
EDUCATIONAL PERFORMANCE IN DARLINGTON

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an analysis of educational performance in Darlington and explain the new performance measures that were introduced in summer 2016.

Summary

2. In Darlington the majority of schools are academies or Free schools. There are now four maintained primary schools, two nursery schools and a Pupil Referral Unit maintained by the local authority. Although the majority of schools are now academies, the local authority still has oversight of and is responsible for promoting high educational standards. (Section 13 and 13A Education Act 1996 and section 60 of Education and Inspections Act 2006).
3. The Department for Education (DfE) introduced new performance measures in 2016. It is therefore not possible to compare Darlington's performance with previous years in key Stages 1, 2 and 4. These new measures will be used to monitor school performance by agencies such as Ofsted and the DfE. A revised Ofsted inspection framework was also issued in September 2016.
4. In March 2016, the DfE published revised guidance for local authorities and Regional Schools Commissioners. (Schools Causing Concern: intervening in failing, underperforming and coasting schools). The role and responsibility of the RSC is summarised on page 26 of the document. *RSCs are responsible for addressing underperformance in academies, so will take action in line with the funding agreement for the academy in question. RSCs will hold academies to account for underperformance just as robustly as they would for maintained schools.*
5. The data used in this report is from the DfE's Local Authority Interactive Tool (LAIT) and is based on 2016 validated data.
6. In the Early Years the proportion of children achieving a Good Level of Development (GLD) has increased year on year since 2014. Darlington is now above the national average. In Key Stage 1 teacher assessments, Darlington is above the national average in all subjects. In Key Stage 2, Darlington's performance is above the national average in all subjects except writing which is in

line with the national average. The RSC has been notified formally of two schools that are below the attainment and progress floor standards in the primary phase.

7. GCSE results, after a 'blip' in 2015, are now above the national average for 5+A*- C including English and mathematics. For the newly introduced measure of Progress 8, Darlington's score of - 0.39 is very low compared to -0.03 nationally. The Attainment 8 score at 48.4 is just below the score for all schools nationally which is 48.5. The proportion of pupils achieving a Grade C or better in English and mathematics is 61.6% compared to the national average of 59.3%.
8. The report this year includes analysis on narrowing the attainment gaps. From the Early Years to the end of Key Stage 2, girls outperform boys in all subjects. The attainment gap between pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND) with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) compared to other pupils is wide. For pupils on SEN support the gap is not as wide. In key Stage 1, performance in Phonics has improved significantly for pupils with a statement and/or EHCP. The gap has started to decrease but it is still wide compared to other pupils.
9. The proportion of 16 and 17 year olds participation in education and training has stayed above the national and regional averages for the last three years. The average point score per A level entry is less than a percentage point of the national average. Darlington's performance is above the regional average on this indicator.

Suzanne Joyner
Director for Children and Adult Services

Background Papers

No background papers were used in this report.

Steve Nyakatawa : Extension 5637

S17 Crime and Disorder	Participation in education, employment and training potential to reduce levels of crime and disorder
Health and Well Being	Engagement in education positive benefits on Health and Well Being
Carbon Impact	Does not apply
Diversity	No issues around diversity to be addressed
Wards Affected	All
Groups Affected	Children and Young People
Budget and Policy Framework	Does not apply
Key Decision	This not a key decision
Urgent Decision	No
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	Contributes to: <i>Children with a best start in life</i>
Efficiency	Does not apply

MAIN REPORT

Summary of educational performance for the academic year 2015/16

Early Years Foundation Stage

10. There are two national indicators are used for the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile.
11. A “**Good Level of Development**” (GLD). This is based on the percentage of children reaching the expected level or above, in the 3 Prime Learning Goals (Communication & Language; Personal, Social & Emotional Development and Physical Development) as well as reaching the expected level or above in Literacy and Mathematics.

