

SUBJECT: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PERFORMANCE MEASURES
QUARTER 2 AND A REVIEW OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE 2015-16

DIRECTORATE: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

MEETING: SELECT COMMITTEE

DATE: 3 NOVEMBER 2016

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To provide members with the latest data showing educational attainment information they need to hold services to account. This includes:
 - Performance of pupils at the end of Foundation Phase, Key Stages 2 and 3.
 - A breakdown, where possible of performance across all key stages for the following groups:
 - Girls and Boys;
 - o Pupils who are eligible for free school meals (eFSM)

2. **RECOMMENDATIONS**:

2.1 That members use this report to scrutinise key areas of educational attainment, one of the council's four priorities, and challenge any underperformance.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1 This report draws together the headline messages from a number of more detailed analyses, which are included as an appendix.
- 3.2 The reports contain a wealth of information enabling members to drill down from authority level data to figures for specific learner groups.
- 3.3 Most data provide comparisons back to 2011/12, which was the academic year just prior to the last, full Estyn inspection. Over the last 5 years, there has been a notable improvement in headline indicators.
- 3.4 The value of this report is that it enables members to look beyond those high-level measures to some of the detail that sits underneath. The key messages from these reports are summarised over the following pages.

The level of eFSM is widely used as a socio-economic indicator proportionate to the level of challenge faced in terms of delivering education. Schools should be benchmarked against those with similar levels of eFSM

Foundation Phase

- 3.5 Monmouthshire saw a minimal drop by 0.1 percentage point in the Foundation Phase Indicator with 91.7% of pupils achieving the Foundation Phase Indicator (FPI), compared to 91.8% in 2014/15 and 86.8% in 2011/12.
- 3.6 Despite the drop in performance, Monmouthshire moved up 1 place to 1st in the Wales local authority rankings for FPI.
- 3.7 In 2015/16, performance has declined at the expected level (O5+), with the exception of an increase in Language, Literacy and Communication (LLC) in Welsh at O5+.
- 3.8 Performance at the expected level +1 (O6+) has increased across all indicators.
- 3.9 Monmouthshire continues to be ranked amongst the top three performing authorities in Wales for all areas of learning with the exception of LLC Welsh first language.

Key Stage 2

- 3.10 Performance continues to improve, with 94.1% of pupils achieving the key stage 2 core subject indicator (KS2CSI) in 2014/15, compared to 86.3% in 2011/12 and 92.5% in 2015. Monmouthshire is still ranked 1st in Wales for KS2CSI.
- 3.11 Performance across English, Welsh, mathematics and science continues to improve at both the expected curriculum level 4+ and the higher level 5+.
- 3.12 Monmouthshire ranks 1st in Wales for all indicators with the exception of Welsh first language.

Key Stage 3

- 3.13 Performance continues to improve albeit at a slower rate than across Wales as a whole. In 2015/16, 91.9% of pupils achieved the KS3CSI, compared to 90.8% in 2015 and 77.7% in 2011/12.
- 3.14 Monmouthshire is now ranked 3rd in Wales for the KS3CSI.
- 3.15 Performance across English, mathematics and science continues to improve at both the expected curriculum level 5+ and at the higher level 6+.
- 3.16 Monmouthshire is now ranked 2nd in Wales for English at Key Stage 3, 3rd for mathematics and 4th for science.

4. REASONS:

- 4.1 To ensure that Members are able to understand and scrutinise performance and hold officers to account.
- 4.2 The improvement of educational outcomes and closing the performance gap remains central to the Local Authority's vision of sustainable and resilient communities.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

None

6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS IMPLICATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING)

This report does not propose a change of policy or service delivery.

7. CONSULTEES:

CYP Directorate Management Team

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Report on the Quality of Local Authority Education Services for Children and Young People. Estyn, Feb. 2013.

9. AUTHOR:

David Barnes (Data and Information Systems Officer, Policy and Performance)

10. CONTACT DETAILS:

Tel: 01633 644680

E-mail: davidbarnes@monmouthshire.gov.uk

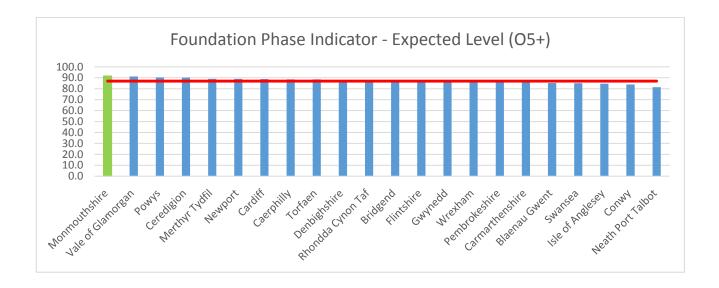
APPENDIX 1

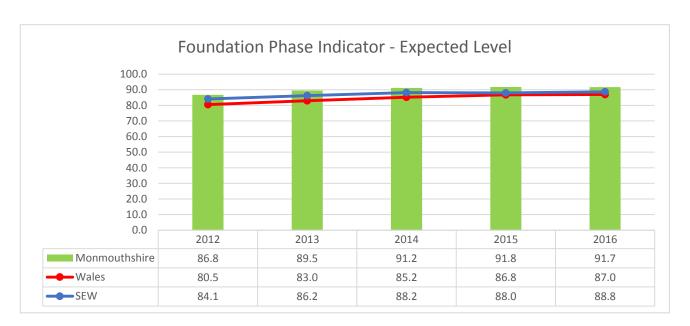
2016 End of Foundation Phase to Key Stage 3 Teacher Assessment Outcomes Monmouthshire

