

Committee	Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee
Title of Report	Report on summer results 2017
Date of meeting	26 September 2017
Relevant Officer	Garem Jackson, Head of Education
Relevant Cabinet Member	Councillor Gareth Thomas

Introduction

The main purpose of the report is to present information at an early stage to elected members on performance at end of key stages for the 2016/2017 school year. It is emphasised that it is initial information on KS4 results that is shared, and that thus far, there is no access to comparative and benchmark data for each key stage. It is proposed to update the following when full information is available. Therefore care is required when considering the information as neither the analyses nor the comparisons will be completed at a national level until around the end of the year.

However, gaining early access to the type of information included in the report, as well as the opportunity to ask further questions, is an important contribution to the self-evaluation process, and to be able to answer the types of questions listed below:

- How does the Authority's performance compare with the performance in 2016?
- How does the Authority's performance compare with the targets set for 2017?
- Is performance in the core subjects similar?
- AT which key stage is performance at its best? Which aspects require improvements?

Elected Members are requested to scrutinise the contents of the report to be able to answer the types of questions noted above.

Contextual information

Table 1 indicates the % of statutory school-age pupils who are entitled to free school meals in Gwynedd over the past five years in comparison with Wales.

Table 1

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Gwynedd	13.7%	12.9%	13.3%	13.0%	12.4%
Wales	19.5%	19.1%	18.8%	18.4%	17.8%
Gwynedd's position (1 = % lowest FSM)	5	4	4	4	4

The position denotes Gwynedd's ranking in comparison with other Welsh authorities, with the lowest position indicating the lowest percentage of 5-15 year old pupils who are entitled to receive FSM. The table suggests that, if it is accepted that entitlement to free schools meals is an appropriate indicator of deprivation, Gwynedd's performance should be around fourth amongst authorities in Wales i.e. corresponding to the free schools meals position.

Commentary on performance of Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2.

Foundation Phase

Table 2

Percentage of pupils who achieved the Foundation Phase Indicator (FPI)

	2015	2016	2017
Gwynedd	86.8%	86.8%	86.6%
Wales	86.8%	87.0%	87.3%
Position (expected = 4)	11	14	15

- There was a small reduction of -0.2% in the FPI performance compared with 2016, to 86.6% This placed Gwynedd 15th out of the 22 Authorities, one position lower than last year and 11 lower than the expected national FSM position. An increase was seen of +0.8% regionally and +0.3% nationally.
- In light of the regional and national results the performance is disappointing. Input was given to improve performance during 2016-17 via training and to ensure challenging activities in the FP areas. Guidance was also given on FP assessment to each school.
- The influence of this guidance does not appear as influential in FP as it was in KS2.
- In comparison with other LAs in north Wales Gwynedd's position was as follows: FPI: 3rd; Language – Welsh D5+: 5th; Language – Welsh D6+: 1st; Mathematical Development D5: 3rd; Mathematical Development D6+: 3rd; Personal Development D5+: 2nd; Personal Development D6+: 1st.
- In comparison with national authorities the D5+ performance was as follows: Language – Welsh: 19; Mathematical Development: 13; Personal Development: 7.
- The national D6+ performance placed Gwynedd as follows: position 7 for Welsh Language; position 10 for Mathematical Development and position 3 for Personal Development.
- The performance of FSM learners is varied. Following three years of gradual progress a reduction of 2.5% was seen on the 2016 figure down to 74.0%. (FPI).
- Performance against (challenging) FPI targets and language was disappointing. Performance against the final projections were a little better.

The table below shows the performance of the Foundation Phase against the region's authorities:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Anglesey	85.8	84.6	86.2	84.7	85.8
Gwynedd	82.8	85.5	86.8	86.8	86.6
Conwy	80.4	84.5	82.9	83.9	84.0
Denbighshire	84.9	86.1	86.4	87.5	85.3
Flintshire	84.4	84.5	87.0	86.9	89.5
Wrexham	83.4	82.9	85.5	86.6	88.4

Key Stage 2

Table 3

Percentage of pupils who achieved the Core Subject Indicator (CSI) at the end of KS2

