



Children & Education Select Committee
13 May 2015

School Attainment and Outcomes - Trends and Themes

Purpose of the report: Scrutiny of Services and Budgets/Performance Management

This report presents an overview of the educational outcomes of children and young people in early years, primary, secondary, post 16 and special school phases for the academic year ending in the summer of 2014

Introduction:

1. This report presents an overview of the educational outcomes of children and young people in early years, primary, secondary, post 16 and special school phases for the academic year ending in the summer of 2014.
2. Surrey continues to perform better than the national and South East region in most key measures at all key stages. Attainment at the end of Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 in summer 2014 was in the top quintile nationally. In particular, Surrey is ranked 17th out of 150 local authorities for the proportion of pupils that achieve 5 or more good GCSEs with English and Mathematics. The achievement of disadvantaged pupils also continues to improve.
3. As of 31 August 2014, the proportion of schools that are good or better is 81.4%. The proportion of secondary and special schools that are judged to be good or better remains significantly higher than both nationally and other schools in the South-East. Surrey is ranked 11th out of 150 Local authorities for the proportion of pupils in a good or better secondary school at 93%. The proportion of primary schools judged to be good or better, whilst increasing, remains a priority. Ofsted considers that support from the local authority provided to schools is strong and effective.

4. The Surrey School Improvement Strategy – Every School A Good School – implemented in April 2013 has had a significant impact. Targeted support and intervention to a wide range of schools has facilitated the improvement of many schools with, for example, attainment at the end of KS2 in schools that are on Focused Support increasing at a faster rate than both in other Surrey schools and nationally.

Education Outcomes - 2014

Early Years (ages 2-4)

5. Foundation Stage assessment changed significantly in 2013; as a result, trend data is only available for one year. A child is defined as achieving a Good Level of Development (GLD) if they achieve at least the expected level for all eight goals within the three prime area of learning: communication and language, physical development and personal, social and emotional development, and in all four of the literacy and mathematics goals within the specific areas of learning.

Early Years: Strengths

6. The proportion of pupils achieving a GLD in Surrey is now three points over the national average which takes the County Council within the top third of all authorities. The County Council has also risen from 8th to 7th (1st being top) out of its statistical neighbours. This reduces the gap on the top authority within the statistical neighbours and is now only four points away compared with nine last year.
7. As in the previous year, results for Surrey exceed the national average across all seven areas of learning. Both boys and girls are 3 points or higher in all their prime areas of learning than nationally and at least 5 points higher in their specific areas of learning.

Early Years: Key Priorities

8. The proportion of Surrey pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) achieving a GLD has positively increased from 26% in 2013 to 38% in 2014, but is still under the national average of 45%. The gap between those obtaining a GLD who are FSM compared to those without FSM has grown over the last year and is larger than national at 26 points compared with 19.
9. Even though Surrey's boys and girls are performing higher than their national counterparts, the gender gap in favour of girls within Surrey has increased from 14 percentage points in 2013 to 18 in 2014. The largest increases were within Mathematics and Literacy.
10. 64% of girls whose first language was other than English achieved a good level of development compared with 43% of boys, a 21 percentage point difference; this is a 12 percentage point increase since 2013.

Key Stage 1 (ages 4-7): Strengths

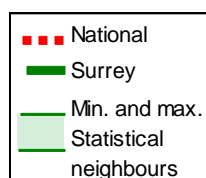
11. In 2014, 75% and 89% of pupils achieved the required standards in Phonics in Year 1 and 2 respectively; 5 percentage points higher than 2013 and one percentage point above the national level.
12. Overall, Surrey's key stage 1 performance remains strong compared to all authorities nationally and to statistical neighbours. Performance improved or was maintained in all subjects and at all thresholds this year.
13. There is positive attainment gap at Level 3 and above between Surrey and national in reading and mathematics, where Surrey is ranked 2nd and 3rd, respectively out of 152 local authorities.
14. Surrey is in the top twenty in the national rankings across all subjects at both the expected (level 2+) and higher (level 2b+; level 3) thresholds. In particular, Surrey is in the top 4 out of 152 authorities nationally for mathematics at all thresholds.