Foundation Phase

Expected Level (Outcome 5+)

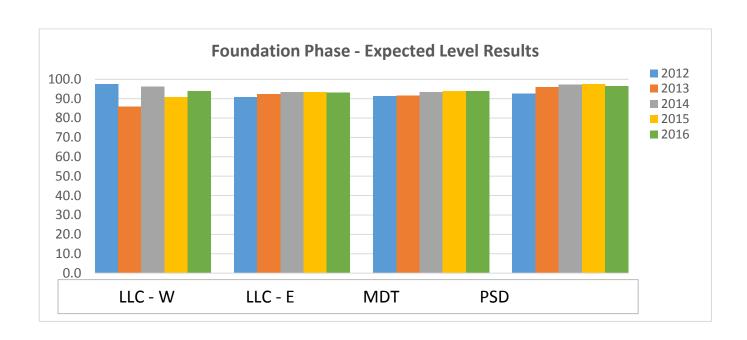
91.7% of Monmouthshire's Foundation Phase pupils achieved the foundation phase indicator (FPI) in 2016, although this represents a 0.1 percentage point (pp) decrease from last year, Monmouthshire now sit top - with a gap of 0.5pp to second place - when compared to other local authorities as opposed to being 2nd to Ceredigion last year.





Monmouthshire have remained largely consistent across the Foundation Phase indicators at the expected level (Level 5+), seeing minimal percentage point (pp) decreases in Language Literacy & Communication (LLC) – English (down 0.2pp to 93.1%) and Mathematical Development (down

0.1pp to 93.8%). There was a 1.0pp decrease in Personal and Social Development to 96.6%. However having seen a decrease last year in LLC – Welsh, the figure has increased by 2.9pp to 93.8% for 2016.



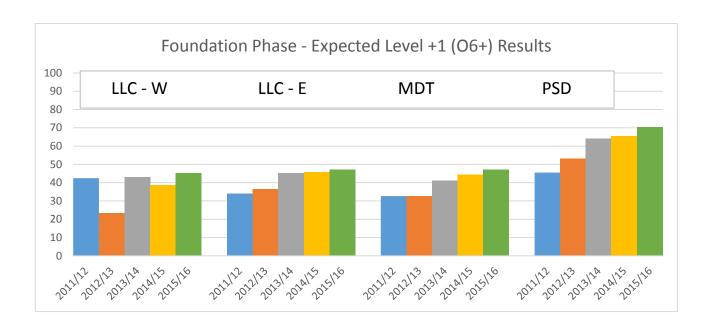
Expected Level (Outcome 5+)	Foundation Phase Indicator	LLC English	LLC Welsh	Mathematical Development	Personal and Social Development
Monmouthshire 2016	91.7%	93.1%	93.8%	93.8%	96.6%
Target 2016	91.8%	94.0%	89.4%	94.1%	96.7%
South East Wales 2016	88.8%	90.3%	93.4%	91.3%	95.0%
Wales 2016	87.0%	88.0%	90.7%	89.9%	94.5%
Monmouthshire 2015	91.8%	93.3%	90.9%	93.9%	97.6%
Wales 2015	86.8%	88.0%	91.3%	89.7%	94.8%

Monmouthshire's ranking in Wales – Expected Level (O5+)

Foundation Phase Indicator	LLC - English	LLC - Welsh	Mathematical Development	Physical and Social Development
1 st	1 st	7 th	2 ⁿ	3 rd

Expected Level +1 (Outcome 6+)

Figures for all indicators at the expected level +1 have increased in 2016, with the most significant increases coming in LLC – Welsh (up 6.7pp to 45.3%) and Personal and Social Development (up 4.8pp to 70.4%). MDT and LLC – English figures now both sit at 47.3%, with MDT seeing a 2.9pp rise from 2015 and LLC – English rising by 1.4pp.



Expected Level +1 (Outcome 6)	LLC - English	LLC - Welsh	Mathematical Development	Personal and Social Development
Monmouthshire 2016	47.3%	45.3%	47.3%	70.4%
Target 2016	47.8%	36.4%	47.6%	64.7%
Wales 2016	36.2%	36.2%	36.4%	58.9%
Monmouthshire 2015	45.9%	38.6%	44.4%	65.6%
Wales 2015	34.2%	36.9%	34.3%	56.0%

Foundation Phase - By Gender

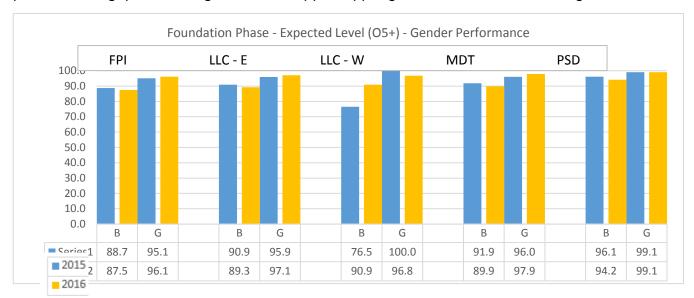
Outcome 5+

The gap in attainment between boys and girls widened for 4 of the 5 indicators at the expected level (O5+) in Monmouthshire. LLC – Welsh was the only indicator to close, coming down from a gap of 23.5 in 2015 to 5.9 (difference of 17.6) in 2016, this was due in part to a significant improvement by boys at this level – now at 90.9% compared to 76.5% in 2015.