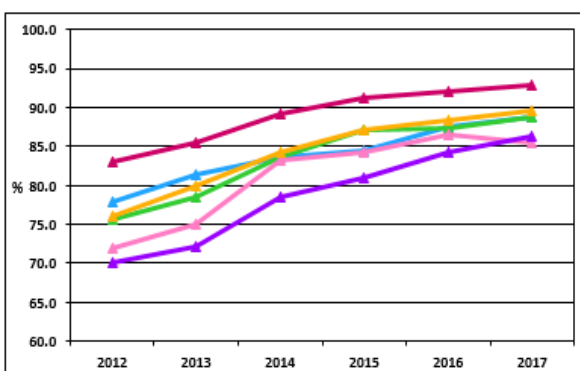
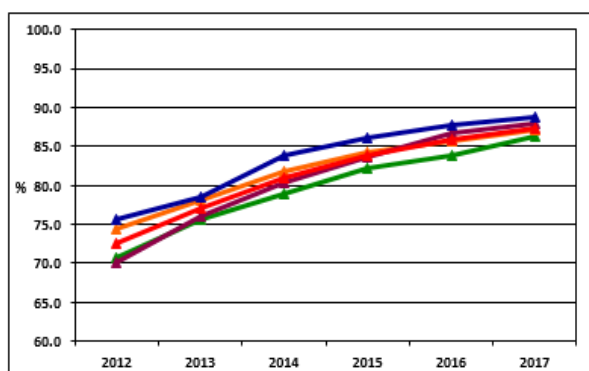
	2015	2016	2017
Gwynedd	89.5%	89.8%	92.1%
Wales	87.7%	88.6%	89.5%
Position (expected = 4)	6	7	3

- Very good performance. A significant increase of 2.3% was seen on the 2016 result placing Gwynedd higher than the expected FSM position (3rd out of 22). The performance was 1.3% higher than the local target. There was an increase of +1.6% to 90.4% regionally and +0.9% nationally.
- At the expected level (L4+) the best performances ever were seen across the subjects; each one over 91%. The national positions were as follows Welsh 12, English 3, Mathematics 3 and Science 6.
- An assessment guide was distributed to all schools in the region in January 2017, and it is felt that the response of schools and their use of this has had a positive impact on assessment and ensures better consistency.
- In comparison with other LAs in north Wales Gwynedd's position was as follows: CSI = 1st; Welsh L4+ = 3rd; Welsh L5+ = 1st; English L4+ = 1st; English L5+ = 1st; Mathematics L4+ = 1st; Mathematics L5+ = 1st; Science L4+ = 1st; Science L5+ = 1st.
- The national performance of L5+ was as follows: Welsh 9th, English 5th, Mathematics 4th, Science 4th. (The highest percentage performances given).
- The performance of FSM learners was very robust on the expected levels and higher. (Best performance historically - increase of 3.1% on the 2016 CSI result).
- The gap between the performance of FSM pupils compared with no FSM continues to reduce. It is down to -7.9% in the CSI the smallest difference in the region.

The table below shows the performance of the KS2 against the region's authorities:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Anglesey	88.0	87.8	91.8	89.4	91.4
Gwynedd	86.6	86.0	89.5	89.8	92.1
Conwy	83.1	84.3	85.8	86.6	88.4
Denbighshire	86.0	86.6	87.9	88.6	88.9
Flintshire	85.0	86.1	87.9	90.1	91.0
Wrexham	85.4	84.2	87.7	87.7	90.3

KS3: Core Subject Indicator



Consortia	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
GwE	75.6	78.6	83.8	86.1	87.8	88.7
EAS	70.8	75.7	79.0	82.2	83.8	86.4
ERW	74.4	78.1	81.7	84.3	85.6	87.2
CSC	70.2	76.1	80.3	83.6	86.7	87.9
Cymru/Wales	72.5	77.0	81.0	83.9	85.9	87.4

ALI / LA	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Ynys Mon	77.9	81.5	83.6	84.5	87.6	88.9
Gwynedd	83.0	85.4	89.1	91.3	92.0	92.8
Conwy	75.7	78.5	83.7	87.2	87.3	88.9
Denbighshire	71.9	75.0	83.2	84.3	86.4	85.6
Flintshire	76.0	80.0	84.3	87.1	88.4	89.5
Wrexham	70.0	72.2	78.4	80.9	84.3	86.3

CSI	2015		2016		2017		Progress	
	%	R	%	R	%	S/R	16 -> 17	15 -> 17
1 (7)	84.5	9	87.6	7	88.9	9	1.3	4.3
Gwynedd (4)	91.3	1	92.0	2	92.8	1	0.8	1.5
3 (9)	87.2	6	87.3	9	88.9	8	1.5	1.7
4 (14)	84.3	12	86.4	12	85.6	18	-0.9	1.3
5 (6)	87.1	7	88.4	6	89.5	5	1.1	2.4
6 (10)	80.9	19	84.3	16	86.3	16	1.9	5.3
GwE (1)	86.1	1	87.8	1	88.7	1	1.0	2.6
Wales	83.9		85.9		87.4		1.5	3.5