Key Stage 1: Key Priorities

15. Surrey's attainment at key stage 1 remains high at all thresholds (89% or more of pupils achieved level 2 and above in all subjects). Whilst still in the top 20 authorities nationally, Surrey's national rank in writing remains below those in reading and maths at all thresholds this year.

Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11)

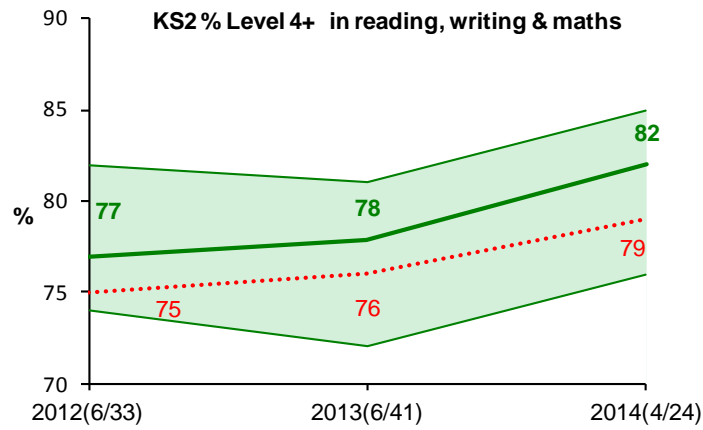
16. The Department of Education announced a number of changes to key stage 2 for 2013. They no longer calculate an English level but report the reading test and writing teacher assessment levels individually. As a result the floor targets indicator is now based on progress in reading, progress in writing, progress in maths and achievement of level 4+ in reading, writing and maths.
17. Key to trend graphs shown below:



Figures in brackets represent Surrey's ranking against our statistical neighbours and all other authorities in England.

Key Stage 2: Strengths

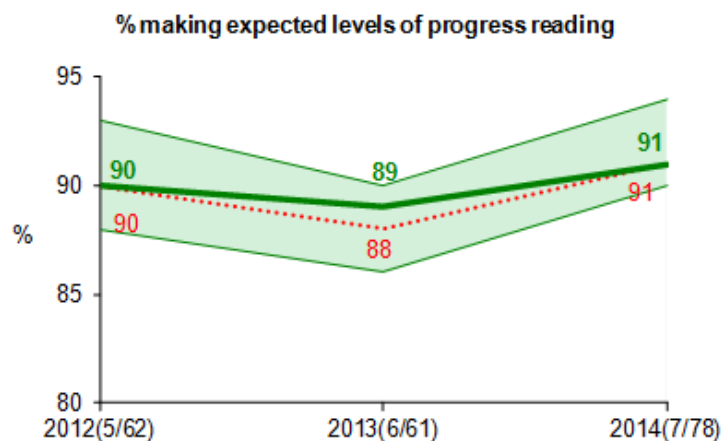
18. The proportion of pupils attaining level 4 and above in reading, writing and maths remains above national. Surrey is ranked 24th out of 152 local authorities and 4th out of 11 statistical neighbours for level 4 and above in reading, writing and maths. These rankings are improvements on last year.