Average Total Point Score

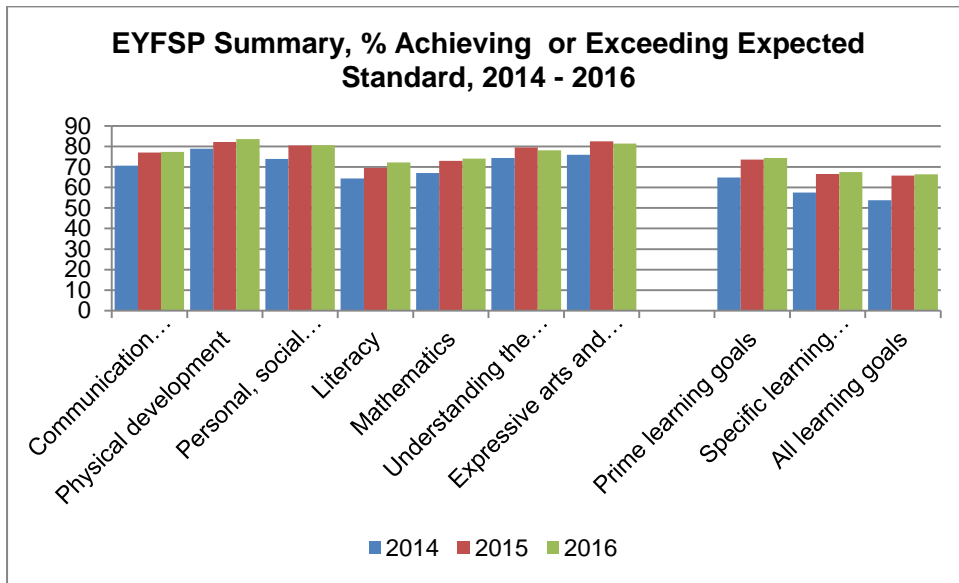
12. If a child is at the emerging level in an Early Learning Goal (ELG), they receive 1 point; if they are reaching the expected level they receive 2 points and if they exceeding the ELG, they receive 3 points.

Proportion achieving a Good Level of Development (GLD)

	2014	2015	2016
Darlington	55.30	66.20	69.60
England	60.40	66.30	69.30
North East	55.8	63.10	68.40

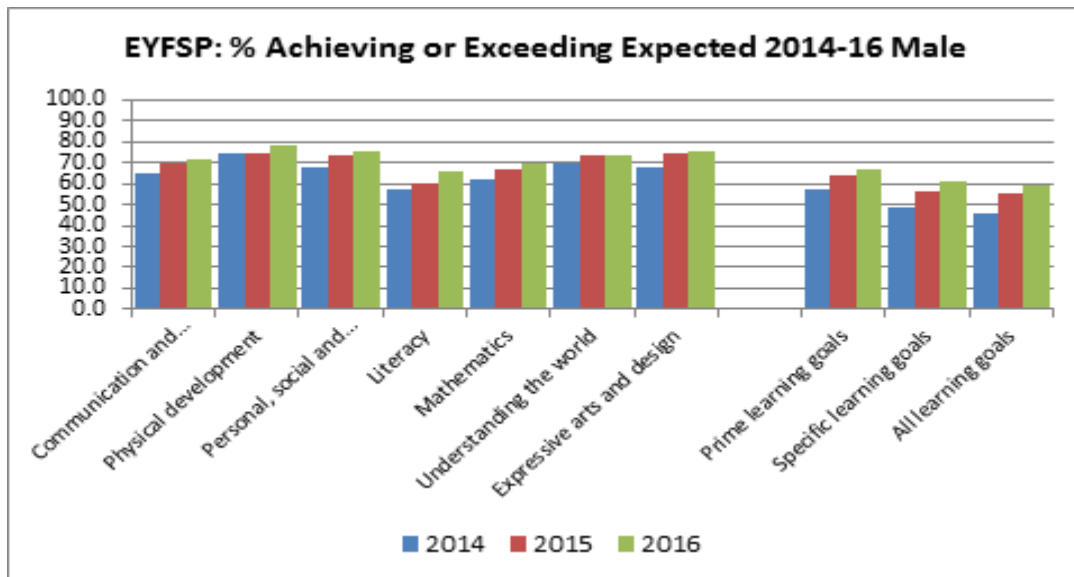
13. The proportion of children achieving a Good Level of Development has improved year on year for the last three years. Performance in 2014 was below the national average but by 2016, Darlington’s performance is now just above the national average.