Despite having girls and boys scores above the Welsh average in LLC – English, the gap between genders has widened from 5.1 in 2015 to 7.7 in 2016, due to the performance of boys

decreasing by 0.4pp and the performance of girls increasing by 1.2pp. This gap of 7.7 is 0.7pp larger than the Welsh average of 8.3 pp.

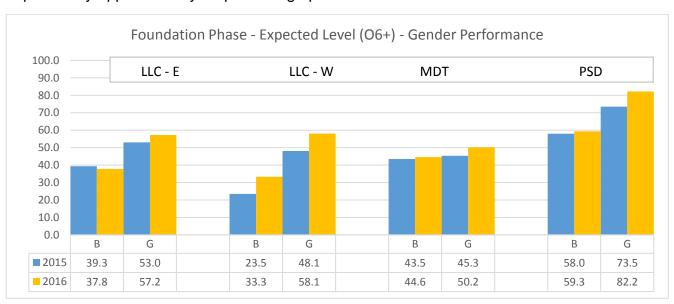
There is a similar story for the Foundation Phase Indicator, both Monmouthshire boys and girls outperformed the Welsh average in 2016 – boys by 4.5pp and girls by 4.9pp. However, the performance gap between genders is 8.6pp, 0.4pp higher than the Welsh average of 8.2.



Outcome 6

Girls saw improvement in scores across the board at Outcome 6+, whereas the boys improved in all indicators aside from English where the score dropped from 39.3% in 2015 to 37.8% in 2016 (a 1.5 percentage point(pp) drop).

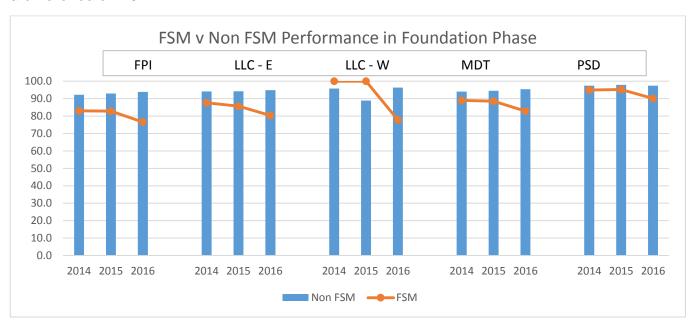
Although performance of girls and boys improved, in most indicators, the margin of improvement for girls was greater than that for the boys, leading to the gap in attainment widening in all indicators. The changes range from 0.1 percentage points (pp) in LLC – Welsh to 7.4pp in Personal and Social Development. As aforementioned, this can be contributed to girls seeing major improvements on the scores achieved in 2015 whereas the boys scores saw partial improvements where improvements were made – aside from in LLC-Welsh where both genders improved by approximately 10 percentage points.



Foundation Phase - Free School Meals (FSM)

Expected Level (Outcome 5+)

Monmouthshire saw a widening of the FSM attainment gap in all Foundation Phase indicators, with all but one now in double figures. Those not receiving Free School Meals outperformed the FSM cohort, with all their result for each indicator above 93.9%. The biggest drop has come in the LLC – Welsh results for those receiving FSM, with 100% achieving the expected level last year, compared to 77.8% in 2016. This has led to the attainment gap widening from 11.1 to 18.6, a difference of 7.5.



Free School Meals (eFSM)

	FPI	LLC - E	LLC - W	MDT	PSD
2014	83.0%	87.6%	100%	89.0%	95.0%
2015	82.9%	85.7%	100%	88.6%	95.2%
2016	76.6%	80.4%	77.8%	82.9%	90.1%

Non-FSM

	FPI	LLC - E	LLC - W	MDT	PSD
2014	92.2%	94.1%	95.8%	94.0%	97.4%
2015	92.9%	94.3%	88.9%	94.5%	97.9%
2016	93.9%	94.9%	96.4%	95.4%	97.4%

2016 Welsh Local Authority Performance at the Expected Level (Outcome 5+)

FPI	%
Monmouthshire	91.7
Vale of Glamorgan	91.2
Powys	90.3
Ceredigion	90.2
Merthyr Tydfil	89.1
Newport	89.1
Cardiff	88.9
Caerphilly	88.6
Torfaen	88.6
Denbighshire	87.5
Rhondda Cynon Taf	87.2
Bridgend	87.1
Flintshire	86.9
Gwynedd	86.8
Wrexham	86.6
Pembrokeshire	86.5
Carmarthenshire	85.9
Blaenau Gwent	85.2
Swansea	85.0
Isle of Anglesey	84.7
Conwy	83.9
Neath Port Talbot	81.4
Wales	87.0
South East Wales	88.8

