

Children & Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee

25 January 2024

Achievement of Warwickshire Children and Young People in Statutory Assessments 2023

Recommendation(s)

That the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider and comment on the performance of children and young people in Warwickshire's state-funded schools in statutory national tests.

1.0 Background

- 1.1 In 2022/23 there was a return to pre-pandemic standards for grading GCSEs, AS and A levels, with protection built into the process to recognise the disruption that students have faced. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 assessments were graded using different methodologies impacting on performance data for summer 2020 through to summer 2022.
- 1.2 Two years of assessment data have now been released for the academic years 2021/22 and 2022/23. The Department for Education have resumed the publication of Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 results at school level having suspended them since 2019. Caution is still very much advised when comparing the last two years of assessment data to that prior to the pandemic.
- 1.3 This paper sets out the performance data for Primary and Secondary age children. It contains the outcomes of pupils in the statutory national curriculum tests and teacher assessments and examinations in 2023.
- 1.4 The data presented covers the curriculum areas for the following pupils:
 - the earliest statutory teacher assessments for pupils in Reception (ages 4-5) called the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP)
 - the Phonics tests taken by pupils in Year 1 (ages 5-6),
 - Key Stage 1 teacher assessments taken by pupils in Year 2 (ages 6-7)
 - Key Stage 2 tests and teacher assessments taken by pupils in Year 6 (ages 10-11)
 - Key Stage 4 (GCSEs and equivalent qualifications) taken by students in Year 11 (ages 15-16)
 - Post 16 (A Levels and equivalent qualifications) taken by students in Year 13 (ages 17-18)

2.0 Educational Context

2.1 Governance arrangements in Warwickshire LA schools are diverse. The table below shows the number of schools and nurseries along with their governance arrangements:

School type	All-through	Nursery	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
Local authority nursery school		6				6
Community school			64			64
Community special school					2	2
Voluntary aided school			16			16
Voluntary controlled school			27			27
Foundation school			2	1		3
Maintained schools	0	6	109	1	2	118
Academy converter	1		57	26		84
Academy special converter					5	5
Academy special sponsor led					2	2
Academy sponsor led			22	7		29
Academies	1	0	79	33	7	120
Free schools	1		7	2		10
Free schools special					2	2
Free schools	1	0	7	2	2	12
Total	2	6	195	36	11	250

Source: DfE Get Information About Schools website

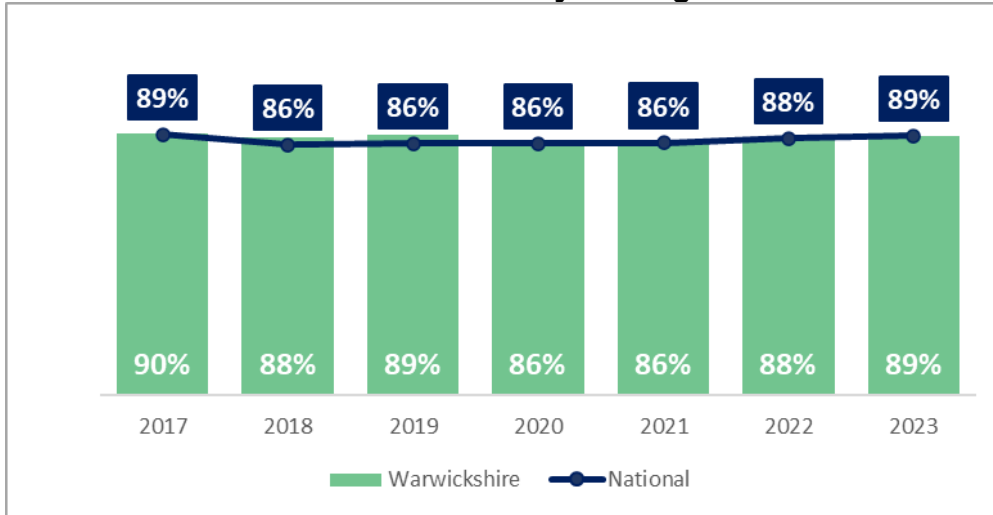
2.2 53% of state-funded schools (including nurseries) are academies or free schools. 44% of primary schools are academies/free schools, 97% of secondary schools are academies/free schools and 82% of special schools are academies/free schools.