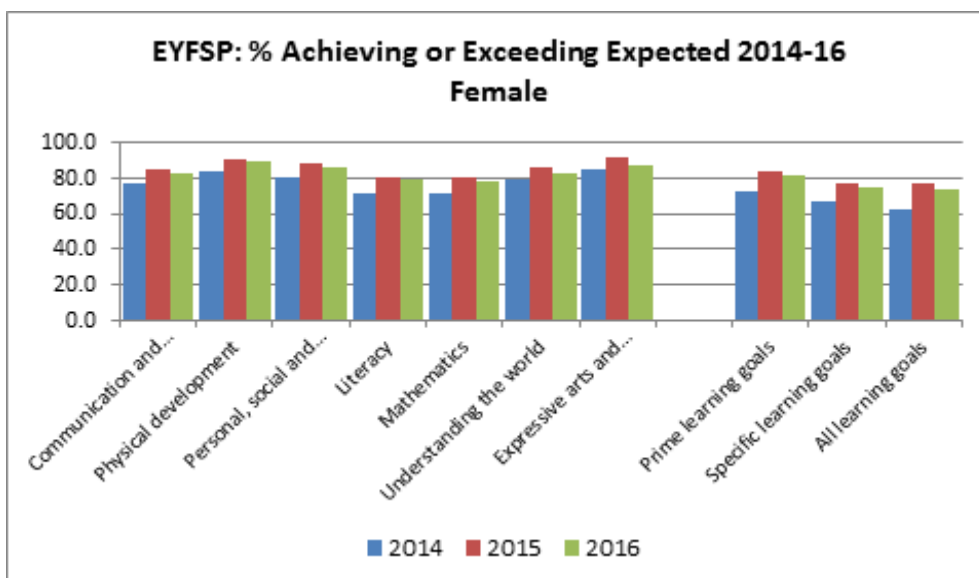
The proportion of children achieving the expected standard across all Early Learning Goals (ELGs)



14. There was a large improvement in performance in all indicators between 2014 and 2015; this improvement has continued during 2016 in all but 2 indicators, with small decreases in performance in understanding the world, and expressive arts and design. In 2016 66.4% of children were achieving or exceeding expected standard in all learning goals, an increase of 0.4% from 2015 and 12.4% from 2014.

Narrowing the Gap





15. In 2016, females outperformed males in every EYFSP indicator. Although the performance gap is still relatively large, it has reversed the trend since 2014 of a widening gap in performance between males and females. In 2014, the average gap in performance was 13.7%; this had increased to 17.5% in 2015, but as of 2016 has fallen to 12.3%. As in 2015, the largest performance gap is in literacy.

Key Stage 1 (Teacher Assessment)