LLC - English	%
Monmouthshire	93.1
Ceredigion	92.7
Vale of Glamorgan	92.7
Powys	91.4
Newport	90.4
Torfaen	90.4
Caerphilly	90.1
Merthyr Tydfil	90.0
Cardiff	89.6
Bridgend	88.6
Flintshire	88.4
Pembrokeshire	88.2
Denbighshire	88.0
Wrexham	87.9
Isle of Anglesey	87.9
Rhondda Cynon Taf	87.7
Blaenau Gwent	87.1
Conwy	86.8
Swansea	85.6
Carmarthenshire	83.0
Neath Port Talbot	81.4
Gwynedd	52.2
Wales	88.0
South East Wales	90.3

LLC - Welsh	%
Newport	97.7
Blaenau Gwent	96.3
Merthyr Tydfil	95.1
Rhondda Cynon Taf	94.8
Vale of Glamorgan	94.7
Powys	93.8
Monmouthshire	93.8
Cardiff	93.1
Caerphilly	92.6
Bridgend	92.5
Neath Port Talbot	92.2
Swansea	92.0
Torfaen	91.9
Ceredigion	90.9
Carmarthenshire	90.2
Denbighshire	89.6
Gwynedd	88.7
Wrexham	88.4
Pembrokeshire	88.3
Flintshire	88.1
Isle of Anglesey	86.2
Conwy	84.5
Wales	90.7
South East Wales	93.4

%
94.2
93.8
92.8
91.8
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91.4
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91.3
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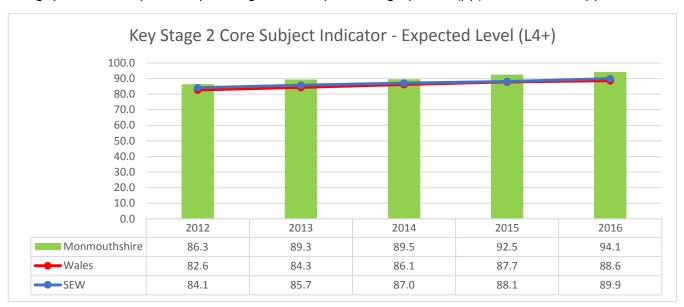
Personal & Social	
	%
Development	
Ceredigion	97.1
Vale of Glamorgan	96.6
Monmouthshire	96.6
Powys	96.3
Gwynedd	95.5
Torfaen	95.3
Newport	95.2
Merthyr Tydfil	95.1
Denbighshire	94.9
Carmarthenshire	94.8
Cardiff	94.8
Swansea	94.7
Rhondda Cynon Taf	94.6
Flintshire	94.5
Bridgend	94.3
Caerphilly	94.3
Blaenau Gwent	94.2
Wrexham	94.0
Conwy	94.0
Pembrokeshire	93.9
Isle of Anglesey	93.7
Neath Port Talbot	90.8
Wales	94.5
South East Wales	95.0

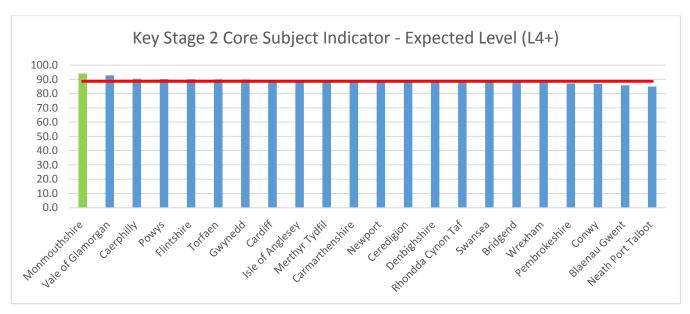
Key Stage 2

Expected Level (Level 4+)

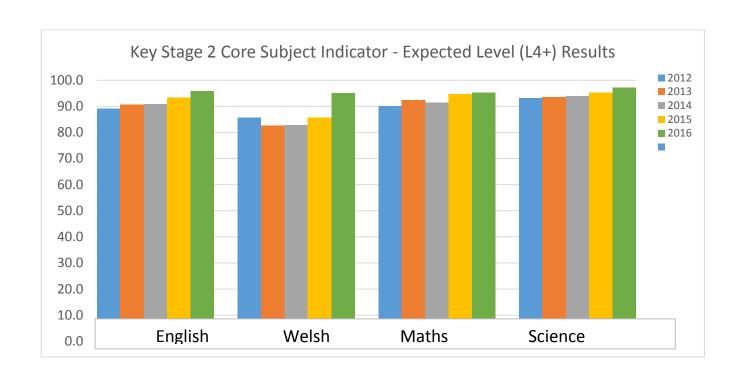
Monmouthshire has yet again seen an increase in performance at Key Stage 2 in the Core Subject Indicator (CSI). 94.1% of pupils in Monmouthshire achieved the expected level (level 4+) in the CSI, increasing by 1.6 percentage points (pp) compared to 2015. This growth is also greater than the improvement shown at national level, with the Welsh average improving 0.9pp to 88.6%.

Monmouthshire remain top of the rankings when compared to other Welsh local authorities, with the gap to second place expanding from 0.4 percentage points (pp) in 2015 to 1.4pp in 2016.





There were increases in each indicator across Key Stage 2 in 2016, with each sitting at least 4.0 percentage points (pp) higher than the Welsh average. The most improved indicator was for Welsh, which saw a 9.4pp rise to 95.1%, a figure that is 2pp higher than the South East Wales average and saw Monmouthshire rise in the Welsh local authority rankings to 6th – a significant rise from the 2015 position of 20th. English saw an increase of 2.5pp to 95.9% with Science also improving by 2.0pp to 97.2%. Maths had the lowest increase in Key Stage 2, increasing by 0.5pp to 95.2%.