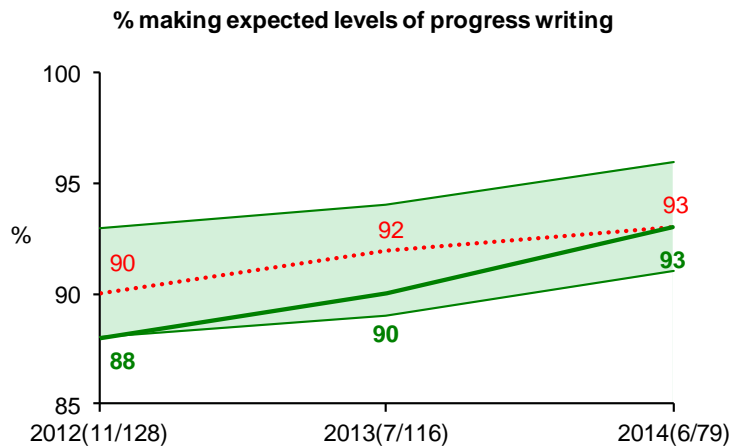


19. The proportion of pupils attaining level 5 in reading, writing and maths remains higher than national and Surrey is ranked 19th out of 152 local authorities.
20. The percentage of pupils attaining Level 4+ in the new grammar, punctuation and spelling test is above both the national and south east averages. Surrey is ranked 30th out of 152 local authorities.

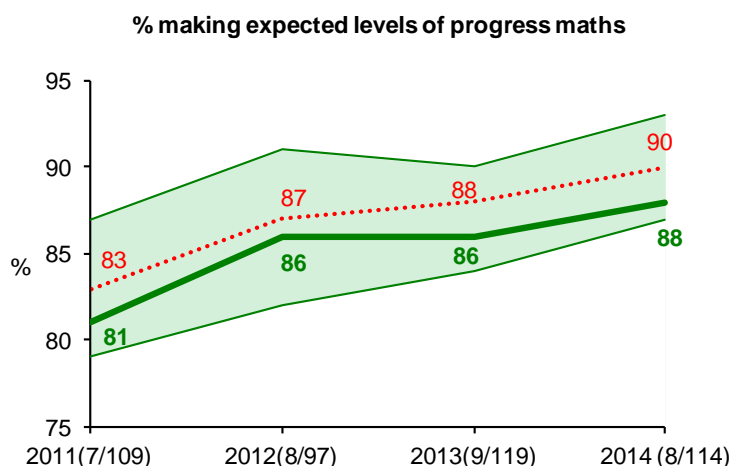
Key Stage 2: Key Priorities

21. Although some improvements have been seen this year in the percentage of pupils making expected progress, Surrey's national rankings in the progress measures remain considerably lower than those for attainment.
22. The proportion of pupils making expected progress in both reading and writing is now equal to that seen nationally. The percentage of pupils who made expected progress in writing is 93%, three percentage points higher than last year. Surrey is ranked 79th out of 150 local authorities, an improvement of 37 places on last year. The percentage of pupils who made expected progress in reading is 91%, two percentage points higher than last year. Surrey is ranked 78th out of 150 local authorities, a fall of 16 places on last year.





- 23. Surrey remains below the national average for the percentage of pupils making expected progress in mathematics. Surrey is ranked 114th out of 150 local authorities. This is an improvement of 5 places on last year. The gap between the percentage of pupils making expected progress nationally and the percentage in Surrey has remained the same at two percentage points.



- 24. Improving the attainment and progress of pupils in receipt of the Pupil Premium remains a key priority at key stage 2 (see paragraph number 47 – 51 Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils).
- 25. There are nine schools out of 204 below floor standard in 2014. This number cannot be directly compared with previous years as the attainment threshold increased from 60% in 2013 to 65% in 2014. Only five schools would have been below the floor in 2014 if the threshold had not changed, which is two schools fewer than in 2013.
- 26. It is expected that the school improvement measures currently in place will continue to improve outcomes at key stage 2. These include partnering weaker schools with stronger schools that are able to assist them to improve their practices and outcomes.

