School	CSW	96.3	96.9	97.9	98.7	2.4	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Willows High School	CSW	60.5	59.4	95.1	49.0	-11.5	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Afon Taf High School	CSW	93.3	95.2	96.6	92.2	-1.1	Amber	Amber	➡
Barry Comprehensive School	CSW	83.7	87.5	89.9	76.0	-7.7	Red	Yellow	⬆
Bishop Hedley High School	CSW	99.1	99.0	95.2	73.6	-25.5	Yellow	Green	⬆
Cantonian High School	CSW	84.0	66.3	54.9	81.6	-2.4	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	CSW	92.0	81.2	88.9	87.4	-4.6	Red	Yellow	⬆
Eastern High School	CSW	48.0	34.8	31.6	24.0	-24.0	Red	Yellow	⬆
Glyn Derw High School (v)	CSW	51.3	72.7	30.3	31.3	-20.0	Red	Red (v)	➡
Michaelston Community College (v)	CSW	57.9	76.7	37.1	23.2	-34.7	Red	Red (v)	➡
Hawthorn High School	CSW	70.6	81.5	86.8	92.5	21.9	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Total (mean average) (vi)		**79.5**	**81.6**	**77.9**	**70.7**	**-8.8**			
All Wales		**82.3**	**84.0**	**82.4**	**75.6**	**-6.7**			

Source: Welsh Government, **My Local School website** and information provided to the National Assembly Research Service. Calculations by Assembly Research Service.

Notes: i) Figures include single or double science, or vocational equivalent. From 2018, vocational science qualifications will not count towards the Capped Points score, which is a key performance measure. It is possible that this has brought about a shift away from entries for vocational science qualifications towards GCSE Science qualifications, in anticipation of the changes in 2018. Also, see Notes ii to vi under Table 21.

Table 28: Key Stage 4: <u>Attainment of GCSE Science</u> in Pathways to Success schools – <u>eFSM Pupils</u>

School	Consortia	% of eFSM pupils achieving A*-C in GCSE Science (i)					School Support Category		
		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (ii)	2016/17 (ii)	% Point Change 2013/14 - 2016/17 (i) (ii)	2013/14 (Jan 2015)	2016/17 (Feb 2018)	
Milford Haven School	ERW	66.7	72.5	69.0	42.3	-24.4	Amber	Red	⬇
Morriston Comprehensive	ERW	67.5	74.3	69.0	68.2	0.7	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pentrehafod School	ERW	79.1	93.0	91.5	37.5	-41.6	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Ysgol Bro Dinefwr	ERW	57.1	65.0	61.1	45.0	-12.1	Yellow	Green	⬆
Bedwas High School	EAS	30.4	57.7	81.5	63.2	32.8	Amber	Red	⬇
Tredegar Comprehensive	EAS	63.6	82.0	93.1	42.9	-20.7	Amber	Green	⬆
West Monmouth School	EAS	83.9	86.4	96.2	14.3	-69.6	Amber	Amber	➡
St Cenydd School	EAS	26.1	36.6	65.7	55.9	29.8	Red	Yellow	⬆
St Julian's School	EAS	82.0	79.1	35.1	51.2	-30.8	Amber	Red	⬇
St Martin's School	EAS	72.2	65.5	100.0	70.4	-1.8	Red	Yellow	⬆
Heolddu Comprehensive	EAS	97.2	100.0	82.1	52.0	-45.2	Red	Amber	⬆
Llanwern High School	EAS	92.7	94.7	21.7	31.1	-61.6	Amber	Red	⬇
Lliswerry High School	EAS	59.6	87.8	82.2	21.9	-37.7	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Abersychan Comprehensive	EAS	63.0	78.4	47.2	86.1	23.1	Amber	Red	⬇
Abertillery Comprehensive (iii)	EAS	61.7	36.8	20.0	76.9	15.2	Red	Red	➡
Ebbw Fawr Learning Community	EAS	50.0	65.4	36.4	57.1	7.1	Amber	Amber	➡
Blackwood Comprehensive	EAS	56.3	75.0	62.9	40.0	-16.3	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Cwmbran High School (iv)	EAS			81.8	80.9	-0.9	Amber (2015)	Red	⬇
Ysgol Treffynnon (Holywell High School)	Gwe	77.8	94.4	88.9	61.5	-16.3	Red	Red	➡
Ysgol Bryn Alyn	Gwe	100.0	81.5	93.1	23.3	-76.7	Yellow	Red	⬇
Ysgol Clywedog	Gwe	70.5	76.7	81.5	43.5	-27.0	Red	Amber	⬆
Ysgol Uwchradd Caergybi	Gwe	92.0	87.5	83.3	58.8	-33.2	Amber	Amber	➡
Rhosnesni High School	Gwe	60.5	74.4	68.6	74.4	13.9	Red	Red	➡
Pen-Y-Dre High School	CSW	58.3	51.2	96.4	77.1	18.8	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Porth County Community School	CSW	76.7	78.8	83.3	90.0	13.3	Amber	Red	⬇
St. Illtyd's Catholic High School	CSW	76.0	74.4	93.8	91.9	15.9	Red	Yellow	⬆
Pontypridd High School	CSW	45.5	23.1	67.7	38.2	-7.3	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Tonypandy Community College	CSW	82.4	82.8	54.5	92.0	9.6	Red	Yellow	⬆
Tonyrefail School	CSW	89.5	90.6	96.8	97.3	7.8	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Willows High School	CSW	50.9	49.2	89.4	44.7	-6.2	Yellow	Yellow	➡
Afon Taf High School	CSW	81.8	93.5	96.4	92.0	10.2	Amber	Amber	➡
Barry Comprehensive School	CSW	64.9	77.4	81.3	54.8	-10.1	Red	Yellow	⬆
Bishop Hedley High School	CSW	100.0	100.0	100.0	70.0	-30.0	Yellow	Green	⬆
Cantonian High School	CSW	78.6	50.0	53.3	80.0	1.4	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	CSW	85.1	61.7	82.7	78.7	-6.4	Red	Yellow	⬆
Eastern High School	CSW		25.7	27.0	21.1	-4.6	Red	Yellow	⬆
Glyn Derw High School (v)	CSW	37.2	67.6	28.0	17.9	-19.3	Red	Red (v)	➡
Michaelston Community College (v)	CSW	51.4	82.4	26.3	16.7	-34.7	Red	Red (v)	➡
Hawthorn High School	CSW	54.8	75.6	82.1	85.7	30.9	Amber	Yellow	⬆
Total (mean average) (vi)		**68.7**	**72.3**	**71.0**	**57.6**	**-11.1**			
All Wales		**71.5**	**74.4**	**71.8**	**57.1**	**-14.4**			