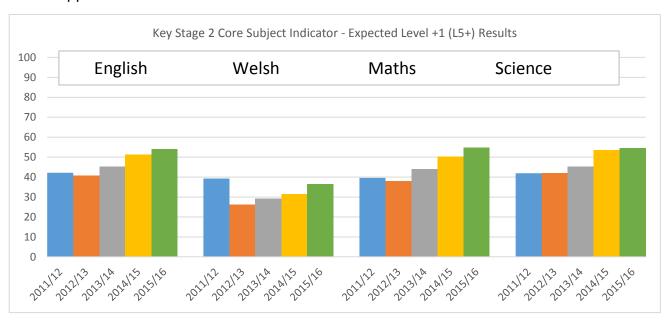
Expected Level (Level 4+)	Core Subject Indicator	English	Welsh	Maths	Science
Monmouthshire 2016	94.1%	95.9%	95.1%	95.2%	97.2%
Target 2016	93.6%	94.9%	92.7%	94.9%	95.8%
South East Wales 2016	89.9%	91.9%	93.1%	91.7%	93.2%
Wales 2016	88.6%	90.3%	90.8%	91.0%	91.7%
Monmouthshire 2015	92.5%	93.4%	85.7%	94.7%	95.2%
Wales 2015	87.7%	89.6%	90.5%	90.2%	91.4%

Monmouthshire's ranking in Wales – Expected Level (L4+)

Core Subject Indicator	English	Welsh	Maths	Science
1 st	1 st	6 th	1 st	1 st

Expected Level +1 (Level 5+)

Figures for all indicators at the expected level +1 have increased in 2016, with the most significant increase coming in Welsh (up 5.2 percentage points (pp) to 36.6%). Science figures rose by approximately 1.0 pp to 54.6% and English saw an increase of 2.9pp to 54.1%. The Maths figure rose 4.6pp from 50.2% in 2015 to 54.8%.



Expected Level (Level 5+)	English	Welsh	Maths	Science
Monmouthshire 2016	54.1%	36.6%	54.8%	54.6%
Target 2016	51.5%	31.7%	51.7%	52.8%
Wales 2016	42.0%	38.0%	43.2%	42.5%
Monmouthshire 2015	51.2%	31.4%	50.2%	53.6%
Wales 2015	40.8%	38.0%	41.2%	41.1%

Key Stage 2 - By Gender

Expected Level (Level 4+)

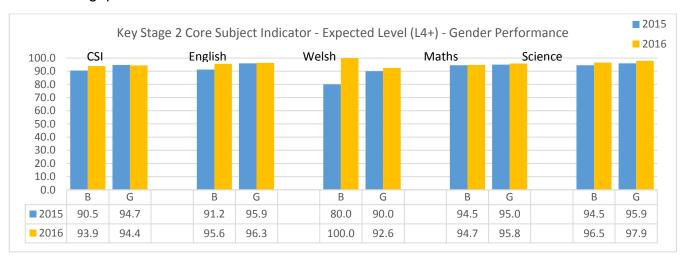
In contrast to Foundation Phase, the gap in attainment between boys and girls decreased for 3 of the 5 indicators at the expected level (L4+) in Monmouthshire, with the gap in Science staying consistent at 1.4 percentage points (pp). Maths was the only indicator see the gap widen, although minimally, from a gap of 0.5pp in 2015 to 1.0pp in 2016. Despite both boys and girls seeing a rise in their figures, the gap has widened due to a slightly better improvement by girls (0.8pp rise as opposed to a 0.2pp rise for boys).

Although the gap in attainment closed for Welsh, the roles have reversed with boys now outperforming girls by 7.4 percentage points (pp). This is due to a 20.0pp rise in the performance of boys from 2015 (80% compared to 100% in 2016). Girls performance in Welsh is also the only

gender figure where it is less than that of Wales, with Monmouthshire's girls scoring 0.8pp lower than that of Wales. In all other indicators girls outperformed boys.

Welsh is also the only indicator in Monmouthshire to see the attainment gap larger than that of Wales, with the national figure of 5.2 being 2.2pp lower than that of Monmouthshire.

The attainment gap also closed in English and the Core Subject Indicator (CSI). With the gaps in English and CSI now under 1.0 percentage point (0.6 and 0.5 respectively). Science saw a consistent 2.0 percentage point increase in performance for both boys and girls and therefore the attainment gap has remained static at 1.4.



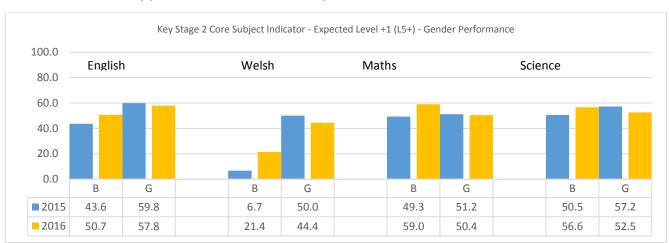
Expected Level +1 (Level 5)

The attainment gap between genders closed in all but one indicator for the expected level +1. Interestingly, boys outperformed girls in 2 of the 4 indicators also.