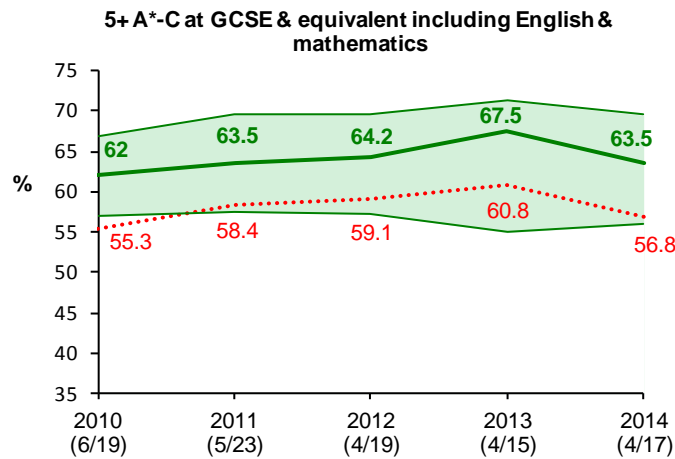
Key Stage 4 (ages 14-16)

- 27. Two major reforms have been implemented by the Department for Education which affect the calculation of key stage 4 performance

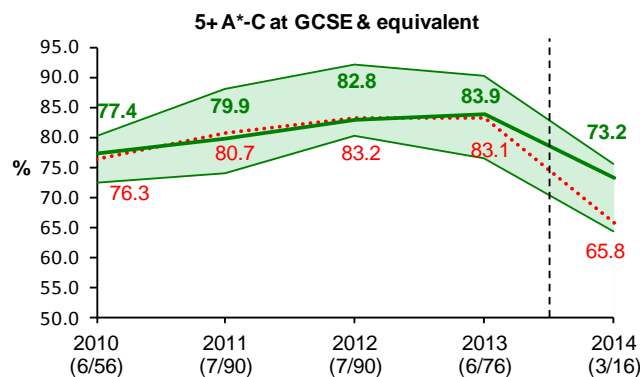
measures data in 2014. In addition, there have been three further changes which apply to the 2013/14 results but not to previous years. As a result, care must be taken when comparing the 2013/14 results with those for previous years.

Key Stage 4: Strengths

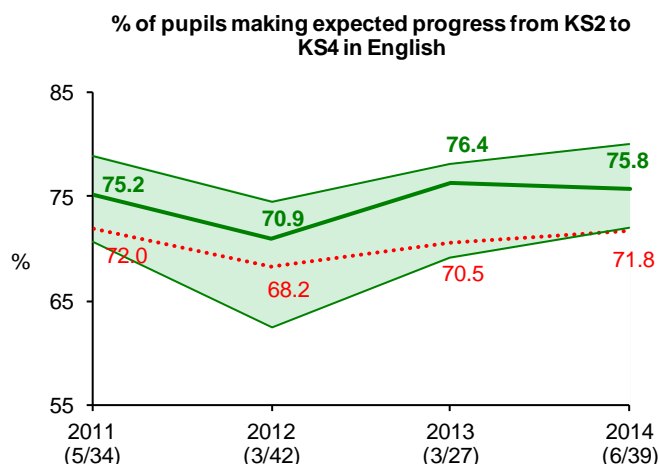
28. Based upon the revised results, the percentage of Surrey pupils achieving 5+ A*-C including English and mathematics based on first entry is 63.5%. This compares to 56.8% nationally. Surrey has gone from 15th in 2012/13 to 17th in 2013/14 in the national rankings. Compared with statistical neighbours, Surrey has maintained its position of 4th (out of 11) for this measure.