Source: Welsh Government, **My Local School website** and information provided to the National Assembly Research Service. Calculations by Assembly Research Service.

Notes: i) Figures include single or double science, or vocational equivalent. From 2018, vocational science qualifications will not count towards the Capped Points score, which is a key performance measure. It is possible that this has brought about a shift away from entries for vocational science qualifications towards GCSE Science qualifications, in anticipation of the changes in 2018. Also, see Notes ii to vi under Table 21.

Attainment in GCSE core subjects in Pathways to Success schools: Summary analysis across Wales

Due to changes in the Level 2 threshold and Level 2 threshold inclusive performance measures, this analysis of the continuing impact of the Schools Challenge Cymru programme in academic year 2016/17 focuses on attainment rates in individual core subjects during the three years of the programme. Attention should be paid to the notes accompanying Tables 21-28 regarding changes to performance measures, when reading the analysis below.

Between 2013/14 and 2016/17:

− **19 out of 39** schools **across Wales** showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE English**. 4 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

− **21 out of 39** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE English**. 9 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

− **0 out of 2** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh (First Language)**.

− **0 out of 2** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh (First Language)**.

− **23 out of 39** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Maths**. 9 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

− **24 out of 39** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Maths**. 14 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

− **12 out of 39** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Science**. 7 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

− **15 out of 39** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Science**. 10 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

− **20 out of 39** schools **improved** their **School Support Category**.

− **8 out of 39** schools experienced a **deterioration** in their **School Support Category**.

Summary analysis by Regional Consortia

ERW - Education through Regional Working - (Swansea, Neath Port Talbot, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, Powys, Ceredigion)

Between 2013/14 and 2016/17:

− **3 out of 4** schools in **South West and Mid Wales** showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE English**. One of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

− **2 out of 4** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE English.** One of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

− **0 out of 1** school showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh (First Language)**.

− **0 out of 1** school showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh (First Language).**

- **3 out of 4** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Maths**. One of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **2 out of 4** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Maths**.

- **0 out of 4** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Science**.

- **1 out of 4** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Science**.

- **2 out of 4** schools **improved** their **School Support Category**.

- **1 out of 4** schools experienced a **deterioration** in their **School Support Category**.

EAS - South East Wales Education Achievement Service - (Caerphilly, Monmouthshire, Newport, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen)

Between 2013/14 and 2016/17:

- **7 out of 14** schools in **South East Wales** showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE English**. 2 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **9 out of 14** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE English.** 4 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **9 out of 14** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Maths**. 4 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **8 out of 14** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Maths**. 6 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **6 out of 14** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Science**. 4 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **5 out of 14** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Science**. 4 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **6 out of 14** schools **improved** their **School Support Category**.

- **5 out of 14** schools experienced a **deterioration** in their **School Support Category**.

GwE - Regional School Effectiveness & Improvement Service for North Wales - (Flintshire, Conwy, Wrexham, Gwynedd, Isle of Anglesey, Denbighshire)

Between 2013/14 and 2016/17:

- **1 out of 5** schools in **North Wales** showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE English**.

- **2 out of 5** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE English.**

- **0 out of 1** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh (First Language)**.

- **0 out of 1** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Welsh (First Language).**

- **0 out of 5** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Maths**.

- **1 out of 5** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Maths**.

- **0 out of 5** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Science**.

- **1 out of 5** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Science**. This school had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **1 out of 5** schools **improved** their **School Support Category**.

- **1 out of 5** schools experienced a **deterioration** in their **School Support Category**.

CSW - Central South Consortium Joint Education Service - (Bridgend, Cardiff, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Vale of Glamorgan)

Between 2013/14 and 2016/17:

- **8 out of 16** schools in **Central South Wales** showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE English**. One of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **8 out of 16** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE English.** 4 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **11 out of 16** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Maths**. 4 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **13 out of 16** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Maths**. 8 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **6 out of 16** schools showed an improvement in attainment of **grades A*-C in GCSE Science**. 3 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **8 out of 16** schools showed an improvement in **eFSM pupils' attainment of grades A*-C in GCSE Science**. 5 of these had more than a 10 percentage point increase.

- **11 out of 16** schools **improved** their **School Support Category**.

- **1 out of 16** schools experienced a **deterioration** in their **School Support Category**