The following table shows school type by district:

School type	North Warwickshire		Nuneaton and Bedworth		Rugby		Stratford on Avon		Warwick		Total
	Maintained	Academy	Maintained	Academy	Maintained	Academy	Maintained	Academy	Maintained	Academy	
All Through										2	2
Nursery	1		2						3		6
Primary	11	13	21	14	22	16	24	32	31	11	195
Secondary		5		7	1	7		11		5	36
Special		1	1	4		2		2	1		11
Total	12	19	24	25	23	25	24	45	35	18	250

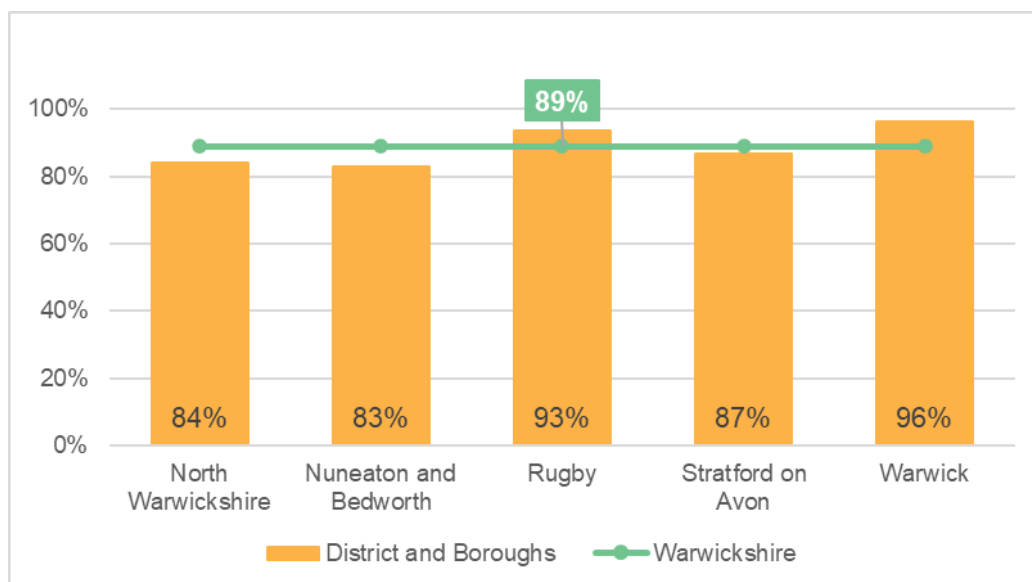
2.3 Detailed Ofsted Inspection grade outcomes can be found in this [dashboard](#). It displays information at school, district and borough, county, statistical neighbour¹, and national level.

**Overall Ofsted judgements Good and Outstanding Schools
End of each academic year August 31st**



2.4 At the end of the last academic year (August 2022/23), 244 schools had Ofsted Inspection results: 37 graded Outstanding, 179 Good, 18 Requiring Improvement and 10 Inadequate. The current situation as of 31st October remains the same with 89% of Warwickshire schools judged Outstanding or Good, the same as national and our statistical neighbours.

**Overall Ofsted judgements Good and Outstanding Schools
by district and borough as at end of October 2023**



¹ Warwickshire’s ten statistical neighbours are: Cheshire West and Chester, Worcestershire, Central Bedfordshire, Leicestershire, Staffordshire, Warrington, Cheshire East, Essex, Hampshire, North Somerset. These Local Authorities have been deemed by the DfE to have similar socio-economic characteristics to Warwickshire.

- 2.5 The latest Ofsted judgements by district and borough show there are higher proportions of Good and Outstanding schools in Warwick and Rugby districts. Further detailed breakdowns by school phase and type of establishment are available in the [Ofsted dashboard](#).

3.0 Education Strategies and Priorities

- 3.1 The Five-Year Council Plan 2022-27 sets out the direction of the Council and what it is working to achieve on behalf of residents. Warwickshire Education Services supports one of the seven focus areas of the Council Plan which is:

‘Through education, improve life opportunities for children, young people and those with special education needs and disabilities’.

- 3.2 The Education Services team provides a range of services, some working directly with children, young people and adults, others supporting and enabling early years settings, schools, colleges and other providers to deliver high quality education and services for the people of Warwickshire. 2023/24 will see the development of the overarching Education Strategy 2024-2030, as well as a SEND (Special Education Needs and Disabilities) Strategy and Sufficiency of Places Strategy. The vision of the Education Business Plan is to:

‘Enable and support children and young people to have high-quality education, achieve their potential, and have skills for life; Transform our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities provision’.

