



Report to :	EDUCATION ATTAINMENT IMPROVEMENT BOARD
Date :	29 March 2016
Reporting Officer:	Bob Berry, Interim Assistant Executive Director, Learning
Subject :	GCSE RESULTS 2015 - UPDATED
Report Summary :	The reporting of GCSE results comes in two stages: unvalidated results and validated results. The recent publication of validated GCSE results has seen the performance of Tameside increase. This report showcases the excellent performance of Tameside's pupils in 2014/15 compared to other LAs regionally and our statistical neighbours.
Recommendations :	That Members of the Board note the content of the report.
Links to Sustainable Community Strategy :	The report supports three elements of the Community Strategy - Prosperous, Learning and Supportive Tameside.
Policy Implications :	There are none arising from this report.
Financial Implications : (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)	There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.
Legal Implications : (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	It is important that Members understand the national framework and its changes together with the performance of Tameside schools so that there is appropriate resource and challenge can be directed. This report shows quite clearly that this approach to date has been very effective in raising standards.
Risk Management :	There are significant reputational risks to the Council if it does not monitor and challenge schools' performance and standards effectively, and intervene where appropriate.
Access to Information :	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Bob Berry, Interim Assistant Executive Director, Learning, by:  Telephone: 0161 342 2050  e-mail: bob.berry@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The recent publication of validated GCSE results [i.e. results that have been subject to remarks or discounting] has seen the performance of Tameside increase. This report showcases the excellent performance of Tameside's pupils in 2014/15 compared to other LAs regionally and our statistical neighbours.

2. GCSE RESULTS

- 2.1 In 2014 the proportion of young people who obtained 5A*-C including English and maths was 53.7%. [This figure was itself slightly complicated by the first entry/best entry rule and the changes to vocational qualifications, introduced in October 2013]. In 2015 the figure was 57.3%, a 3.6% rise.
- 2.2 In terms of 5+ A*-C [E+M], the following schools made substantial gains this year; St. Damian's RC Science College, from 64% - 79%, Longdendale High School, from 54% - 66%, Fairfield High School for Girls, from 71% - 78%, and Audenshaw School from 63% - 72%.
- 2.3 The following two schools also made substantial gains, but there is an important caveat to the data; Copley Academy went from 28% - 40%, and Astley Sports College went from 32% - 41%. The caveat is that for both of these schools the starting point was extremely low, and both are only just still at the national floor standard of 40%. New Charter Academy are also at 40%. Below is a table of the 5A*-C [E+M] results for all secondary schools:

school name	School type	% achieving 5+ A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) including English and maths GCSEs			
		2014	2015	Difference + / -	
Alder Community High School	Community School	71%	66%	-5%	↓
All Saints Catholic College	Academy - Converter Mainstream	55%	50%	-5%	↓
Astley Sports College and Community High School	Community School	32%	41%	9%	↑
Audenshaw School Academy Trust	Academy - Converter Mainstream	63%	72%	9%	↑
Copley Academy	Academy - Converter Mainstream	28%	40%	12%	↑
Denton Community College	Community School	44%	48%	4%	↑
Droylsden Academy	Academy Sponsor Led	47%	53%	6%	↑
Fairfield High School for Girls	Academy - Converter Mainstream	71%	78%	7%	↑
Hyde Community College	Community School	48%	48%	0%	→
Longdendale High School	Community School	54%	66%	12%	↑
Mossley Hollins High School	Community School	82%	66%	-16%	↓
New Charter Academy	Academy Sponsor Led	37%	40%	3%	↑
St Damian's RC Science College	Voluntary Aided School	64%	79%	15%	↑
St Thomas More RC College Specialising in Mathematics and Computing	Voluntary Aided School	74%	69%	-5%	↓
West Hill School	Academy - Converter Mainstream	56%	59%	3%	↑
Tameside		53.7%	57.3%	3.6%	↑
England - all schools		53.4%	53.8%	0.4%	→
England - state funded schools only		56.6%	57.1%	0.5%	→

