



Educational Attainment

1. Introduction

The London Borough of Hounslow is committed to improving the standards of local schools, ensuring children and young people in Hounslow fulfil their educational potential. It is a key priority to reduce the gap in educational attainment between particular groups.

2. The Local Picture

Overall, levels of educational attainment for children in Hounslow compare favourably against both London and national averages. In Hounslow, many of the children and young people who underachieve at school have been identified as being part of a specific group in the community. These include White British boys (specifically in the area of literacy), children with Somali, Black Caribbean, Afghani and Traveller heritage, children who claim Free School Meals, children with special educational needs and learning difficulties and 'looked-after' children.

2.1 Key Stages 1 and 2

Year on year, there has been some variation in the number of Hounslow students who make the expected progress from Key Stage 1 (5-7 years) to Key Stage 2 (7-11 years) in both English and mathematics. In 2011, the Hounslow average for two levels of progress in English was 85.4%, a dip from the 2010 average for Hounslow of 89.7% and below the national average of 87%. The Hounslow average for two levels of progress in Maths was 84% which is below the 2010 Hounslow average of 85.3% and is below the national average of 86%.

There has been a continued improvement in the proportion of pupils making the expected progress from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2 in both English and maths. Almost nine in ten pupils made the expected progress in English in 2010 – a 5.6% increase from 2009. The number of pupils who made the expected progress in mathematics in 2010 rose to around 85%.

At Key Stage 2, which involves students from 7 to 11 years of age, the proportion of pupils who achieved the expected threshold in English and mathematics in 2011 was 75%. This figure was a 2% decrease on that for 2010. This is still above the 2010 national average of 73% (2011 national average is not yet known)

2.2 GCSEs

Attainment of GCSE grades A*–C including English and mathematics has improved significantly, including in minority groups, while the proportion of young people in Hounslow who achieve both Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications by the age of 19 is well above national and regional averages.

The figure for pupils gaining five or more A*–C grades in all subjects is 13% higher than 2010's national average, and 10% higher when English and mathematics are factored in.



A record number of Hounslow's young adults are leaving school with good GCSE results. Five or more GCSE grades ranging from A* to C were achieved by 88% of pupils in 2011. This was an increase of 6% compared with the previous year.

In the same year, the proportion of young people who achieved five or more A*–C GCSE grades including English and mathematics was 63% a rise of 4% from 2010. More detailed analyses for 2011 GCSE results are awaited at the time of writing

2010 saw a record result in the proportion of pupils – 68% – achieving 2 or more A*–C grades in sciences. This was a 13% increase on the previous year and was almost 8% higher than the English average.

Across all minority ethnic groups, the proportion of pupils gaining 5 or more A*–C GCSEs including English and mathematics improved in 2010, compared with previous years. The performance of Black Somali pupils improved by 14% and that of Black Caribbean students by 4%. Almost eight in ten (78%) Black Caribbean pupils achieved Level 2 qualifications (5 or more A*–C GCSEs), an increase of 26% from 2006, while Black Somali pupils improved by 35% over the same period, to 68% in 2010.

In 2010, 44% of pupils who received free school meals obtained five or more A*–C GCSEs including English and mathematics, a 6% improvement from 2009.

Just under half (47%) of looked-after children achieved Level 2 qualifications in 2010. This was a significant improvement in performance of 28%, compared with 2009. About one in eight looked-after children gained five or more A*–C GCSEs including English and mathematics, compared to approximately one in twenty during 2009.

In 2011, results for vocational courses, including the Young Apprenticeship programme, have improved across the Borough. 1,147 Hounslow students from ten schools completed Level 2 vocational qualifications, including outstanding results from Brentford, Chiswick, Cranford and Heston schools. At The Green School (Isleworth), 122 pupils following BTEC courses performed exceptionally, with over 52% gaining a Distinction*, the equivalent of at least an A* at GCSE level.

2.3 Education post 16 years of age

Achievement in Hounslow by age 19 has steadily improved since 2006 and now exceeds both the London and national averages for Levels 2 and 3. In 2010, the percentage of 17 year olds participating in education or work-based learning increased significantly from the previous year to 96%. The Borough's Level 2 achievement in 2010 stands at 83.9%, which exceeded the London average by 4.2% and the national average by 5.2%. Almost 3 in 5 people reached Level 3 qualifications, higher than the figure for England as a whole (52%).

At the age of 19, the achievement gap between those young people in receipt of free school meals and those who are not has shrunk at Level 2 and Level 3, by 7%. At Level 2, this improvement places Hounslow at the top of similar areas and for Level 3, Hounslow ranks 2nd highest.

In 2011, Hounslow improved on A Level results in two main areas. The percentage of entries at grades A*–C across all Hounslow schools has increased from 73% in 2010 to 77% in 2011, and is now 1% above the national average for the first time. The percentage of A*–B entry grades has risen from 47% in 2010 to 50% in 2011, however, this is slightly below the national average (52.3%). Entries at A*–E grades remain in line with the national average.



3. Strategic Leadership and Collaboration

Hounslow's School Effectiveness Strategy 2011 outlines the context in which the Borough supports its schools in raising educational attainment. The corporate priority for 2011/12 is 'Brighter futures for the Borough's children and young people'. This includes specific targets in relation to GCSE attainment and the engagement of vulnerable young people in education or work-based learning after the age of 16 years. Senior Education Advisers work closely with Hounslow's Education Improvement Partnership (comprising all schools in Hounslow and West Thames College) in shaping actions to address priorities.

4. Priorities

The key priorities for improving educational attainment in the Borough for 2011/12 are to:

- Improve progress in English and mathematics at KS2 level;
- Narrow the gap in achievement between the highest and lowest attaining groups; and
- Identify schools where students' progress is a concern, and provide appropriate support to change this.

5. Summary of Need

The following table summarises the needs in Educational Attainment in the London Borough of Hounslow.

SUMMARY OF NEED: CHECKLIST	
Is need increasing over time?	No
Is need greater than the London average?	No
Is there qualitative intelligence indicating that need is substantially unmet?	No
Is there an external inspection or report suggesting need is unmet?	No
Are quality indicators worsening over time?	No
Are quality indicators worse than the London average?	No
Is there an intervention of proven effectiveness to address the need which is not currently delivered in Hounslow (or not delivered enough)?	No