- 3.3 Within Education Services, school effectiveness is the responsibility of the Early Years and School Effectiveness Team. The team support and influence education settings to improve practice, outcomes and aspiration for children and young people including those most disadvantaged. The service maintains and supports Early Years provision and the Warwickshire family of schools to ensure quality provision and the best outcomes for all learners; providing early support remains a priority.
- 3.4 The Warwickshire School Improvement Strategy 2018-2023 sets out Warwickshire’s approach to school improvement where system leaders (accredited National Leader of Education and Local Leader of Education Headteachers and National Leaders of Governance) are responsible for leading and driving school improvement. Education professionals in Warwickshire recognise that we all have a collective responsibility to secure the best outcomes for our Warwickshire learners, irrespective of the type of school, setting or college which they attend. The School Improvement Strategy was co-produced in consultation with Warwickshire school and college leaders.

A new School Effectiveness Strategy 2024-2030 will be written in consultation with schools in the spring and summer terms 2023 for implementation from September 2024. This will support and sit beneath the Warwickshire Education Strategy 2024-2030 and redefine how Education Services will work with schools, colleges and settings. Collaboration and shared accountability will be the basis for this strategy.

- 3.5 In Warwickshire there are 14 primary consortia, each of which is made up of several local schools who work together collaboratively to provide informal school to school support and networking/support. The consortia are school led with support provided by the School Effectiveness Team. There are four parallel networks for secondary schools. Special and Nursery Schools have their own network but are also part of the primary consortia and secondary area networks.
- 3.6 In September 2023 the new Warwickshire Education Partnership Board (WEPB) was established to promote and sustain the vision for education in Warwickshire. It ensures there is a coherent and strategic oversight and leadership of education issues by education leaders and WCC across five thematic areas: School Effectiveness and Organisation; Inclusion; School Funding; Safeguarding and Wider support for children and young people. WEPB will tackle the most challenging issues that impact on Warwickshire's data and outcomes.
- 3.7 The School Effectiveness team consists of a small core group of permanent staff and a team of externally commissioned system leaders made up of quality assured serving headteachers and independent consultants.
- 1.0 Head of Early Years and School Effectiveness
 - 2.7 School Effectiveness Lead Commissioners
 - 0.2 School Effectiveness Lead Advisor (Ofsted Complaints)
 - 1.0 School Effectiveness Networks Lead Officer
 - 2.0 Assessment Co-ordinators
 - Commissioned systems leaders (independent and serving headteachers)

4.0 Executive Summary

- 4.1 Table 1 below provides a summary of the key headline indicators for the different curriculum stages achieved by Warwickshire pupils in **2023** compared to those nationally:

Table 1: Headline measures and results for England, Warwickshire and District and Boroughs

Key Stage	Headline Measure	England (state-funded schools)	Warwickshire	District and Boroughs				
				NW	N&B	R	SoA	W
EYFSP	% of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development	67%	69%	68%	65%	67%	74%	71%
Phonics	% of Year 1 pupils working at the required level	79%	79%	77%	78%	80%	78%	81%
Key Stage 1	% of pupils achieving the Expected Standard in Reading	68%	71%	68%	67%	72%	72%	74%
	% of pupils achieving the Expected Standard in Writing	60%	62%	58%	58%	64%	64%	66%
	% of pupils achieving the Expected Standard in Maths	70%	73%	69%	71%	72%	74%	76%
Key Stage 2	% of pupils achieving the Expected Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths	59%	60%	52%	61%	56%	63%	63%
Key Stage 4	% of pupils achieving a Strong Pass (Grade5+) in English and Maths GCSEs	45%	49%	34%	40%	55%	58%	52%
	Average Attainment 8 Score per pupil	46.3	48.4	39.6	42.9	50.1	54.4	50.6
	Average Progress 8 Score	-0.03	0.05	-0.39	-0.16	0.10	0.27	0.26
Post 16	A Level students: Average grade	C+	B-	C	C	B-	B	B-
	A Level students: Percentage achieving AAB or higher in at least 2 facilitating subjects	15.6%	20.4%	8.7%	7.2%	22.1%	30.3%	18.9%
	Tech level students: Average grade	Merit+	Merit+	Data not available to calculate at District and Borough level				
	Applied General students: Average grade	Merit+	Merit+	Data not available to calculate at District and Borough level				

- 4.2 Warwickshire's Reception year cohort have outperformed their counterparts nationally in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile by 2 percentage points. All the other Primary school headline indicators are above or in line with the national averages.
- 4.3 Key Stage 4 results continue to show that Warwickshire's students have performed strongly in their GCSE and equivalent qualifications, compared to national and statistical neighbours.
- 4.4 As concluded in the Ofsted annual review 2023 there is optimism as education continues to recover from the lingering impact of the pandemic restrictions. This is true of the performance data in Warwickshire although performance has not

returned to levels seen in 2019. The Ofsted report does draw particular attention to a troubling shift in behaviour, attendance and attitudes towards education since the pandemic. This pattern has also been reflected in schools in Warwickshire. The social contract between parents and schools has been fractured. Absenteeism has become a stubborn problem in schools, perceived disruptive behaviour has become more common. Poor behaviour affects pupils and teachers' experience of school and their ability to learn or teach. There is also more anecdotal evidence of friction between schools and parents, who are increasingly willing to challenge school processes/decisions. Schools are working hard to address these issues and prioritise their relationships with parents/carers.