- 2.4 In English, for pupils making expected progress, i.e. three levels of progress since the end of primary school, the national average for 2015 was 71%. The percentage of pupils in Tameside making Expected progress in 2015 was 72.6%, a 3.5% increase on 2015.
- 2.5 Only four schools in Tameside are currently underperforming in this area. There are some excellent results here, and the authority has made an important contribution to this area of provision. The complete scores are below -

school name	School type	% of pupils making expected progress in English			
		2014	2015	Difference + / -	
Alder Community High School	Community School	80%	77%	-3%	↓
All Saints Catholic College	Academy - Converter Mainstream	62%	73%	11%	↑
Astley Sports College and Community High School	Community School	60%	63%	3%	↑
Audenshaw School Academy Trust	Academy - Converter Mainstream	66%	79%	13%	↑
Copley Academy	Academy - Converter Mainstream	43%	53%	10%	↑
Denton Community College	Community School	66%	71%	5%	↑
Droylsden Academy	Academy Sponsor Led	74%	74%	0%	→
Fairfield High School for Girls	Academy - Converter Mainstream	73%	85%	12%	↑
Hyde Community College	Community School	57%	63%	6%	↑
Longdendale High School	Community School	70%	82%	12%	↑
Mossley Hollins High School	Community School	93%	84%	-9%	↓
New Charter Academy	Academy Sponsor Led	75%	62%	-13%	↓
St Damian's RC Science College	Voluntary Aided School	83%	80%	-3%	↓
St Thomas More RC College Specialising in Mathematics and Computing	Voluntary Aided School	89%	74%	-15%	↓
West Hill School	Academy - Converter Mainstream	56%	85%	29%	↑
Tameside		69.1%	72.6%	3.5%	↑
England - all schools		NA	NA		
England - state funded schools only		71.6%	71.1%	-0.5%	→

2.6 Regarding performance in mathematics across the borough, although the picture is not as secure as in English, there have been substantial improvements since 2014. There was a 6% improvement in the percentage of pupils making expected progress in 2015, with 65.9% of Tameside's pupils making expected progress. Having been 5.6% below the national average in 2014, Tameside is now in line with the national average of 66.9% in 2015.

2.7 There are two examples of outstanding maths practice in the borough – Mossley Hollins High School and Alder Community High School and eleven schools improved their scores for expected progress. Good progress has been made in an area that had previously been a cause for concern in the borough, and the complete figures are below -

school name	School type	% of pupils making expected progress in maths			
		2014	2015	Difference + / -	
Alder Community High School	Community School	85%	91%	6%	↑
All Saints Catholic College	Academy - Converter Mainstream	54%	54%	0%	→
Astley Sports College and Community High School	Community School	43%	51%	8%	↑
Audenshaw School Academy Trust	Academy - Converter Mainstream	64%	76%	12%	↑
Copley Academy	Academy - Converter Mainstream	39%	46%	7%	↑
Denton Community College	Community School	53%	63%	10%	↑
Droylsden Academy	Academy Sponsor Led	53%	64%	11%	↑
Fairfield High School for Girls	Academy - Converter Mainstream	73%	84%	11%	↑
Hyde Community College	Community School	71%	70%	-1%	↓
Longdendale High School	Community School	57%	65%	8%	↑
Mossley Hollins High School	Community School	84%	84%	0%	→
New Charter Academy	Academy Sponsor Led	35%	46%	11%	↑
St Damian's RC Science College	Voluntary Aided School	71%	86%	15%	↑
St Thomas More RC College Specialising in Mathematics and Computing	Voluntary Aided School	72%	69%	-3%	↓
West Hill School	Academy - Converter Mainstream	70%	58%	-12%	↓
Tameside		59.9%	65.9%	6.0%	↑
England - all schools		NA	NA		
England - state funded schools only		65.5%	66.9%	1.4%	↑