Indicators	KEY STAGE 3					
	Perf 2017	2016 -> 2017	Tgt 2017	Perf v Tgt	Latest Proj 2017	Perf v Proj
CSI	92.8	0.8	92.4	0.4	93.3	-0.5
Welsh 1st Language L5+	93.7	1.3	97.3	-3.6	94.3	-0.6
Welsh 1st Language L6+	67.2	6.5	64.5	2.7	64.5	2.7
English L5+	93.6	1.1	94.2	-0.6	93.9	-0.3
English L6+	64.8	-0.4	67.2	-2.4	66.0	-1.2
Mathematics L5+	94.8	0.8	94.0	0.8	94.6	0.2
Mathematics L6+	73.0	2.4	72.2	0.8	71.3	1.7
Science L5+	96.8	0.8	95.8	1.0	96.0	0.8
Science L6+	76.0	5.5	72.6	3.4	75.1	0.9

CSI	2015			2016			2017		
	FSM	Non-FSM	Variance	FSM	Non-FSM	Variance	FSM	Non-FSM	Variance
1	71.3	87.5	-16.2	75.2	90.1	-14.8	76.0	91.5	-15.5
Gwynedd	78.1	93.4	-15.3	82.1	93.3	-11.2	84.9	93.7	-8.7
3	70.1	90.1	-20.0	71.0	90.5	-19.5	73.1	92.1	-19.0
4	63.2	88.6	-25.4	71.6	89.7	-18.1	70.9	88.2	-17.4
5	71.6	89.9	-18.3	76.2	90.9	-14.7	71.7	92.7	-20.9
6	56.0	86.4	-30.4	65.7	88.1	-22.3	68.9	90.1	-21.2

- Gwynedd's performance across the main indicators in KS3 is robust again this year. Gwynedd Schools have performed better than its ranking within the FSM (Gwynedd FSM = 12.4%, Rank 4 within the authorities) on the Core Subject Indicator.
- Gwynedd schools are the highest-ranking among the schools in the region on the Core Subject Indicator (Gwynedd = 92.8%, GwE = 88.7%, Wales = 87.4%).
- There is an increase of 0.8% on the 2016 figure for this indicator and Gwynedd is ranked top within the authorities on this indicator this year.
- There is an increase of 2.8% in the number of FSM learners who achieve the CSI.
- Gwynedd schools have the smallest gap within the 6 authorities between performance v learner target which is >1%. The gap is on its highest on the higher levels in English, Mathematics and Science.
- The average gap between boys' and girls' performance is lower than the national on -4.4% (Wales -7.4% and GwE -6.5%).
- The gap in FSM learner performance in Gwynedd is the lowest within GwE on - 8.7%.
- 84.9% of Gwynedd FSM learners succeeded in achieving the Core Subject Indicator.

Welsh:

- The performance of Gwynedd schools is slightly lower than the performance across GwE on the 5+ level (GwE = 93.9% Gwynedd = 93.7% Wales = 93.5%)
- The increase on 2016 on Level 5+ in Welsh across Gwynedd schools was 1.3%.
- The performance of Gwynedd schools is slightly higher than the performance within GwE and slightly better than the Welsh performance on the 6+ level on 67.2%.

English:

- Gwynedd Schools have performed higher than the GwE average (91.6%) and Wales (90.5%) on 93.7% on level 5+.
- The performance is also slightly higher on level 6+ on 64.8% (GwE = 59.4% Wales = 58.7%).

Mathematics:

- The performance of Gwynedd Schools is substantially higher on 94.8% (GwE = 91.1% and Wales = 90.8%) on level 5+.
- The performance of Gwynedd schools is slightly higher than the performance within GwE and nationally on level 6+ on 73% (GwE = 66.8% and Wales = 65.4%).

Science:

- Gwynedd Schools have performed higher than the GwE average on level 5+ at 96.8% and higher than the national percentage (GwE = 94.6% and Wales = 93.5%).
- Gwynedd schools are considerably higher than GwE and Wales on the 6+ level (Gwynedd = 76.02% GwE = 67.7% and Wales = 65.5%).