Maths was the only subject to see a widening of the attainment gap, expanding from 1.9 percentage points (pp) in 2015 to 8.6pp in 2016. This is a consequence of the girls performance dropping by 0.8pp whereas the performance of boys increased by 9.7pp.

Welsh saw a significant closing of the attainment gap, from 43.3pp in 2015 to 23.0pp in 2016. The performance of girls dropped by 5.6pp in this period, however the major contributor to the gap closing is the increase of boys performance from 6.7% to 21.4%, an increase of 14.7 percentage points.

The performance of Girls at this level dropped in every subject; however, the figures are still higher than those across Wales. Boys' performance increased in every subject compared to 2015, with increases of over 6pp to be seen in each subject.

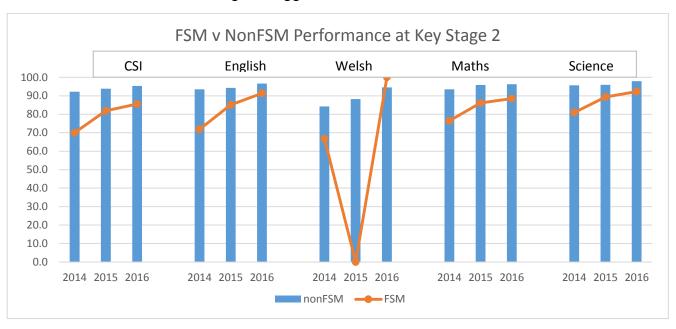


Key Stage 2 - Free School Meals

Expected Level (Level 4+)

2016 has seen the attainment gap between FSM and non-FSM performance close for each indicator. Performance for non- FSM pupils have increased year on year since 2014, whilst in all indicators apart from Welsh this is also the case for FSM pupils. Performance for FSM pupils studying Welsh has however increased from 0 in 100% in the year to 2016.

This trend is also reflected in the attainment gap, with figures the lowest for 3 years. Each gap is now below 10%, with CSI having the biggest difference of 9.8 %.



FSM

	CSI	English	Welsh	Maths	Science
2014	70.0%	71.8%	66.7%	76.4%	80.9%
2015	81.9%	85.1%	0%	86.2%	89.4%
2016	85.6%	91.3%	100%	88.5%	92.3%

Non-FSM

	CSI	English	Welsh	Maths	Science
2014	92.2%	93.5%	84.2%	93.5%	95.7%
2015	93.8%	94.3%	88.2%	95.8%	96.0%
2016	95.3%	96.6%	94.6%	96.2%	97.9%

2016 Welsh Local Authority Performance at the Expected Level (Level 4+)

001	0/
CSI	%
Monmouthshire	94.1
Vale of Glamorgan	92.7
Caerphilly	90.4
Powys	90.2
Flintshire	90.1
Torfaen	89.9
Gwynedd	89.8
Cardiff	89.5
Isle of Anglesey	89.4
Merthyr Tydfil	89.2
Carmarthenshire	89.0
Newport	88.8
Ceredigion	88.7
Denbighshire	88.6
Rhondda Cynon Taf	88.5
Swansea	88.2
Bridgend	87.9
Wrexham	87.7
Pembrokeshire	87.1
Conwy	86.8
Blaenau Gwent	85.8
Neath Port Talbot	84.9
Wales	88.6
South East Wales	89.9

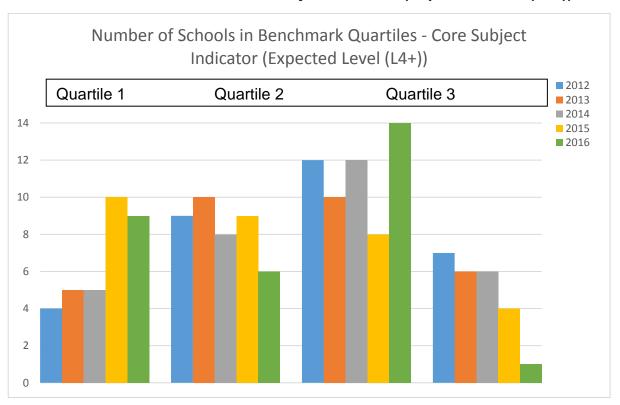
English	%
Monmouthshire	95.9
Vale of Glamorgan	93.8
Caerphilly	92.4
Newport	91.7
Powys	91.5
Flintshire	91.2
Carmarthenshire	91.1
Merthyr Tydfil	91.1
Torfaen	91.1
Cardiff	91.0
Gwynedd	90.9
Denbighshire	90.2
Isle of Anglesey	90.1
Ceredigion	90.1
Rhondda Cynon Taf	90.0
Wrexham	90.0
Swansea	90.0
Pembrokeshire	89.8
Bridgend	89.7
Conwy	88.1
Blaenau Gwent	87.6
Neath Port Talbot	87.0
Wales	90.3
South East Wales	91.9

Welsh	%
Torfaen	97.9
Cardiff	96.1
Vale of Glamorgan	95.8
Powys	95.6
Merthyr Tydfil	95.5
Monmouthshire	95.1
Newport	94.6
Bridgend	94.3
Rhondda Cynon Taf	93.9
Neath Port Talbot	93.4
Swansea	93.2
Wrexham	92.5
Caerphilly	91.8
Denbighshire	90.5
Ceredigion	89.5
Gwynedd	89.2
Carmarthenshire	88.5
Isle of Anglesey	88.0
Conwy	87.3
Pembrokeshire	84.5
Flintshire	84.3
Blaenau Gwent	81.8
Wales	90.8
South East Wales	93.1