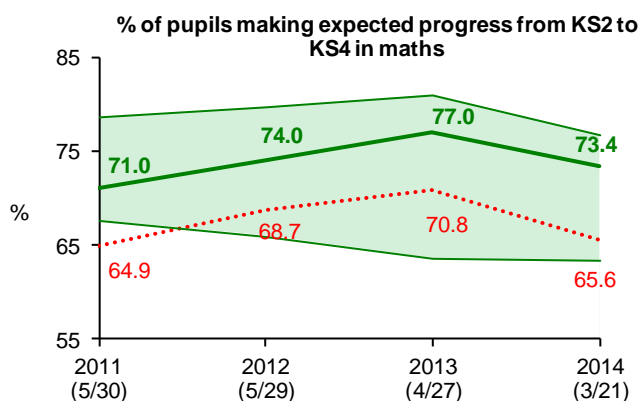
29. In 2012/13 the published statistics were calculated using a different methodology. The percentage of Surrey pupils achieving 5+ A*-C including English and mathematics using this 'best grade' method was 67.5%. The national figure was 60.8%.
30. The proportion of Surrey young people who achieved five or more GCSEs (any subjects) at grades A* to C in 2013/14 is 73.2%. Surrey remains above the national average of 65.8%. Surrey is ranked 16th for this measure in 2013/14, up from 76th the previous year. Surrey shares the position of highest ranked large authority with Hertfordshire. In 2012/13 the percentage of Surrey pupils achieving 5+ A*-C was 83.9% compared with 83.1% nationally.



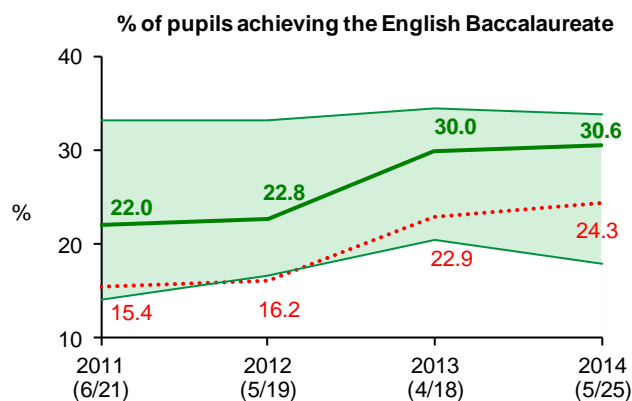
31. The changes to the methodology used for calculating the attainment statistics in 2013/14 have also had a significant impact upon the Key Stage 2 to 4 progress calculations. The proportion of pupils making expected progress in English is 75.8% in 2013/14 in Surrey compared with 71.8% nationally. Surrey has gone from 27th to 39th in the national rankings. Compared to its statistical neighbours, Surrey has gone from 3rd to 6th place.



32. The proportion of pupils making expected progress in mathematics in 2013/14 is 73.4% compared with 65.6% nationally. Surrey has climbed one place to 3rd position in the statistical neighbour rankings. Surrey is ranked 21st nationally for this measure, compared with 27th in 2012/13.



33. Forty-six percent of pupils in Surrey were entered for all components of the English Baccalaureate in 2013/14 compared with 39 percent nationally. Of those who were entered, 30.6% of pupils in Surrey achieved this measure compared with 24.3% nationally. Surrey is ranked 5th compared to statistical neighbours and 25th nationally for the percentage of pupils achieving the English Baccalaureate.



Key Stage 4: Key Priorities

34. Improving the attainment and progress of pupils in receipt of the Pupil Premium remains a key priority at key stage 4 (see paragraph number 47 – 51 Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils).

Key Stage 5 (age 16+): Strengths

35. Revised results at key stage 5 for 2014 indicate that average points per entry and the percentage achieving 2+ A Level passes (the minimum university entry requirement) are slightly above national, regional and statistical neighbour averages.
36. On average, Surrey pupils scored 214.3 points per entry, which is slightly higher than a grade C.
37. 91.8% of pupils completing A Levels in Surrey achieved 2 or more passes.
38. 16.6% of pupils completing A Levels in Surrey achieved 3 or more passes at grades AAB or better. This places Surrey above the national average in 2014, and in the top third of Local Authorities, but below regional and statistical neighbour averages.

Key Stage 5: Key Priorities

39. 12.0% of pupils completing A Levels in Surrey achieved passes at grades AAB or better including 2 or more passes in facilitating subjects. Surrey is placed 10th of 11 statistical neighbours against this measure, and below regional and statistical neighbour averages, though slightly above the national average.
40. The proportion of A Level entries in Surrey in 2014 that were in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects (31.1%) was lower than regional, national and statistical neighbour comparators. Surrey is ranked 10th against its statistical neighbours and 90th nationally for this measure.