5.0 Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP)

- 5.1 The EYFSP measures pupil performance at the end of Reception year. It measures three “prime areas of learning” (communication and language, physical development, and personal social and emotional development) and four “specific areas of learning” (literacy, mathematics, understanding the world and expressive arts and design).
- 5.2 The key measure for the EYFSP is the proportion of pupils achieving a “Good Level of Development” (GLD), also known as the ‘school readiness’ indicator. For a child to have a good level of development, they must be assessed as “expected” in the 12 early learning goals within the 5 areas of learning relating to: communication and language; personal, social and emotional development; physical development; literacy; and mathematics.
- 5.3 Please note that a new EYFSP framework was introduced in September 2021. As part of the reforms, the EYFS profile was significantly revised. It is therefore not possible to directly compare 2021/22 or 2022/23 assessment outcomes with earlier years.

Table 2: GLD results for England, West Midlands, Statistical Neighbours, Warwickshire and the 5 District and Boroughs

Region	2021/22		2022/23 (provisional)	
	Eligible pupils	% achieving GLD	Eligible pupils	% achieving GLD
England	622583	65%	612610	67%
West Midlands	69416	64%	69550	66%
Statistical Neighbours	7081	68%	7099	69%
Warwickshire	6367	66%	6640	69%
North Warwickshire	756	63%	766	68%
Nuneaton & Bedworth	1485	64%	1547	65%
Rugby	1270	67%	1396	67%
Stratford on Avon	1342	69%	1323	74%
Warwick	1424	67%	1528	71%

neighbours. The LA ranks 47 against all other local authorities which has increased by 11 places from 58 in 2022.

- 5.6 All District and Boroughs have seen an increase in their GLD percentages, especially North Warwickshire and Stratford on Avon whose results jumped by 5 percentage points. Stratford is now the top performing district. Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough is below the national average but only by 1 percentage point.

6.0 Year 1 Phonics

- 6.1 The Year 1 phonics screening check was introduced in 2012 to assess whether children could decode simple words. The expected level has remained the same with a score of at least 32 out of 40 deemed to be a good level to be working at. Performance in this test has improved year on year both nationally and locally.

Table 3: Year 1 phonics results for England, West Midlands, Statistical Neighbours, Warwickshire and the 5 District and Boroughs

Region	2021/22		2022/23 (provisional)	
	Eligible pupils	% Working At expected level	Eligible pupils	% Working At expected level
England	636787	75%	626520	79%
West Midlands	71540	75%	71180	78%
Statistical Neighbours	7303	77%	7201	80%
Warwickshire	6497	77%	6509	79%
North Warwickshire	755	73%	769	77%
Nuneaton & Bedworth	1591	73%	1536	78%
Rugby	1302	76%	1324	80%
Stratford on Avon	1398	78%	1395	78%
Warwick	1451	81%	1485	81%

- 6.2 For Year 1 phonics the LA is ranked 84th against all other local authorities for Year 1 pupils reaching the expected threshold in Phonics. A decline of 22 places from 62nd in 2022.
- 6.3 In 2023, 79% of Warwickshire's Year 1 pupils achieved the required standard of decoding. This is 2 percentage points (ppts) above the previous year and in line with the current National result. This increase has not been at the same pace as national or compared to the region or statistical neighbours who saw averages increase by over 3 percentage points.
- 6.4 Performance in phonics has increased in all but one of the District and Boroughs. Stratford on Avon experienced a minor -0.3 percentage point fall, in contrast to

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough whose percentage increased by over 4 percentage points.

Two of the District and Boroughs; Rugby and Warwick are above the national and region averages and in line with our statistical neighbours.

7.0 Key Stage 1

7.1 Frameworks for teacher assessment are used by teachers to assess if a pupil has met the **expected standard** in the separate subjects of Reading, Writing and Maths at the end of Year 2. This is the last set of Key Stage 1 results as the assessments are no longer statutory.

