

2023 KS4 Headline Results for Southampton Local Authority – Provisional

Introduction

Key Stage 4 GCSE results were released to schools on 24th August 2023. Southampton schools agreed to inform the Local Authority of their results so that citywide performance can be calculated. The short briefing note below, based on early provisional data, provides an overview of Southampton's performance.

2023 is the second time since 2019 that Key Stage 4 grades are being based on exams and assessments after two years of alternative arrangements in response to Coronavirus. Unlike last year, students have not been given advanced information about topics they are likely to be tested on. Grades are expected to fall back in line with results in 2019, with England's exam regulator calling 2023 results a "step back to normal". However, some of the adjusted measures from last year remain in place. Exams were spaced out more than they were prior to the pandemic, allowing for rest and revision. In addition, some subjects provided formulae and equations, and students will not be expected to confront unfamiliar words in language exams.

The focus of this 2023 briefing note will follow Secondary accountability measures published by [the DfE](#):

- Progress 8 (not available until mid-September)
- Attainment 8
- The percentage of pupils achieving a 5 or above (strong pass) in English and Maths
- EBacc Average Points Score
- The percentage of pupils entering the English Baccalaureate
- The percentage of students staying in education or employment after Key Stage 4 (destinations) [not available on results day]

In addition to the headline indicators above, the DfE also focus on the following measures:

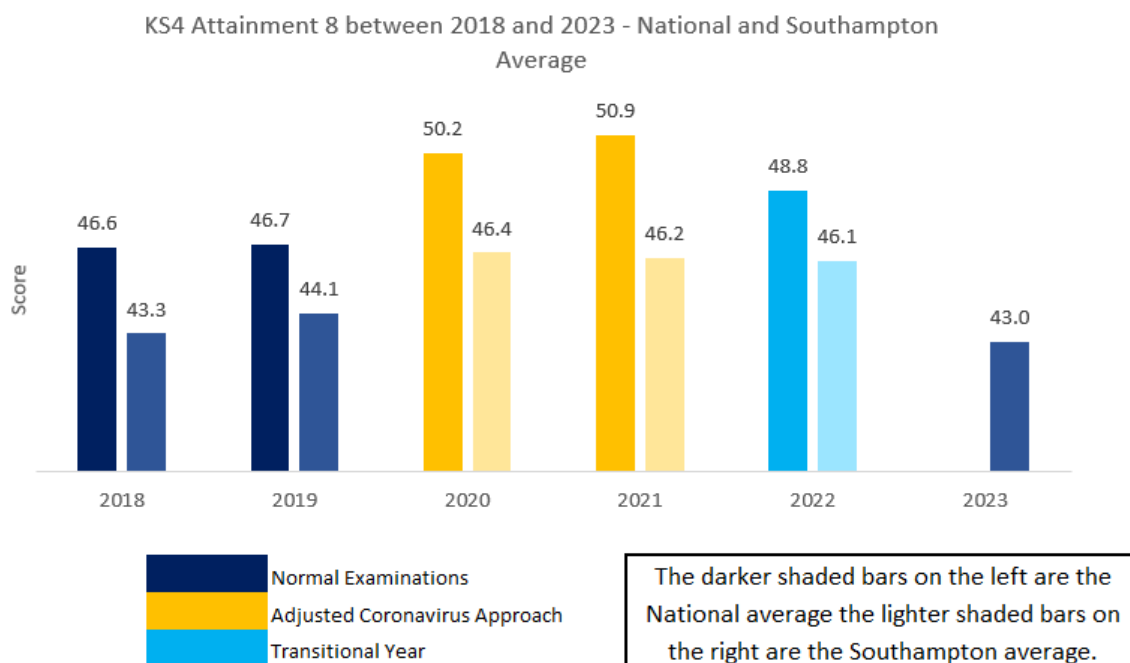
- The proportion of pupils achieving a standard pass in English and Maths – grade 4 or above
- The proportion of pupils achieving a grade 5 or above in all Ebacc subject
- The proportion of pupils achieving a grade 4 or above in all Ebacc subject areas

The Progress 8 indicator relies on National calculations completed by the DfE and is currently unavailable at either School or Local Authority level. The current indication is that 2023 Progress 8 figures will be published by the DfE in late September.

Due to the changes in methodology between results years, it is important that outcomes are considered within the context of that specific year. Comparisons between years should be treated with caution.

Headlines

- In 2023, Southampton pupils (9 out of 12 schools) achieved an Attainment 8 score of 43.0; whereas in 2022, the Southampton Attainment 8 score was 46.1, a decrease of 3.1. The 2022 National average for Attainment 8 was 48.8, a 2023 National average will not be available until the end of September 2022.



- In 2023, 59% of Southampton pupils (11 out of 12 schools) achieved a 9-4 in English and Maths GCSE, which was 3% lower than the 62% of Southampton pupils who achieved a 9-4 in English and Maths GCSE in 2022. The latest available National average for percentage achieving 9-4 in English and Maths was 69% in 2022.
- In 2023, 39% of Southampton pupils (11 out of 12 schools) achieved a 9-5 in English and Maths GCSE, which was 3% lower than the 42% of Southampton pupils who achieved a 9-5 in English and Maths GCSE in 2022. The latest available National average for percentage achieving 9-5 in English and Maths was 50% in 2022.
- In 2023, 54% of Southampton pupils (11 out of 12 schools) achieved a 9-5 and 69% of Southampton pupils achieved a 9-4 in GCSE English.
- In 2023, 45% of Southampton pupils (11 out of 12 schools) achieved a 9-5 and 65% of Southampton pupils achieved a 9-4 in GCSE Maths.
- Southampton's 2023 Attainment 8 score in English, Maths, EBacc elements and Open elements were 9.1, 8.3, 12.3 and 13.2 respectively (11 out of 12 schools).
- In 2023, 30% of Southampton pupils (11 out of 12 schools) entered the English Baccalaureate. An English Baccalaureate Average Points Score of 3.67 was achieved by Southampton pupils.
- In 2023, 12% of Southampton pupils (11 out of 12 schools) achieved a 9-5 and 17% of Southampton pupils achieved a 9-4 in the English Baccalaureate.