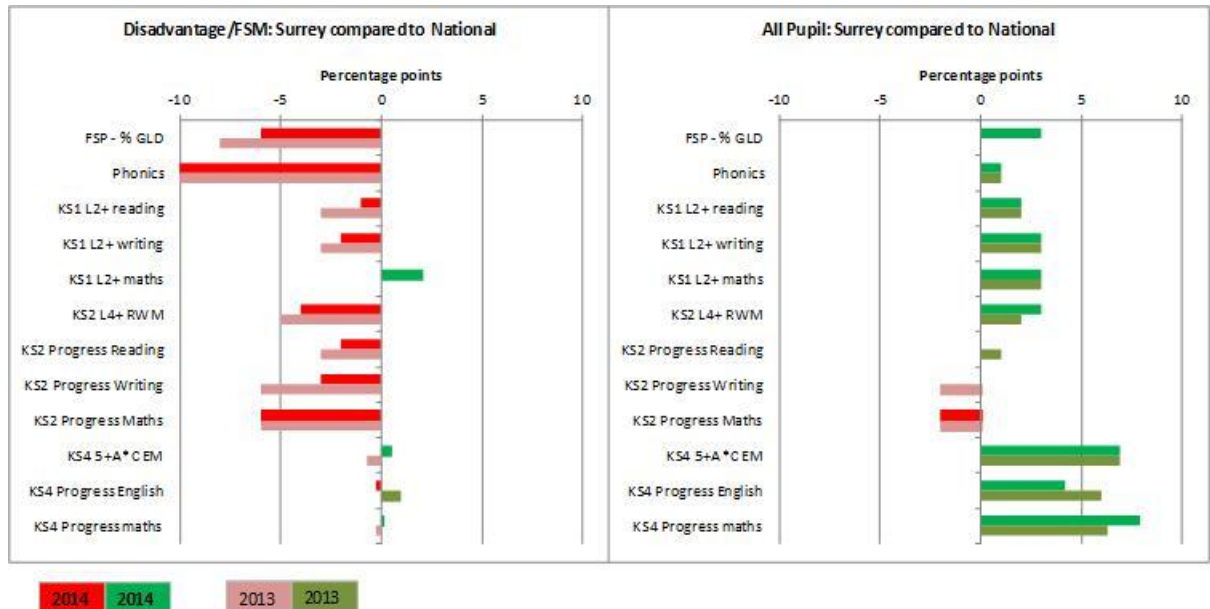
41. Babcock 4S works closely with school and sixth form leaders to improve outcomes through its Post-16 Leadership Development Programme and through its school monitoring arrangements. 30 of the 31 sixth-forms in Surrey are now rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted (97%) which is a significant achievement on the part of schools and those who support them.
42. Ofsted is responsible for measuring quality within Surrey's Further Education (FE) provision. The Education Funding Agency (EFA), as the funding body, sets minimum floor standards and institutions which fall below them are issued with Notices to Improve. If the necessary improvements are not achieved within the time period set, the institutions are not funded to deliver provision in the relevant subject areas.