Table 4: KS1 results for England, West Midlands, Statistical Neighbours, Warwickshire and the 5 District and Boroughs

Region	Meeting Expected Standard							
	2021/22				2022/23 (provisional)			
	Eligible pupils	Reading	Writing	Maths	Eligible pupils	Reading	Writing	Maths
England	639885	67%	58%	68%	648936	68%	60%	70%
West Midlands	71320	66%	57%	67%	73090	68%	60%	70%
Statistical Neighbours	7283	70%	60%	70%	7395	71%	63%	73%
Warwickshire	6528	68%	59%	70%	6670	71%	62%	73%
North Warwickshire	760	60%	52%	62%	757	68%	58%	69%
Nuneaton & Bedworth	1502	65%	56%	69%	1628	67%	58%	71%
Rugby	1367	68%	59%	67%	1345	72%	64%	72%
Stratford on Avon	1334	71%	62%	72%	1432	72%	64%	74%
Warwick	1565	73%	63%	75%	1508	74%	66%	76%

7.2 At Key Stage 1 the LA is ranked 31st against all other local authorities for Reading at the expected standard, 42nd for Writing and 43rd for Maths. Reading has increased by 22 places, Writing by 12 places and Maths by 1 place compared to 2022 rankings.

7.3 Warwickshire pupils continue to do well in all three Key Stage 1 subjects. Results in 2023 improved on the previous year with pupils outperforming their counterparts nationally and regionally. They are performing in line with peers in our statistical neighbour council areas.

7.4 The most improved borough is North Warwickshire, showing positive increases across all subjects, particularly Reading up 8 percentage points on the last year. Three areas; Rugby, Stratford on Avon and Warwick all performed above the national and regional averages, being in line or just above our statistical neighbours. North Warwickshire and Nuneaton & Bedworth both improved their results on last year and remain just below the national average in Writing.

8.0 Key Stage 2

8.1 Key Stage 2 is a combination of teacher assessments and tests. Tests are carried out in Reading and Maths with a teacher assessment in Writing. All are taken at the end of primary school in Year 6.

Table 5: KS2 results for England, West Midlands, Statistical Neighbours, Warwickshire and the 5 District and Boroughs

Region	2021/22		2022/23 (provisional)	
	Eligible pupils	% achieving RWM Expected Standard	Eligible pupils	% achieving RWM Expected Standard
England	663970	59%	660190	59%
West Midlands	74810	57%	76340	58%
Statistical Neighbours	7496	60%	7606	60%
Warwickshire	6803	60%	6920	60%
North Warwickshire	862	55%	884	52%
Nuneaton & Bedworth	1555	57%	1533	61%
Rugby	1441	61%	1439	56%
Stratford on Avon	1402	65%	1428	63%
Warwick	1543	61%	1636	63%

8.2 At Key Stage 2 the LA is ranked 73rd against all other local authorities for pupils achieving the expected standards in reading, writing and maths combined. This is a decline of 16 places from 57th in 2022.

8.3 60% of Warwickshire pupils achieved the Expected Standard in the combined Reading, Writing and Maths measure in 2023. When looking at whole percentages it appears that Warwickshire has stayed the same, however there has been a very slight fall from 60.2% in 2022 to 59.6% in 2023, a percentage point fall of -0.6. There has been no change at a national level and only a 0.3 percentage point increase across our statistical neighbours.

8.4 Two of Warwickshire's District and Boroughs; Nuneaton & Bedworth and Warwick saw positive increases in their performance for this measure, the former up by over 3 percentage points. Rugby Borough however saw the steepest fall by over 5 percentage points from 61% to 56%, along with North Warwickshire who also saw a decline in results from 55% to 52%. This puts both these boroughs behind the national average of 59%.

8.5 **KS1 to KS2 Progress** - There is no 'target' for the amount of progress an individual pupil is expected to make. Any amount of progress a pupil makes contributes towards a school's progress score. Progress measures aim to capture the progress that pupils make from the end of key stage 1 to the end of primary school. They are

a type of value-added measure, which means that pupils' results are compared to the actual achievements of other pupils nationally with similar prior attainment.

A Local Authority's progress scores for reading, writing and mathematics are calculated as its pupils' average progress scores. This means that Warwickshire's progress scores will be presented as positive and negative numbers either side of **zero**.

- A score of 0 means pupils in Warwickshire, on average, do about as well at key stage 2 as those with similar prior attainment nationally.
- A positive score means pupils in Warwickshire on average do better at key stage 2 than those with similar prior attainment nationally.
- A negative score means pupils in Warwickshire on average do worse at key stage 2 than those with similar prior attainment nationally.

Warwickshire's progress scores:

Subject	2022	2023
Reading	+0.12	-0.01
Writing	+0.09	+0.03
Maths	-0.25	-0.61

- 8.6 Maths continues to be a focus area for improvement in primary schools. This has been a long-term issue in Warwickshire and the reasons for this are complex. School moderation processes focus on writing not maths meaning that typically writing, grammar and spelling pedagogy are of greater focus in schools. At times, there is an overreliance on maths schemes and Maths relies on the highly skilful knowledge of the practitioner to secure progression.