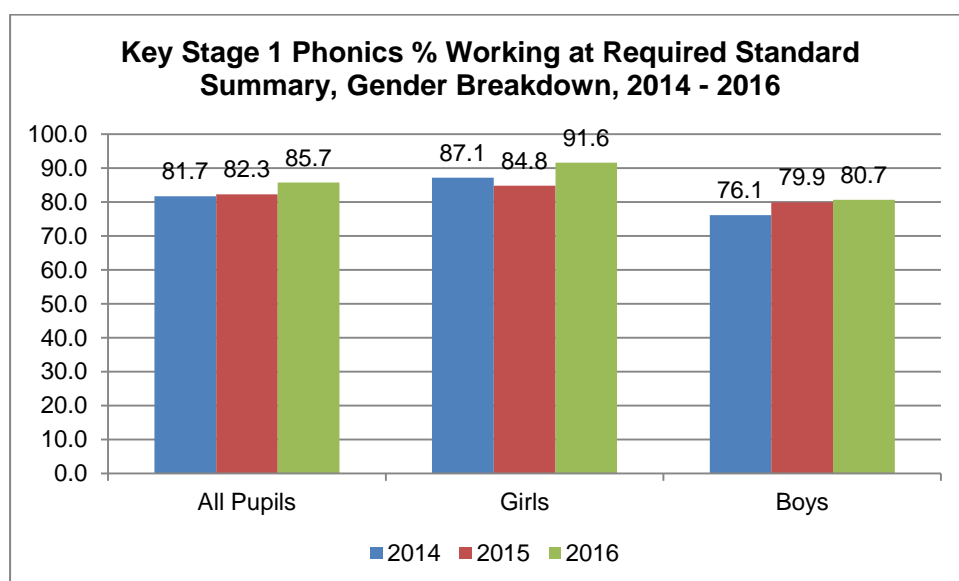
16. New performance measures were introduced in Key Stage 1. Levels were previously used to measure performance and because of the changes; comparisons cannot be made with previous years.

Percentage achieving expected standard Key Stage 1

% Expected Standard	Darlington	National*
Reading	75.0	74.0
Writing	68.0	65.0
Maths	75.0	73.0
Science	84.0	82.0
RWM	63.0	60.0

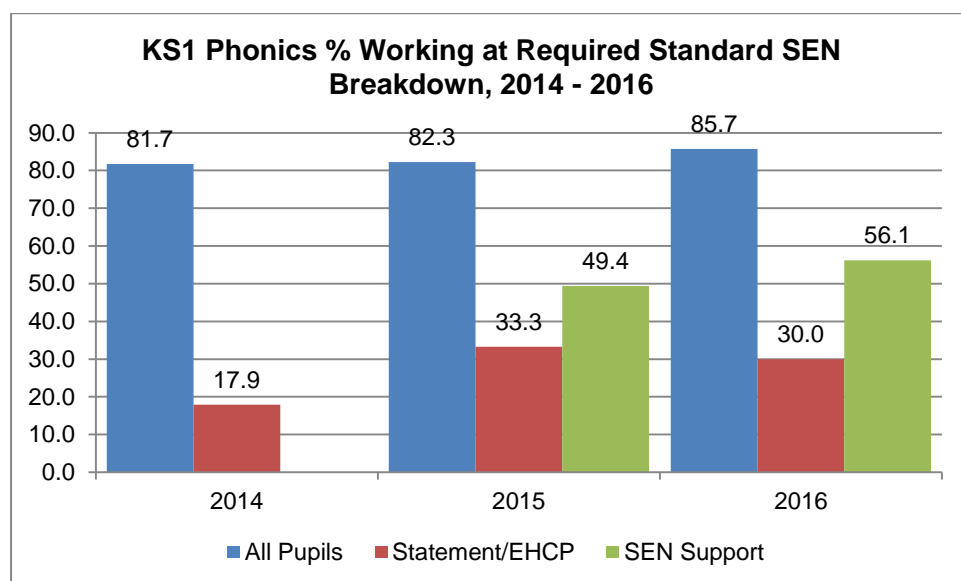
17. The Key Stage 1 Teacher Assessments show that Darlington pupils are achieving higher than all pupils nationally in all subjects.

