

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

Select Committee on Lifelong Learning – 15 March 2005

Report of the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning

Standards in Dudley Schools (2004 Key Stage 4 Results)

Purpose

1. To present the latest data available on the performance of schools in the Borough in relation to:
 - Key Stage 4 National Curriculum assessment
 - Key Stage 4 Ethnic Minority assessment data
 - Pupils in Public Care assessment data

Background

2. The results for individual schools can be found in the Key Stage 4 Performance Tables print-out that has been made available by the DfES and is enclosed with this report (Appendix 1).
3. The latest (January 2005) results available for 2004 are:

	Dudley	National
5+ A* - C GCSE Grades	51.1%	53.7%
Average Points Score	281.4	283.0
5 A* - G GCSE Grades	91.0%	88.8%
Key Stage 2-4 Value Added	993.2	985.8
Key Stage 3-4 Value Added	995.2	990.6

4. The percentage of 5+ A* - C GCSE passes declined by 0.1% in 2004. The percentage of 5 A* - G grades declined by 0.5%. There are new methods of calculating average points scores and value added information.
5. A new scoring system has been developed by QCA to allow for the inclusion of a much wider range of qualifications in a pupil's end-of-Key Stage 4 results. The new scoring system has led to significant changes in the way the average points score is calculated. In the old system, for example, a GCSE at grade G

was worth 1 point – in the new system it is worth 16. An A* in the old system was worth 8 points and in the new system 58 points. Over 3,000 qualifications have been given a point score and can be included in the calculations.

6. Statistical Neighbours
(See Table 1 – page 4)
7. Geographical Neighbours
(See Table 1 – page 4)
8. 'Value added' is a way of measuring the progress a pupil makes between one stage of education and the next. The progress a school helps pupils to make, compared to their different starting points, allows comparison between groups of schools with different pupil intakes.

The new point score, which was developed to allow the inclusion of the wider range of approved qualifications, has resulted in the need for the value added measure to be centred around 1000, instead of 100, as in previous years.

A value added measure of 1006.0 means that, on average, each of the group's pupils has achieved one grade higher in one GCSE than the average (median) pupil with similar Key Stage 3 or Key Stage 2 prior attainment. Similarly, a value added measure of 994.0 would suggest that, on average, the group's pupils have achieved one grade lower in one GCSE than the average (median) pupil with the same Key Stage 3 or Key Stage 2 prior attainment.

9. Value Added Key Stages 2-4
(See Table 2 – page 5)
10. Value Added Key Stages 3-4
(See Table 3 – page 6)
11. Ethnic Minority Results
(See Table 4 – page 7)

Pupils in Public Care

12. Key Stage 4 Results 2004

Number in Cohort 24	5+ A* - C GCSE	5+ A* - G GCSE
	0%	47%

Finance

13. The work of the School Effectiveness Division and Access and Inclusion Division are financed from base budget together with some Standards Grant funding.

Law

14. The contents of this report is incidental to, conducive to, facilitates the discharge of its functions under Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 which is incidental to its education functions under the Education Acts.

Equal Opportunities

15. This report takes account of the Council's policy on equal opportunities.

Recommendations

16. It is recommended that the Select Committee note this Report.



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Background Papers

Information has been taken from various DfES statistical data packages. They are available on request from Westox House.