Maths	%
Monmouthshire	95.2
Vale of Glamorgan	94.6
Flintshire	92.3
Powys	92.1
Caerphilly	92.0
Merthyr Tydfil	92.0
Carmarthenshire	91.7
Gwynedd	91.5
Cardiff	91.4
Torfaen	91.4
Newport	91.3
Rhondda Cynon Taf	91.3
Denbighshire	91.2
Isle of Anglesey	91.2
Ceredigion	90.6
Wrexham	90.3
Bridgend	90.2
Conwy	90.0
Pembrokeshire	90.0
Swansea	89.9
Neath Port Talbot	88.4
Blaenau Gwent	88.0
Wales	91.0
South East Wales	91.7

Science	%
Monmouthshire	97.2
Vale of Glamorgan	95.1
Gwynedd	93.3
Caerphilly	93.2
Newport	93.2
Isle of Anglesey	92.9
Powys	92.9
Carmarthenshire	92.8
Flintshire	92.8
Denbighshire	92.7
Torfaen	92.7
Rhondda Cynon Taf	91.6
Ceredigion	91.6
Cardiff	91.6
Bridgend	91.5
Merthyr Tydfil	91.4
Pembrokeshire	91.2
Wrexham	90.8
Conwy	90.7
Swansea	90.6
Blaenau Gwent	89.2
Neath Port Talbot	88.4
Wales	91.7
South East Wales	93.2

Benchmark Quartiles for the Core Subject Indicator (Expected Level (L4+))



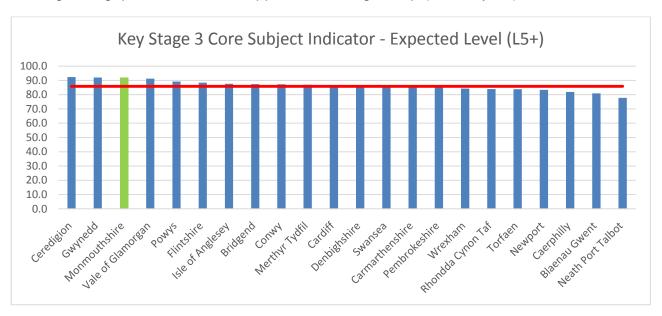
	Quartile 1	Quartile 2	Quartile 3	Quartile 4
2012	4	9	12	7
2013	5	10	10	6
2014	5	8	12	6
2015	10	9	8	4
2016	9	6	14	1

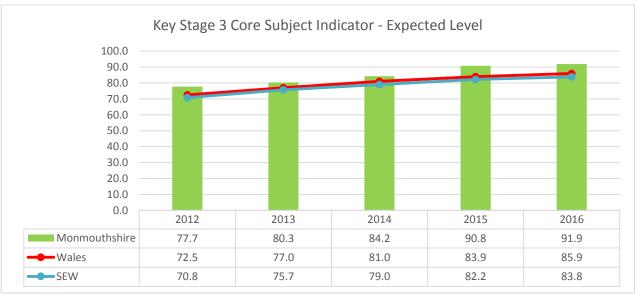
Key Stage 3

Expected Level (Level 5+)

Monmouthshire saw an increase in the Core Subject Indicator for Key Stage 3, rising by 1.1 percentage points (pp) to 91.9%. This figure remains comfortably above the South East Wales figure of 83.8% and the Wales figure of 85.9%, both of which saw increases of 2.0pp and 1.6pp respectively.

Despite seeing an increase, Monmouthshire dropped in the rankings in Wales to 3rd, from the 2nd place achieved in 2015. Gwynedd remain above Monmouthshire in 2nd place (1st last year) although the gap has closed to 0.1pp, with Ceredigion top (3rd last year) on 92.3%.



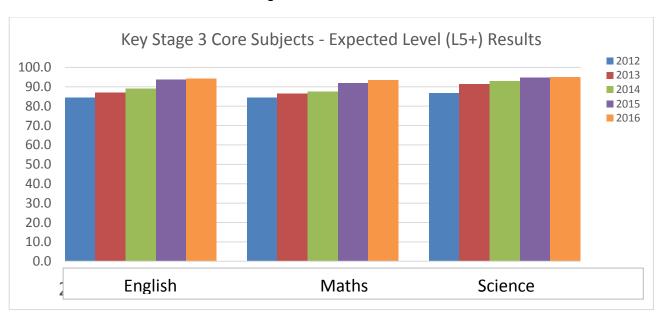


2016 saw increases in each core subject at Key Stage 3. Maths saw the largest increase, with the 2015 figure improving by 1.6 percentage points (pp) to 93.6% - 3.5pp above the Welsh figure and 4.6pp above the South East Wales figure.

Science performance improved by 0.2 percentage points (pp) to push it above 95% to 95.1%. Wales and South East Wales saw a larger increase in Science scores, but Monmouthshire are still outperforming them.

Monmouthshire's English scores improved by 0.5 percentage points (pp) to 94.2%. This places Monmouthshire 5pp above Wales and 6.7pp above South East Wales.