Children looked after by the local authority

43. Over the course of the last academic year covering the period of this report (September 2013 to July 2014) 706 children of statutory school age were pupils of the Surrey Virtual School because they remained, became or ceased to be looked after during this period. Over this period, around 40 percent of these children, at any one time, were educated in schools or other educational provisions outside of Surrey's borders in more than 50 other local authorities across the UK.
44. All looked after children in Surrey's care are enrolled into the best performing schools available in the area where the child is placed, with Ofsted judgements of at least 'Good' in order to best support and accelerate opportunities for learning.
45. Key stage 1 results for 2014 show improvement on last year's results across the board and remain above the national average. 44% of pupils had no SEN in this cohort, compared with only 21% in 2013 and 29% in 2012. Overall results in percentage terms at key stage 2 remained similar to the previous year for Level 4 and above in reading (54%) and writing (42%), with an 11 percentage point improvement in mathematics (46%). They remain below the national average. This 2014 cohort had high levels of SEN (80%), including nine pupils (36%) with a statement.
46. Key stage 4 results have been confirmed to show that 13.2% of pupils achieved 5+ A*-C GCSEs, including English and mathematics. As a consequence of the change in methodology for GCSE calculations this year, national results have reduced to 12% - making Surrey's key stage 4 results above the national average for 2014.

Outcomes for disadvantaged pupils

47. The overall performance of pupils in Surrey remains similar to or higher than the attainment nationally. The achievement of disadvantaged pupils has improved and the gap between disadvantaged/FSM pupils in Surrey and those nationally has narrowed. However, disadvantaged pupils in Surrey remain, in most assessments below the disadvantaged nationally.



48. Disadvantaged pupils are behind the non-disadvantaged groups at the beginning of their school life (EYFSP and Phonics).
49. Pupils who are disadvantaged but not SEN or EAL make similar levels of progress to pupils as a whole at Key Stage 2 in 2014.
50. Surrey has one of the highest percentages of eligible pupils failing to claim Free School Meals (32% in 2012 and 29% in 2013). As a result the schools do not qualify for the Pupil Premium payment that could assist the school meeting their needs. Analysis of Autumn Census returns indicate that the percentage of parents claiming free school meals has dropped from 8.3% to 7.9% in year 1 and 2. This may in part be due to the introduction of meals for all infant age pupils in 2014. However, there is also a drop from 8.6% to 8.5% in years 3 -6 which suggest other factors may also be influencing the number of claimants.
51. Further details are to be found in the paper 'Understanding the role of Pupil Premium in raising attainment for disadvantaged pupils'.

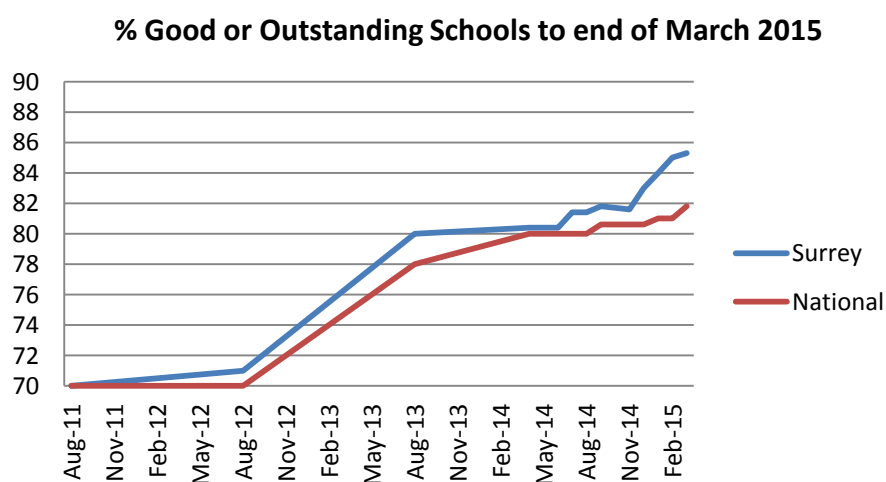
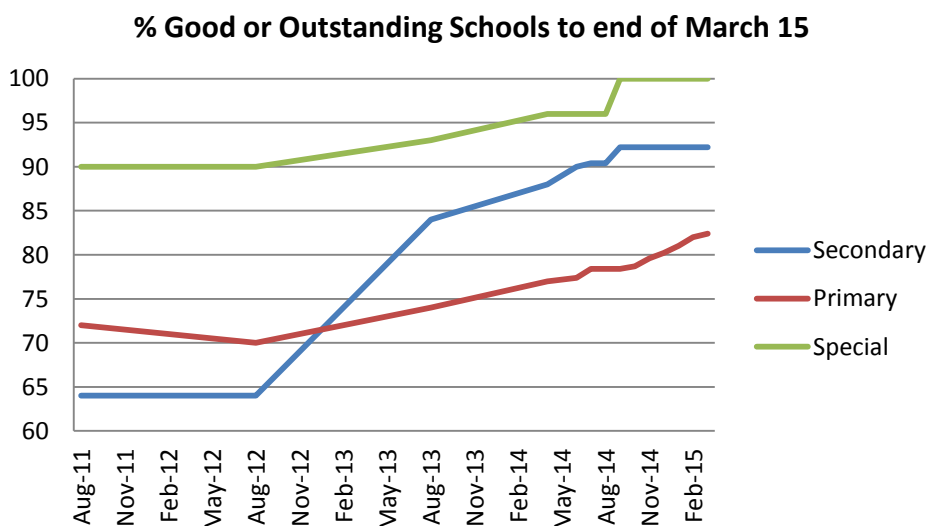
Ofsted