KS4: Context (based on unverified data)

Initial information on KS4 and KS5 results are presented below, as comparative and benchmark data for these key stages is unavailable at present.

In 2017, the new GCSE specifications for Welsh, English, Mathematics and Science were examined for the first time.

Mathematics includes two new syllabi (Numeracy and Mathematics) and either one of these contributes to the Level 2 Threshold including Mathematics and Language (L2+).

In addition, the changes to the L2+ indicator means that only First Language Welsh or English Language is included; previously, GCSE Literature for either language also contributed.

As a result, there was a reduction in the percentage of learners achieving the L2+ on a county, regional and national level. This means that we have new benchmarks this year for KS4. Therefore, comparing data with previous years is not meaningful.

What does give us a meaningful comparison this year is to scrutinize the performance of Gwynedd against other authorities in the region and nationally.

The following two tables illustrate this:

Performance on TL2+ across the Consortia

TL2+	2015		2016		2017		Progress	
	%	R	%	R	%	R	16->17	15->17
GwE	57.5	3	59.6	3	53.2	3	-6.4	-4.3
EAS	55.1	4	55.5	4	52.1	4	-3.4	-3.0
ERW	61	1	64.0	1	56.4	1	-7.6	-4.6
CSC	58.5	2	60.9	2	53.6	2	-7.3	-4.9
Wales	57.9		60.3		-		-	-

There has been a reduction across the four Consortia, with a larger reduction seen in two of the Consortia compared to GwE, the Consortia for north Wales.

Gwynedd Schools Performance on TL2+

TL2+	2015		2016		2017		Progress	
	%	R	%	R	%	S/R	16->17	15->17
1 (10)	56.9	12	58.8	13	50.1	14	-8.7	-6.8
Gwynedd (4)	63.3	5	65.9	4	58.3	5	-7.6	-5.0
3 (8)	54.2	18	55.9	17	53.9	12	-2.0	-0.3
4 (14)	56.1	14	58.7	14	49.4	17	-9.3	-6.7
5 (6)	60.6	8	61.5	10	56.1	8	-5.4	-4.5
6 (9)	52.1	20	55.3	18	49.1	19	-6.2	-3.0
GwE (1)	57.5	3	59.6	3	53.2	3	-6.4	-4.3
Wales	57.9		60.3		-		-	-

Although there has been a reduction of -7.6% in Gwynedd in the KS4 key indicator (TL2+), Gwynedd has maintained its ground on a national level.

To summarize:

- It can be seen that the performance of Gwynedd schools has shown a decline on TL2+ this year in line with the national trend.
- 58.3% of Gwynedd school learners succeeded in achieving the TL2+ which places Gwynedd in the 1st position within the schools in the region on this main indicator.
- The performance this year places Gwynedd fifth out of the 22 authorities in the KS4 key indicator TL2+.
- 45.4% of FSM learners succeeded in gaining the TL2+ - the highest figure within the schools in the region (25.6%).

The baseline for Gwynedd on the other main indicators

TL2	2017		2018		2019		Progress	
	%	R	%	R	%	R	17->18	17->19
1	64.7	-						
Gwynedd	70.7	-						
3	68.9	-						
4	65.7	-						
5	67.2	-						
6	61.3	-						
GwE	66.6	-						
Wales	-							
TL1	2017		2018		2019		Progress	
	%	R	%	R	%	R	17->18	17->19
1	94.6	-						
Gwynedd	96.0	-						
3	96.0	-						
4	89.8	-						
5	93.8	-						
6	93.7	-						
GwE	93.9	-						
Wales	-							
5A*-A	2017		2018		2019		Progress	
	%	R	%	R	%	R	16->17	15->17
1	12.2	-				-		
Gwynedd	20.5	-				-		
3	12.1	-				-		
4	13.7	-				-		
5	14.1	-				-		
6	13.3	-				-		
GwE	14.5	-				-		
Wales	-					-		

Main messages:

- The performance on the TL2 within Gwynedd schools has followed the regional trend of decline - TL2 GwE = 66%, Gwynedd = 70%. The shift from vocational courses and BTEC in particular, in Science has affected the performance on L2 this year.
- Gwynedd learners' performance on TL1 is the highest of the schools in the region on 96%.
- On the capped Points Score Gwynedd schools rank third out of six on 308.1 of the schools in the region (GwE = 294.9).
- There is an increase in the number achieving 5A/A* of 2.4% to 20.5% this year - this is the highest within the schools in the region.