The Maths Hub does have networks in Warwickshire and the School Effectiveness Team will continue to work collaboratively with them to direct training and support. In July 2023, Ofsted published their Maths research and analysis report; 'Co-Ordinating Mathematical Success' This will underpin the work and training ahead.

9.0 Key Stage 4 – GCSE and equivalent qualifications

- 9.1 Key Stage 4 GCSEs are now graded 9-1 instead of A*-G, 9 being the highest grade:
- a **Grade 4** is deemed a **Standard Pass** and is equivalent to an old C grade and;
 - a **Grade 5** and above is deemed a **Strong Pass**, a Grade 5 being equivalent to an old high C grade
- 9.2 **Attainment 8** – this is the average achievement of pupils in up to 8 qualifications including English (double weighted), maths (double weighted), three further

qualifications that count in the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) and three further qualifications that can be GCSE qualifications or any other DfE approved non-GCSE qualifications.

- 9.3 **Progress 8** – aims to capture the progress a pupil makes from the end of key stage 2 to the end of key stage 4. It compares pupils' achievement – their Attainment 8 score – with the average Attainment 8 score of all pupils nationally who had a similar starting point (or 'prior attainment'), calculated using assessment results from the end of primary school. Progress 8 is a relative measure, therefore the national average Progress 8 score for mainstream schools is zero.
- 9.4 **English Baccalaureate** - The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) is not a test or qualification; it is a measure used to provide information about a particular range of qualifications. The EBacc refers to a combination of subjects that the government thinks is important for young people to study at GCSE and includes: English language and literature, maths, the sciences, geography or history, a language

Table 6: KS4 results for England, West Midlands, Statistical Neighbours, Warwickshire and the 5 District and Boroughs

Region	2021/22				2022/23 (provisional)			
	Eligible pupils	% achieving Grade 5 or above in English and Maths GCSEs	Attainment 8	Progress 8	Eligible pupils	% achieving Grade 5 or above in English and Maths GCSEs	Attainment 8	Progress 8
England	585222	50%	48.9	-0.03	603648	45%	46.3	-0.03
West Midlands	66102	47%	47.6	-0.06	68236	42%	44.8	-0.09
Statistical Neighbours	6655	49%	48.4	-0.11	6881	43%	45.4	-0.12
Warwickshire	6212	52%	50.2	-0.03	6474	49%	48.4	0.05
North Warwickshire	907	37%	41.7	-0.43	918	34%	39.6	-0.39
Nuneaton & Bedworth	1267	46%	45.0	-0.27	1361	40%	42.9	-0.16
Rugby	1218	55%	52.1	0.03	1261	55%	50.1	0.10
Stratford on Avon	1623	62%	56.7	0.23	1689	58%	54.4	0.27
Warwick	1197	55%	50.8	0.14	1245	52%	50.6	0.26

- 9.5 At Key Stage 4 the LA is ranked 47th for progress 8 against all other local authorities, increasing by 24 places from 71st in 2022. For the percentage of pupils achieving Grade 5 or above in English and Maths, Warwickshire is ranked 40th, 7 places higher than in 2022. Compared to our ten statistical neighbours Warwickshire is ranked 1st for Attainment 8, Progress 8 and % achieving Grade 5 or above in English and maths GCSEs.
- 9.6 Data shows that Warwickshire's strong performance at Key Stage 4 continues. Whilst attainment results may appear down on the previous year, part of that is attributed to the move to pre-pandemic grading of examinations in 2023.

- 9.7 Due to the changes in grading methodologies over the past 4 years due to the pandemic it is best to compare results ‘within the same year’ rather than ‘across years’ to ensure fair comparisons. In 2023, Warwickshire students outperformed their national, regional and statistical neighbour peers across the board. The ranking table shows Warwickshire’s dominance among its statistical neighbours placing 1st for each of the measures listed.
- 9.8 District and borough data varies with students in the north of the County underperforming compared to peers in the south. Both North Warwickshire and Nuneaton & Bedworth are below the national averages for all of the key KS4 measures.

10.0 Post 16 – A level and equivalent qualifications

- 10.1 The government is reforming the 16 to 18 school and college accountability system to set higher expectations for students and institutions, and to make the system fairer, more ambitious and more transparent. The table below shows the attainment measures; average point score per entry, expressed as a grade and average points. This builds on the existing attainment measures showing separate grades for: A Level, Applied General, and Tech Level qualifications.

