

Birmingham Students are doing well at Secondary School

In 2017 the average overall Progress 8 score for Birmingham is once again above national average, this means that children, whatever their starting point make more progress while at secondary school on average than those nationally.

2017 Revised key stage 4	Birmingham	National
All pupils	-0.01	-0.03
Disadvantaged pupils	-0.18	-0.4
Non Disadvantaged pupils	0.15	0.11

Data taken from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/revised-gcse-and-equivalent-results-in-england-2016-to-2017>

Where Birmingham really shines however is in the progress of its disadvantaged pupils. In 2017 not only did we outperform that national average for this group but our young people and teachers collectively outperform those in all other major cities outside London.

Disadvantaged Progress 8	2017
National	-0.40
Core Cities Average	-0.36
Birmingham	-0.18
Leeds	-0.29
Manchester	-0.33
Sheffield	-0.35
Bristol, City of	-0.58
Nottingham	-0.61
Newcastle upon Tyne	-0.62
Liverpool	-0.62

Data taken from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/revised-gcse-and-equivalent-results-in-england-2016-to-2017>

Birmingham has also outperformed all other local authorities in the West Midlands for this pupil group.

Disadvantaged Progress 8	2017
National	-0.40
West Midlands Average	-0.39
Birmingham	-0.18
Wolverhampton	-0.34
Stoke-on-Trent	-0.38
Sandwell	-0.39
Coventry	-0.43
Warwickshire	-0.45
Telford and Wrekin	-0.47
Shropshire	-0.51
Dudley	-0.51
Worcestershire	-0.52
Staffordshire	-0.53
Solihull	-0.55
Herefordshire, County of	-0.55
Walsall	-0.62

Data taken from <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/revised-gcse-and-equivalent-results-in-england-2016-to-2017>

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The gap between the progress that disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged children make is also the smallest in Birmingham against core cites and the West Midlands, suggesting that Birmingham is beginning to buck the trend of endless cycles of poverty.

There are many non-selective mixed schools in Birmingham where disadvantaged pupils have consistently made more relative progress than their non-disadvantaged counterparts.

Disadvantaged Progress 8	2016	2017
Non Disadvantaged National	0.10	0.11
Disadvantaged National	-0.38	-0.40
Disadvantaged Birmingham	-0.14	-0.18
Al-Hijrah School	0.45	0.35
Ark St Alban's Academy	0.76	0.47
Aston Manor Academy	0.64	0.18
Four Dwellings Academy	0.40	0.22
George Dixon Academy	0.20	0.22
Heartlands Academy	0.19	0.32
Holyhead School	0.32	0.12
Saltley Academy	0.36	0.23
Washwood Heath Academy	0.15	0.16

Data taken from revised performance tables 2017

In addition the following non-selective mixed schools students have consistently achieved excellent results, not only for progress but also in attainment with particularly strong showings for its disadvantaged students.

2017 Revised key stage 4	Attainment 8		Progress 8	
	All Pupils	Disadvantaged	All Pupils	Disadvantaged
National	46.3	37.0	-0.03	-0.40
Birmingham	46.1	40.1	-0.01	-0.18
Al-Hijrah School	51.9	52.4	0.43	0.35
Queensbridge School	49.2	44.7	0.43	0.33
Rockwood Academy	47.1	45.3	0.81	0.76

Data taken from revised performance tables 2017

If social mobility is a top priority for the Government, then Birmingham secondary schools should be centre stage!

The Birmingham Education partnership points out: "As a city we ought to be celebrating the relentless hard work of so many schools achieving great results for young people, especially when they come from the kinds of families who across the country are least likely to succeed".