Narrowing the Gap

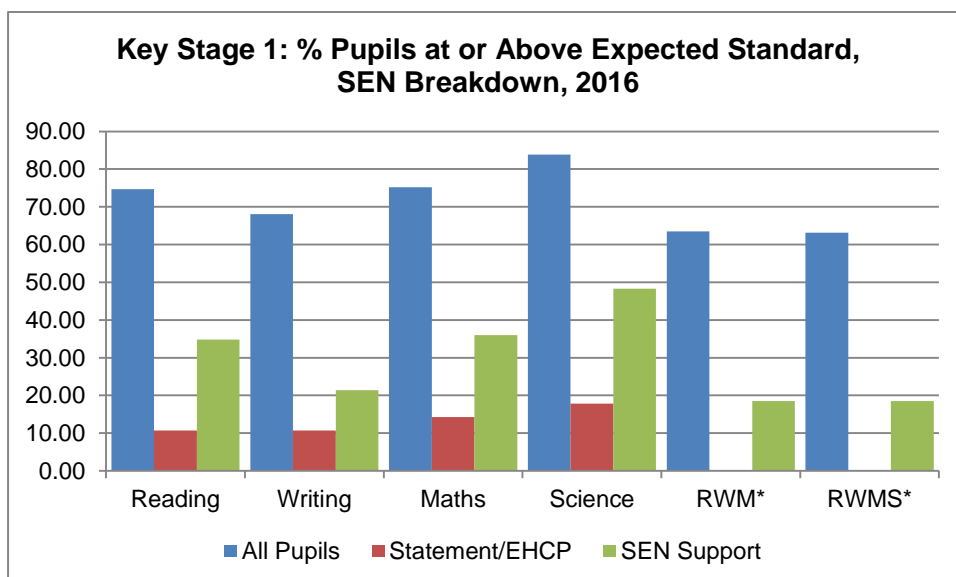


18. Performance in Phonics has improved year on year since 2014, rising by 4% between 2014 and 2016. The performance gap between males and females has stayed reasonably stable, reducing slightly from 11% to 10.9% between 2014 and 2016.

SEN Analysis Key Stage 1



19. Performance in Key Stage 1 Phonics improved among pupils with a Statement/EHCP from 17.9% in 2014 to 30% in 2016, an increase of 12.1%, compared to an increase of 4% for all pupils. This means that the performance gap between pupils with a Statement/EHCP and all pupils has started to decrease.



20. The large performance gap between all pupils and pupils with a Statement/EHCP seen in phonics continues across all KS1 subjects with an average performance gap of 62.06% and the largest performance gap being in Science. The performance gap between all pupils and pupils receiving SEN Support is slightly smaller, with an average performance gap of 41.82%.

Key Stage 2 (Tests)

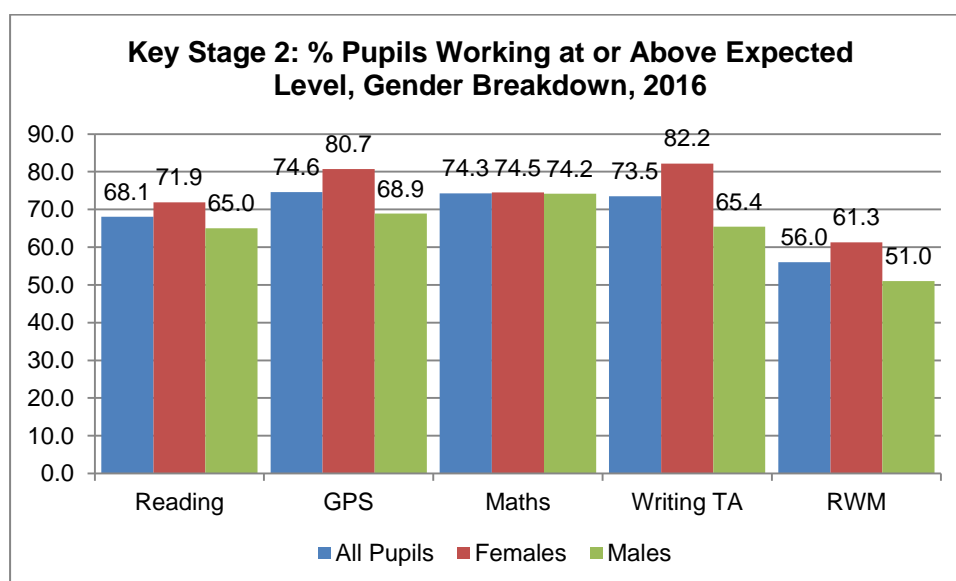
21. The progress measure in Key Stage 2 is based on value-added in each of reading, writing and mathematics. Each pupil's scaled scores in each area will be compared with the scores of pupils who had the same results in their assessments at the end of Key Stage 1.
22. The attainment standard is based on the proportion of pupils reaching the new expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics. To reach the new expected standard, each pupil will be required to attain a scaled score of 100 or more in the tests in reading and mathematics, as well as being assessed by their teacher as reaching the new expected standard in writing.
23. A school will be above the attainment floor standard if 65% of pupils reach the new expected standard in each area. As this is the first time this measure has been used, comparisons cannot be made with previous years' results.