Post 16 Measures <i>(all National data is based on state-funded schools and colleges)</i>		2022	2023	Trend in the last year
A Level Attainment (Average grade and score)	Warwickshire result	B 39.0	B- 35.1	
	National result	B- 37.9	C+ 34.0	
	LA Rank (out of 152)	34	37	↓
Tech level Attainment (Average grade and score) ¹	Warwickshire result	Dist- 30.0	Merit+ 27.6	
	National result	Dist- 30.5	Merit+ 28.5	
	LA Rank (out of 152)	86	95	↓
Applied General level Attainment (Average grade and score) ²	Warwickshire result	Dist- 30.1	Merit+ 28.6	
	National result	Dist- 31.9	Merit+ 29.5	
	LA Rank (out of 152)	123	107	↑
% of pupils achieving AAB or	Warwickshire result	25.7%	20.4%	

higher in at least 2 facilitating subjects ³	National result	20.7%	15.6%	
	LA Rank (out of 152)	18	18	↔

1 - Tech levels are qualifications for students wishing to develop the specialist skills and knowledge for a technical occupation or industry. They lead to recognised occupations, for example in engineering, IT, accounting or professional cookery.

2 - Applied general qualifications provide broad study of a vocational area. They are designed to lead to higher education and they include areas such as performing arts, business and health and social care.

3 – Facilitating A levels are ones that are commonly needed for entry to leading universities. They are: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Geography, History, English Literature and Classical or Modern Languages.

11.0 Performance Summary of Disadvantaged Children

- 11.1 Overall, Warwickshire's pupils perform well across all subjects and all Key Stages. They often achieve outcomes above the national average and are either above or in line with Warwickshire's statistical neighbour Local Authorities. This positive picture changes when reviewing the success of the more vulnerable groups of children in the county.
- 11.2 In 2023 Warwickshire disadvantaged pupils fall behind disadvantaged pupils nationally across all the performance measures. This follows previous years patterns and reinforces the need for Warwickshire's continued focus on disadvantaged learners. Encouragingly there has been some improvements in the size of the attainment gap for Good Level of Development, Phonics, Key Stage 1 Writing and Key Stage 4. By district disadvantaged pupils in Nuneaton and Bedworth have outperformed disadvantaged pupils in other district for Good Level of Development, Phonics, Key Stage 1 Writing and Maths, and Key Stage 2 Reading Writing and Maths.
- 11.3 Over the coming year we will look at other characteristics that overlap with disadvantaged groups, for example pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.
- 11.4 The table below provides a summary of the outcomes of these children, defined by the DfE as disadvantaged. 'Disadvantaged' pupils are those who have been a) eligible for Free School Meals at any point in the last 6 years, b) children who are looked after or c) children who have been adopted from care or via a Special Guardianship or Child Arrangements Order.

Table Key

EYFSP – Early Years Foundation Stage Profile

Key Stage 2: RWM – Combined Reading, Writing and Maths measure.

Key Stage 4: E&M – English and Maths

A = All Pupils | D = Disadvantaged Pupils | O = Other (non-disadvantaged)
Pupils |

The 'gap' data follows the DfE's methodology which is the Local Authority's disadvantaged result minus the National non-disadvantaged result.

Closing the Gap: PROVISIONAL 2023 Headlines A = All Pupils | D = Disadvantaged Pupils | O = Other (non-disadvantaged) Pupils | Gap = Warwickshire disadvantaged minus National Other