52. Ofsted carried out 106 inspections during the 2013/14 academic year. Inspection results for all state funded schools within Surrey to the end of the 2013/14 academic year were as follows:

Total good or outstanding schools		
	Surrey	National
Nursery	100.0%	95.9%
Primary	78.0%	81.5%
PRU	80.0%	83.1%
Secondary	90.4%	70.9%
Special	100.0%	89.6%
Total	81.4%	80.6%

- 53. The proportion of Surrey schools that were good or outstanding as at the end of the 2013/14 academic year was 81%. This was in line with the national and above south east figures (78%).
- 54. As of 31 March 2015 an additional 45 schools have been inspected. This has led to a 4.3% improvement in the proportion of good or outstanding schools.

Total number of good or outstanding schools		
	Surrey	National
Nursery	100.0%	96.8%
PRU	90.0%	86.2%
Primary	82.4%	82.7%
Secondary	92.3%	72.4%
Special	100.0%	89.9%
Total	85.3%	81.8%



- 55. The proportion of secondary schools that are judged to be good or better remains significantly higher than both nationally and the South-East. 92.2% of all secondary schools are judged to be good or outstanding.

Surrey is ranked 1st out of 21 LAs in the SE and 10th out of 150 LAs nationally.

56. All Special Schools are now judged to be good or better.
57. The proportion of primary schools judged to be good or better has continued to increase and is now in line with national and above the South East. Surrey is currently ranked 8th out of 21 LAs in the SE. The proportion of primary schools that are outstanding remains significantly higher than national and the SE.

Conclusions:

58. Whilst Surrey pupils continue to perform well at all key stages compared with their peers nationally and the majority of schools are now good or better there are still a number of priorities that need to be addressed.
59. The priorities for the coming year are to:
 - .1 Continue to increase the proportion of 'good' or better schools as judged by Ofsted
 - .2 Close the gap for vulnerable groups whilst maintaining high levels of attainment
 - .3 Achieve greater geographical consistency in outcomes across the county
 - .4 Develop partnership working between groups of schools to support each other and build sustainability in school improvement

Some amendments have been made to the school improvement strategy to ensure that these priorities are addressed

Recommendations:

60. Members are asked to:
 - a) Consider the revised education results for 2014 presented in this paper alongside the more detailed analyses in the Annexes

Next steps:

Identify future actions and dates.

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Annexes:

Annex 1 – Key Stage Ages and Stages 2014

Annex 2 - Early Years Foundation Stage Profile 2014 Results Briefing

Annex 3 – Phonics and Key Stage 1 Briefing

Annex 4 – Key Stage 2 Briefing

Annex 5 – Key Stage 4 Briefing

Annex 6 – Key Stage 5 Briefing

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