Welsh:

- The performance within schools in the region this year is 70.8% on Level 2.
- The performance of Gwynedd schools is higher on 72.8%.
- There is a gap between final projections and performance at some schools, but in comparison with schools within the region, Gwynedd schools have the smallest gap (-2.2%). This is also significantly lower than the gap between the projections and performance of other core subjects.

English:

- The performance of learners succeeding to achieve L2 in the subject within Gwynedd schools is 63.5%, which is higher than schools within the region on 61.6%.
- There is a significant gap between performance and final projections at a number of schools.

Mathematics and Numeracy

- The performance of learners succeeding to achieve L2 in Mathematics within Gwynedd schools is 56.3%, which is equal to the average figure for schools within the region.
- There is a significant gap between final performance and projections in a number of Gwynedd's schools which is concerning and requires attention (-24.3% difference in Gwynedd). However, it continues to be significantly lower in comparison with the average of 45.9% for schools within the region.
- The Numeracy performance is better with 59.3% of the learners succeeding to achieve Level 2 (GwE average = 49.8%).

Science:

- The performance is slightly lower than the average for schools within the region this year on 73.2% (GwE = 74.1%).
- However, this year a number of schools moved away from the BTEC courses (where there was a high weighting on coursework) and this has had an impact on learner performance

nationally, across the region and within schools within the region. Consequently, at the moment, it is difficult to reach a detailed and correct conclusion on the authority's performance.

- There is also a significant gap between final performance and projections at a significant number of schools.

KS5 (A Level)

*Report based on WJEC results only

- The pupils of Gwynedd Local Authority had registered for 950 A levels (namely 102 more A Levels than in 2016) in 30 subjects (1 Subject fewer than last year).
- Results: Gwynedd 3 year rolling average in comparison with Wales:

	2015		2016		2017	
	Wales	Gwynedd	Wales	Gwynedd	Wales	Gwynedd
A* Grade	7.3	9.8	6.6	5.8	8.3	9.3
Grade A - A*	23.1	24.9	22.7	20.2	25.0	25.5
Grades A* - E	97.3	97.5	97.3	96.2	97.7	97.3

- Grades A* - E (2016 and 2017) GwE Consortia local authorities:

Authority	Grade A* - E % 2016	+/- in Comparison with Wales (97.3%)	Position /6	Grade A* - E % 2017	+/- in Comparison with Wales (97.7%)	Position /6
Gwynedd	96.2	-1.1	6	97.3	-0.4	4
Conwy	97.7	+0.4	3	96.6	-1.1	5
Denbighshire	98.8	+1.6	1	98.5	+0.8	1
Flintshire	97.2	-0.1	4	97.8	+0.1	3
Wrexham	98.5	+1.2	2	96.6	-1.1	5
Anglesey	96.9	-0.4	5	98.2	+0.9	2

- Performance against business plan targets of the Education Department 2016-2017:

i) Target = increase of 1.4% against the 2016 performance

A* - E : 2016 Performance = 96.2%
 Gwynedd : 2017 Target = 97.6%
 : 2017 Performance = 97.3%

ii) Target = Increase the numbers who achieve grades A*/A via the outcomes of the Seren scheme work to be equivalent to the national level

A*/A : Gwynedd Performance 2016 = 5.8%
 : Wales Performance 2016 = 6.6%
 : Gwynedd Performance 2017 = 9.3%
 : Wales Performance 2017 = 8.3%

5. Analysis of subjects without completion rate of 100% A* - E

Subject	No. of registrations	Completion rate %	Number of 'U' grades	% difference between A* - E grades Gwynedd / Wales
Mathematics	103	96.1	4	96.8 (-0.7)
ICT	9	88.9	1	92.6 (-3.7)
Physical Education	45	97.8	1	96.9 (-0.1)
Religious Education	63	96.8	2	98.0 (-1.2)
Sociology	26	92.3	2	97.9 (-5.6)
Psychology	40	97.5	1	98.1 (-0.6)
Biology	63	98.4	1	96.7 (+1.7)
Chemistry	69	92.8	5	97.5 (-4.7)
Business	24	95.8	1	97.9 (-2.1)
English Literature	46	97.8	1	98.6 (-0.8)
Art; Craft and Technology	23	95.7	1	-
Art and Technology Fine Art	16	87.5	2	-
Art and Technology; Photography	20	90.0	2	-