	EYFSP				Phonics Year 1				Key Stage 1 - Expected Standard												Key Stage 2 - Expected Standard				Key Stage 4			
	% Good Level of Development				% Working At expected Level				Reading (R)				Writing (W)				Maths (M)				RWM				Grade 5 or above in E&M GCSEs			
	A	D	O	Gap	A	D	O	Gap	A	D	O	Gap	A	D	O	Gap	A	D	O	Gap	A	D	O	Gap	A	D	O	Gap
National (state funded schools)	67%	52%	72%	-20%	79%	67%	82%	-15%	68%	54%	73%	-19%	60%	45%	65%	-21%	70%	56%	75%	-19%	59%	44%	66%	-22%	45%	25%	52%	-27%
West Midlands	66%	53%	70%	-18%	78%	69%	82%	-13%	68%	56%	73%	-17%	60%	47%	65%	-18%	70%	58%	75%	-17%	58%	46%	65%	-20%	42%	25%	49%	-28%
Warwickshire	69%	50%	74%	-22%	79%	63%	83%	-20%	71%	50%	77%	-23%	62%	40%	68%	-25%	73%	52%	78%	-23%	60%	40%	66%	-26%	49%	22%	56%	-30%
2022	66%	46%	70%	-24%	77%	57%	81%	-22%	68%	49%	73%	-23%	59%	37%	64%	-26%	70%	53%	74%	-20%	61%	40%	66%	-25%	53%	24%	60%	-33%
North Warwickshire	68%	52%	73%	-20%	77%	62%	81%	-20%	68%	50%	74%	-23%	58%	40%	63%	-26%	69%	52%	73%	-23%	52%	37%	58%	-29%	33%	16%	39%	-37%
Nuneaton and Bedworth	65%	53%	69%	-18%	78%	66%	82%	-16%	67%	51%	73%	-22%	58%	42%	65%	-23%	71%	54%	77%	-21%	61%	46%	68%	-20%	40%	19%	48%	-34%
Rugby	67%	46%	72%	-26%	80%	62%	85%	-20%	72%	52%	78%	-21%	64%	41%	70%	-24%	72%	52%	77%	-23%	56%	35%	63%	-31%	55%	31%	62%	-22%
Stratford on Avon	74%	43%	79%	-28%	78%	57%	82%	-25%	72%	50%	77%	-22%	64%	35%	70%	-30%	74%	50%	79%	-25%	64%	38%	70%	-28%	58%	27%	64%	-26%
Warwick	71%	51%	75%	-21%	81%	63%	85%	-19%	74%	47%	79%	-26%	66%	40%	71%	-25%	76%	50%	81%	-25%	63%	40%	69%	-26%	52%	19%	59%	-34%
	Warwickshire above National by 2ppts and above West Midlands by 3ppts Gap is wider than National at -22 ppts				Warwickshire in line with National and above West Midlands by 1ppt Gap is wider than National at -20ppts				Warwickshire above National and West Midlands by 3ppts Gap is wider than National at -23ppts				Warwickshire above National and West Midlands by 2ppts Gap is wider than National at -25ppts				Warwickshire above National and West Midlands by 3ppts Gap is wider than National at -23ppts				Warwickshire above National by 1ppt and above West Midlands by 2ppts Gap is wider than National at -26ppts				Warwickshire above National by 4ppt and above West Midlands by 7ppts Gap is wider than National at -30ppts			
	Disadvantaged pupil results below peers Nationally and across the region				Disadvantaged pupil results below peers Nationally and across the region				Disadvantaged pupil results below peers Nationally and across the region				Disadvantaged pupil results below peers Nationally and across the region				Disadvantaged pupil results below peers Nationally and across the region				Disadvantaged pupil results below peers Nationally and across the region							
Top performing District/Borough:	All Pupils				Disadvantaged Pupils				All Pupils				Disadvantaged Pupils				All Pupils				Disadvantaged Pupils							
	Stratford on Avon				Warwick				Warwick				Warwick				Warwick				Stratford on Avon				Stratford on Avon			
	Nuneaton and Bedworth				Nuneaton and Bedworth				Rugby				Nuneaton and Bedworth				Nuneaton and Bedworth				Nuneaton and Bedworth				Rugby			
	Stratford on Avon				Stratford on Avon				Warwick				Stratford on Avon				Warwick				Rugby				North Warwickshire			
	Nuneaton and Bedworth				Nuneaton and Bedworth				Rugby				Nuneaton and Bedworth				Nuneaton and Bedworth				Nuneaton and Bedworth				Rugby			

12. Financial Implications

12.7 School improvement functions were historically funded by the DfE Monitoring and Brokering Grant and the centrally retained Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). The DfE grant ceased in March 2023. Funding for School Effectiveness consists of:

- De-delegated DSG, agreed by Schools Forum, to fund school improvement for vulnerable maintained schools; in 2023-24 this is £189,000.
- Core Council funding funds a School Effectiveness Team; in 2023-24 this is £332,000.
- Ring fenced school improvement reserves will support school improvement activities for the next three to four years at approximately £230k per annum.
- Schools in financial difficulty reserves support schools in financial deficit. Funding varies depending on the needs and circumstances of individual schools.

13. Environmental Implications

None arising directly from this report.

14. Supporting Information

None.

15. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

None.

Appendices

None.

Background Papers

None.

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Leah Adams, Sophie Thompson	leahadams@warwickshire.gov.uk, sophiethompson@warwickshire.gov.uk
Director	Johnny Kyriacou, Director of Education	johnnykyriacou@warwickshire.gov.uk
Executive Director	Nigel Minns, Executive Director for Children and Young People	nigelminns@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Kaur, Portfolio Holder for Education	kamkaur@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication: N/A

Local Member(s): N/A
Other members: N/A