3. NORTH WEST PERFORMANCE

- 3.1 All of the above results have left Tameside in an improved position with respect to our rankings in both AGMA and also NW authorities. In terms of 5+ A*-C including English and maths, out of the twenty-three NW authorities Tameside was previously ranked seventeenth, we are now ninth. In the AGMA region we were seventh and are now fourth. We are no longer an underperforming authority. For expected progress in English, the LA is fourth and for expected progress in maths the LA is ninth. The complete picture can be found below –

GCSE performance - North West authorities

LA	5+ A*-C inc E&M		Expected progress in English		Expected progress in maths	
	%	position	%	position	%	position
Blackburn with Darwen	56.9	10	71.4	9	70.9	2
Blackpool	42.4	22	58.5	23	51.5	22
Bolton	56.8	12	67.7	17	65.6	10
Bury	55.3	14	69.1	11	61.9	15
Cheshire East	63.3	2	73.4	5	70.8	3
Cheshire West and Chester	58.3	6	73.8	3	67.9	7
Cumbria	56.8	13	69.0	13	65.4	11
Halton	56.9	11	73.1	7	62.7	13
Knowsley	37.4	23	61.1	21	46.9	23
Lancashire	58.8	4	72.6	8	67.4	8
Liverpool	48.6	18	69.1	12	57.1	21
Manchester	47.5	21	68.3	15	59.6	19
Oldham	50.5	17	65.8	19	58.6	20
Rochdale	48.4	19	65.3	20	64.1	12
Salford	48.0	20	60.4	22	60.1	17
Sefton	54.9	15	68.2	16	60.0	18
St. Helens	54.7	16	66.2	18	62.0	14
Stockport	58.3	7	68.3	14	69.7	4
Tameside	57.3	9	73.7	4	66.9	9
Trafford	70.7	1	79.3	1	74.8	1
Warrington	58.5	5	73.4	6	68.2	6
Wigan	57.6	8	70.4	10	61.5	16
Wirral	61.8	3	76.6	2	68.7	5

4. STATISTICAL NEIGHBOURS

- 4.1 The GCSE results have also left Tameside in an improved position when compared to our statistical neighbours. We have risen from fifth to second in terms of 5+ A*-C including English and maths, we are now second for expected progress in English (up from sixth) and for expected progress in maths we have risen from fifth to first.

GCSE performance -Statistical neighbours

LA	5+ A*-C inc E&M		Expected progress in English		Expected progress in maths	
	%	Position	%	Position	%	Position
Barnsley	49.4	11	65.3	7	52.7	11
Doncaster	50.0	10	63.8	10	57.5	10
Halton	56.9	3	71.6	3	61.6	4
Hartlepool	53.4	7	70.5	4	58.5	8
North East Lincolnshire	52.1	8	69.0	6	64.1	2
Redcar and Cleveland	54.3	6	64.9	8	60.9	5
Rotherham	55.2	4	78.3	1	63.7	3
St. Helens	54.7	5	64.8	9	60.7	6
Sunderland	50.3	9	61.8	11	57.7	9
Tameside	57.3	2	72.6	2	65.9	1
Wigan	57.6	1	69.5	5	60.6	7

5. DISADVANTAGED PUPILS

- 5.1 The gap between disadvantaged pupils in Tameside and other pupils nationally is closing. In terms of attainment of 5+ A*-C including English and maths, there is a 29% gap between disadvantaged pupils in Tameside and other pupils nationally. This is in line with the national gap of 30%. The gaps between disadvantaged pupils in Tameside and other pupils nationally are also in line with the national gap in each progress measure, as illustrated in the table below –

	2014					2015				
	Disadvantaged pupils in Tameside	Disadvantaged pupils nationally	Other pupils nationally	Gap between disadvantaged pupils in Tameside to other pupils nationally	Gap - disadvantaged pupils nationally to other pupils nationally	Disadvantaged pupils in Tameside	Disadvantaged pupils nationally	Other pupils nationally	Gap between disadvantaged pupils in Tameside to other pupils nationally	Gap - disadvantaged pupils nationally to other pupils nationally
% 5+ A*-C inc E&M	33%	36%	64%	31%	28%	36%	35%	65%	29%	30%
English: % expected progress	57%	59%	75%	18%	16%	58%	58%	74%	16%	16%
Maths: % expected progress	43%	49%	71%	28%	22%	48%	50%	72%	24%	22%