24. Proportion of pupils reaching the expected standard Key Stage 2

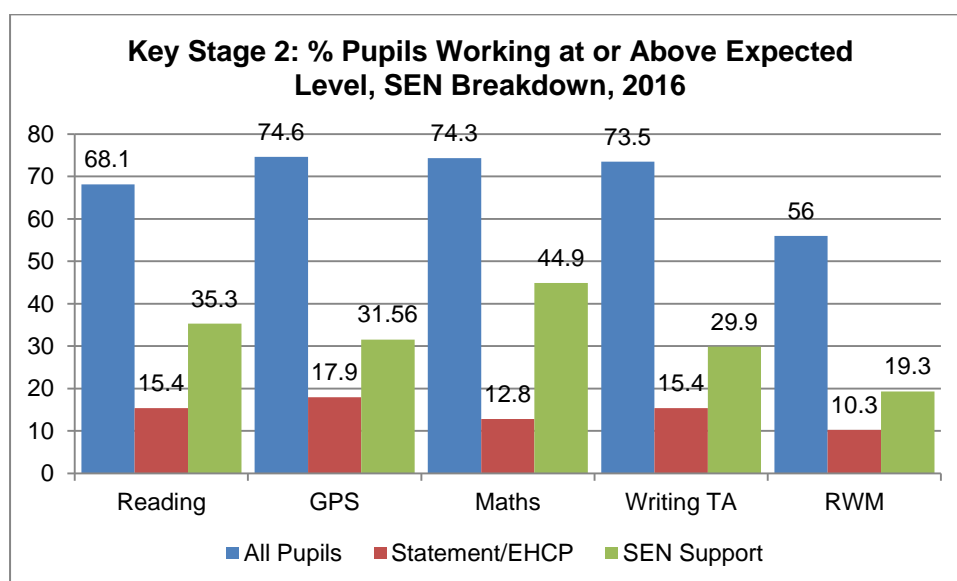
% Expected Standard	Darlington	National*
Reading	69.0	66.0
GPS	75.0	73.0
Maths	74.0	70.0
Writing (TA)	74.0	74.0
RWM	56.0	53.0

25. Reading results show that 69% of Darlington pupils have achieved the expected standard compared to 66% nationally. Darlington's average scaled score was 103 compared to 102.6 nationally. (The scale score benchmark is 100).
26. 75% of Darlington pupils achieved the expected standard in Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation compared to 73% nationally. The average scaled score was 104.4 compared to 104 nationally.
27. 74% of Darlington pupils achieved the expected standard in mathematics compared to 70% nationally. The average scaled score for this subject was 103.9 compared to 103 nationally.
28. 74% of Darlington pupils achieved the expected standard in writing based on Teacher Assessments this is in line with the expected standard nationally. Darlington is less than a percentage point below the national average.
29. 56% of Darlington pupils achieved the expected standard for Reading, Writing and Mathematics (combined) compared to 53% nationally.

Narrowing the Gap



30. As with Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, girls outperform boys in every performance measure. At Key Stage 2 the average performance gap is 9.2% and the largest performance gap is in writing. Boys' poor performance in writing and/or literacy is depressing results in the Early Years and in the primary phase.



31. The average performance gap between pupils with a Statement/EHCP and all pupils is 54.9%, with the largest gap being in Maths. The average performance gap between pupils receiving SEN Support and all pupils was smaller at 36.74%, with the largest gap being in Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling, and Writing.