Despite scores increasing, Monmouthshire have fallen down the Welsh local authority rankings in 3 of the 4 indicators, whilst increasing to 3rd in Maths.



Expected Level (Level 5+)	Core Subject Indicator	English	Maths	Science
Monmouthshire 2016	91.9%	94.2%	93.6%	95.1%
Target 2016	93.3%	94.5%	94.5%	95.5%
South East Wales 2016	83.8%	87.5%	89.0%	91.5%
Wales 2016	85.9%	89.2%	90.1%	92.8%
Monmouthshire 2015	90.8%	93.7%	92.0%	94.9%
Wales 2015	83.9%	87.9%	88.7%	91.8%

Monmouthshire's ranking in Wales – Expected Level (L5+)

Core Subject Indicator	English	Maths	Science
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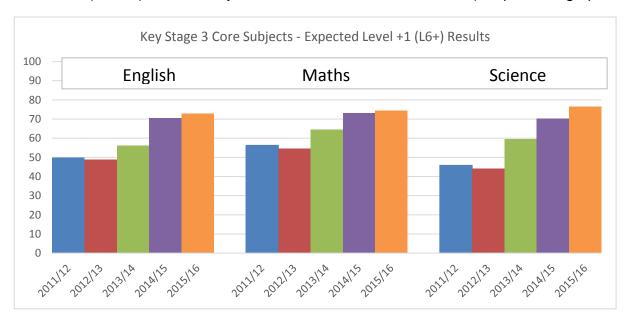
Expected Level +1 (Level 6+)

The 2016 performance has improved compared to last year and continues the trend of more Monmouthshire pupils achieving the Expected Level +1 in core subjects than the previous year.

English scores rose to 72.7%, a 2.2 percentage point increase when compared to 2015. Wales also saw an increase of 3.6 percentage points to 56.2%.

Maths scores increased slightly to 74.5% (1.5 percentage point increase), however Wales saw their scores increase by a bigger margin (3.2 percentage points).

Science scores increased from 70.2% in 2015 to 76.5% in 2016. Again, the Wales score also increased (62.9%), however by less than that of Monmouthshire (4.4 percentage point increase).



Expected Level (Level 6+)	English	Maths	Science
Monmouthshire 2016	72.7%	74.5%	76.5%
Target 2016	73.0%	75.3%	75.4%
South East Wales 2016			
Wales 2016	56.2%	62.7%	62.9%
Monmouthshire 2015	70.5%	73.0%	70.2%
Wales 2015	52.6%	59.5%	58.5%

Key Stage 3 – By Gender

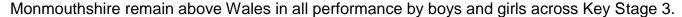
Expected Level (Level 5+)

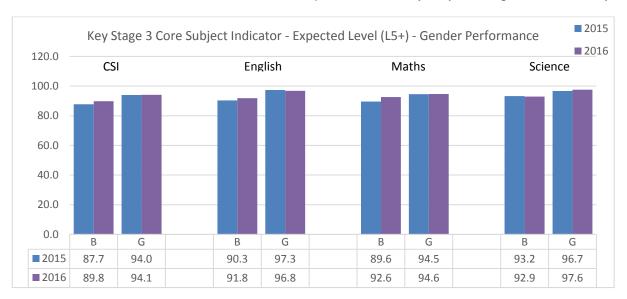
The attainment gap between boys and girls closed for 3 of the 4 indicators at Key Stage 3. With only Science seeing a widening. In the Core Subject Indicator (CSI), a 2.1 percentage point (pp) increase in the performance of boys and 0.1pp in girls saw the gap decrease from 6.3 in 2015 to 4.3 in 2016, over 3pp smaller than the figure for Wales (7.4).

Science saw a small decrease in boys performance (down 0.3 percentage points (pp) to 92.9%), whilst also seeing a 0.9pp increase in girls performance. This has seen the attainment gap widen from 3.5 in 2015 to 4.7 in 2016.

English saw boys improving on their 2015 performance by 1.5 percentage points (pp) whilst girls saw their performance drop by 0.5pp. This has however seen the gap close from 7.0 in 2015 to 4.9 in 2016.

Maths also saw a closing of the attainment gap by 2.9 percentage points (pp) to 2.0. Due mostly to the increase of 3pp in boys' performance compared to last year.





Expected Level +1 (Level 6+)

The attainment gap between genders narrowed across the board at Key Stage 3 Level 6+ (Expected Level +1). The largest change was for English, where the gap narrowed by 2.3 (pp) percentage points.

Performance in English increased for both boys and girls compared to 2015. With boys increasing their 2015 performance by 3.4pp and girls seeing, a 1.1pp increase. These figures are higher than Wales, with a gap of 19.3pp between boys scores and 13.6pp for girls.

Maths saw the attainment gap narrow by 0.2 percentage points (pp). This is due to girls' performance increasing by 1.4pp to 75.4% whilst boys saw a greater increase of 1.6pp when comparing their 2016 performance with that of 2015. Although Wales saw an increase in both boys and girls scores, the attainment gap widened to 5.

There was a similar story in Science with the Monmouthshire attainment gap narrowing and the Wales gap increasing, although both boys and girls saw an increase in performance in Monmouthshire and Wales. Monmouthshire boys scores are up to 73.7% from 66.6%, and girls scores are up by 5.5 percentage points to 79.5%.