- 5.2 In terms of attainment of disadvantaged pupils in Tameside schools, the performance improved in 11 out of 15 schools in the borough. Alder Community High School, Audenshaw School, Fairfield High School, Mossley Hollins High School, St Thomas More RC College and West Hill School are all significantly above the national average. St Damian's RC Science College was the most improved school in the borough in this area. See the table below –

School	% 5+ A*-C inc Eng & maths - disadvantaged pupils			
	2014	2015	+ / -	
Alder Community High School	50%	45%	-5%	↓
All Saints Catholic College	31%	31%	0%	→
Astley Sports College and Community High School	18%	24%	6%	↑
Audenshaw School Academy Trust	50%	58%	8%	↑
Copley Academy	15%	25%	10%	↑
Denton Community College	35%	32%	-3%	↓
Droylsden Academy	30%	38%	8%	↑
Fairfield High School for Girls	48%	53%	5%	↑
Hyde Community College	38%	35%	-3%	↓
Longdendale High School	35%	38%	3%	↑
Mossley Hollins High School	63%	46%	-17%	↓
New Charter Academy	21%	30%	9%	↑
St Damian's RC Science College	50%	68%	18%	↑
St Thomas More RC College Specialising in Mathematics and Computing	48%	45%	-3%	↓
West Hill School	28%	43%	15%	↑
Tameside	33%	36%	3%	↑
National	36%	37%	1%	→

- 5.3 In terms of disadvantaged pupils making expected progress in English, 11 out of 15 schools in the borough made improvements in 2015. The most improved school in this area was All Saints Catholic College and the school is now slightly above the national average in this area. West Hill School, Longdendale High School, Astley Sports College and Fairfield High School also saw significant improvements in this area. The results of Mossley Hollins High School, Fairfield High School and St Damian's RC Science College are significantly above the national average. See the table below -

School	Expected progress in English - disadvantaged pupils			
	2014	2015	+ / -	
Alder Community High School	70%	65%	-5%	↓
All Saints Catholic College	42%	61%	19%	↑
Astley Sports College and Community High School	42%	53%	11%	↑
Audenshaw School Academy Trust	61%	65%	4%	↑
Copley Academy	35%	41%	6%	↑
Denton Community College	60%	66%	6%	↑
Droylsden Academy	60%	61%	1%	↑
Fairfield High School for Girls	67%	76%	9%	↑
Hyde Community College	54%	56%	2%	↑
Longdendale High School	56%	67%	11%	↑
Mossley Hollins High School	82%	71%	-11%	↓
New Charter Academy	64%	52%	-12%	↓
St Damian's RC Science College	72%	71%	-1%	↓
St Thomas More RC College Specialising in Mathematics and Computing	82%	50%	-32%	↓
West Hill School	50%	64%	14%	↑
Tameside	57%	58%	1%	→
National	59%	59%	0%	→

- 5.4 A high percentage of disadvantaged pupils made expected progress in maths at Alder Community High School, Audenshaw School, Fairfield High School, Mossley Hollins High School and St Damian's RC Science College. These schools were all significantly above the national average. St Damian's in particular improved 31% in this area, with 84% of disadvantaged pupils making expected progress in maths. See the table below –