Key Stage 4

32. The new headline accountability measures for General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) are Progress 8, Attainment 8 and attainment in English and mathematics and the English Baccalaureate (Ebacc).
33. In future, the proportion of students achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A* to C including English and mathematics will not be used.
34. Progress 8 is based on students' progress, measured across 8 subjects from KS2 to KS4. A negative Progress 8 score indicates that a child has not progressed as well as their peer group between KS2 and KS4, while a positive Progress 8 score indicates that a pupil has progressed better than their peer group between KS2 and KS4.
35. The table below shows the results for schools in Darlington shows the proportion of pupils achieving 5+ A-C including English and mathematics.

	2014	2015	2016
Darlington	56.90	52.50	56.70
England	53.40	53.80	53.50

36. After a blip in performance in 2015, Darlington's performance on this measure is now above the national average.

Attainment 8 and Progress 8 Scores

	2015	2016
Darlington	46.50	48.40
England	47.40	48.50

Darlington's performance based on this measure is just below the England average.

Progress 8 Scores

Darlington	-0.39
England	-0.14

Darlington has a lower Attainment 8 and Progress 8 scores compared to national scores.

Percentage of Pupils Achieving the English Baccalaureate

	2014	2015	2016
Darlington	23.30	17.70	23.9
England	22.80	22.90	24.7

37. 61.6% of Darlington pupils achieved an A* - C in English and Maths, this is above the national average figure of 59.3%.

38. 23.9% of Darlington pupils achieved the English Baccalaureate, compared to 24.7% nationally. Compared to 2015, Darlington has improved its performance by 6.2%.

Narrowing the Gap

Pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability

	Cohort	Attainment 8	Progress 8	A* - C E&M	% Achieving EBacc
All Pupils	1139	48.4	-0.39	61.6%	23.9%
EHCP	4	1.88	-0.66	0.0%	0.0%
SEN Support	156	34.91	-0.65	26.9%	10.3%
Statement	36	14.11	-1.04	8.3%	0.0%

39. As at other Key Stages, there is a large performance gap between pupils with a Statement or EHCP and their peers, with 0% achieving the English Baccalaureate, 0% of pupils with an EHCP achieving A*-C in English and Maths, and Progress 8 scores of -0.66 and -1.04 respectively. The performance gap between all pupils and pupils with SEN Support is smaller.

Post-16 Learning and skills

Participation

40. Participation in education and training by 16 and 17 year olds continues to rise and sits above the national and north east average. (Within these figures, participation at age 16 has stabilised at around 95-96% whilst participation at 17 continues to rise. Only 5.5% of all 16 and 17 year olds go into apprenticeships, although this is still above the national average.)

Percentage Participating in education and training 2012 -2016

Percentage of 16-17 year olds in education and training	Dec 2012	Dec 2013	Dec 2014	Dec 2015	June 2016
Darlington	80.1	90.1	92.7	93.2	92.9
North East	88.8	90.4	91.5	93.0	91.7
England	87.9	89.8	90.2	91.2	91.0

Attainment 16-18 Advanced Level

Measure	Darlington 2016	England Average	North East	Position against England Average
Average point score per A level entry	31.58	31.79	29.1	Below

41. Performance in Darlington at A level is slightly below the National average. Due to a change in the calculation of average points score, it is difficult to compare current data to previous.

Attainment by Age 19

42. Darlington has made significant progress in increasing achievement of Level 2 qualifications by age 19 (In 2015 89.1% had a Level 2 qualification by age 19, 3.3% above the regional average and 3.1% above the national average). In 2015 achievement of Level 3 by age 19 fell in Darlington from 57.6% to 54.5%. This was 2.7% above the regional average but 2.9% below the national average.

Summary

43. Despite the overall positive headline performance figures for Darlington across all Key Stages, these figures mask attainment and progress gaps for gender and for vulnerable groups such as pupils with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability. The impact of the new assessment and accountability measures has yet to be evaluated particularly the Progress 8 measure.