School	Expected progress in maths - disadvantaged pupils			
	2014	2015	+ / -	
Alder Community High School	70%	78%	8%	↑
All Saints Catholic College	39%	33%	-6%	↓
Astley Sports College and Community High School	35%	35%	0%	→
Audenshaw School Academy Trust	58%	67%	9%	↑
Copley Academy	31%	36%	5%	↑
Denton Community College	44%	49%	5%	↑
Droylsden Academy	38%	49%	11%	↑
Fairfield High School for Girls	47%	73%	26%	↑
Hyde Community College	60%	56%	-4%	↓
Longdendale High School	44%	35%	-9%	↓
Mossley Hollins High School	79%	75%	-4%	↓
New Charter Academy	23%	36%	13%	↑
St Damian's RC Science College	53%	84%	31%	↑
St Thomas More RC College Specialising in Mathematics and Computing	41%	52%	11%	↑
West Hill School	48%	43%	-5%	↓
Tameside	43%	48%	5%	↑
National	49%	50%	1%	→

- 5.5 The increase in attainment of disadvantaged pupils in Tameside means that we also have an improved position when compared to other North West LAs. Tameside is now eighth in terms of 5+ A*-C including English and maths GCSE attainment in 2015 compared to thirteenth in 2014. We are also the fourth most improved LA in this area.

5+ A*-C including English & maths - disadvantaged pupils						
LA	2014	2015	Positon based on result	+ / - on previous year		Positon based on improvement
Blackburn with Darwen	39.9	41.1	1	1.2	↑	8
Blackpool	29.4	27.3	22	-2.1	↓	16
Bolton	39.7	39.2	4	-0.5	→	11
Bury	40.5	37.8	6	-2.7	↓	19
Cheshire East	32.5	34.6	11	2.1	↑	7
Cheshire West and Chester	32.7	31.7	18	-1.0	↓	13
Cumbria	32.3	29.6	21	-2.7	↓	18
Halton	43.0	40.5	2	-2.5	↓	17
Knowsley	23.2	23.9	23	0.7	→	9
Lancashire	31.8	34.2	12	2.4	↑	6
Liverpool	32.5	30.6	20	-1.9	↓	15
Manchester	41.0	37.1	7	-3.9	↓	21
Oldham	33.1	32.3	15	-0.8	→	12
Rochdale	38.0	34.7	10	-3.3	↓	20
Salford	30.5	30.7	19	0.2	→	10
Sefton	34.6	33.1	13	-1.5	↓	14
St. Helens	36.6	32.0	17	-4.6	↓	22
Stockport	29.8	33.1	14	3.3	↑	5
Tameside	32.9	36.3	8	3.4	↑	4
Trafford	44.0	38.6	5	-5.4	↓	23
Warrington	27.7	32.1	16	4.4	↑	2
Wigan	31.8	36.0	9	4.2	↑	3
Wirral	34.8	40.2	3	5.4	↑	1
England	36.7	36.8		0.1	→	

- 5.6 In comparison to our statistical neighbours, our position has also improved. The LA is now second having been fifth in 2015. The LA is also the third most improved LA in this area. The results of our statistical neighbours are below -

5+ A*-C including English & maths - disadvantaged pupils - statistical neighbours						
LA	2014	2015	Positon based on result	+ / - on previous year		Positon based on improve ment
Barnsley	25.7	29.3	10	3.6	↑	2
Doncaster	32.6	29.3	11	-3.3	↓	9
Halton	43.0	40.5	1	-2.5	↓	8
Hartlepool	40.0	33.4	5	-6.6	↓	11
North East Lincolnshire	32.7	31.7	8	-1.0	↓	7
Redcar and Cleveland	31.1	32.1	6	1.0	↑	6
Rotherham	34.0	35.6	4	1.6	↑	4
St. Helens	36.6	32.0	7	-4.6	↓	10
Sunderland	29.0	30.2	9	1.2	↑	5
Tameside	32.9	36.3	2	3.4	↑	3
Wigan	31.8	36.0	3	4.2	↑	1

6. SUMMARY

- 6.1 At Key Stage 4 Tameside has bucked the national and regional trend and has seen an increase in both the attainment and progress of pupils at the end of KS4 in the borough. Disadvantaged pupils in Tameside are also making progress in line with disadvantaged pupils nationally, and the gap between Tameside's disadvantaged pupils and other pupils nationally is narrowing.