
Report to Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 19 April 2018

Subject: Senior Phase Attainment and Positive Destinations

Report by: Chief Education Officer

1.0 Purpose

1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress in relation to Senior Phase Attainment and Positive Destinations across the authority. A separate report provides an update on the Scottish Attainment Challenge. This report includes a summary of progress on:

- Improving Attainment in Literacy & Numeracy
- Improving Attainment for all
- Attainment vs Deprivation
- Positive Destinations

2.0 Recommendations

2.1. The Committee is recommended to note and comment on the data and progress.

3.0 Considerations

- 3.1. The evidence contained in this report contributes both to the National Improvement Framework and the Scottish Attainment Challenge, as well as the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and the Integrated Children's Services Plan.
- 3.2. The report provides a summary of data generated from the INSIGHT Senior Phase Benchmarking Tool which is managed by Scottish Government and allows schools and local authorities to benchmark attainment gained in Senior Phase against Virtual Comparators (pupils with similar backgrounds).
- 3.3. INSIGHT is updated twice annually, around September for attainment results and February for school leaver's data. This report focuses on school leavers data.

3.4. The data shows that:

- Over the last 3 years there has been an improvement in the percentage of school leavers achieving both Level 4 and 5 Literacy and Numeracy. This trend is also reflected in our school leavers with Additional Support Needs with over a third achieving Level 5 Literacy and Numeracy.
- The attainment gap of school leavers living in SIMD 1 and 2 has grown this year compared to 2016.
- There has been a fall in the percentage of school leavers entering a positive destination in 2017. This is lower than last year and lower than both the VC and National average.
- A higher percentage of school leavers entered university this year and almost a third secured employment which is an upward trend over the last 3 years.

3.5 There is an extensive Education Service improvement plan underway to raise attainment and close the poverty related attainment gap. This includes the programme of activity funded from the Scottish Attainment Challenge (see separate report) addressing learning and teaching, leadership of learning, families and communities.

3.6 Schools are working hard on improving employability skills and increasing positive destinations under the Developing the Young Workforce agenda. However, given the continual downward trend reflected in these latest figures, a Task Group has been set up involving Forth Valley College, Developing Young Workforce Regional Group, Skills Development Scotland and Headteachers of all secondary schools to see what further urgent action can be taken.

3.7 A more detailed report can be found at Appendix 1.

4.0 Sustainability Implications

4.1. This paper has no sustainability implications

5.0 Resource Implications

5.1. Financial Details

5.2. The full financial implications of the recommendations are set out in the report. This includes a reference to full life cycle costs where appropriate. Yes

5.3. Finance have been consulted and have agreed the financial implications as set out in the report. Yes

5.4. Staffing

6.0 Exempt Reports

6.1. Is this report exempt? Yes (please detail the reasons for exemption below) No

7.0 Declarations

The recommendations contained within this report support or implement our Corporate Priorities and Council Policies.

(1) **Our Priorities** (Please double click on the check box)

Clackmannanshire will be attractive to businesses & people and ensure fair opportunities for all
Our families; children and young people will have the best possible start in life
Women and girls will be confident and aspirational, and achieve their full potential
Our communities will be resilient and empowered so that they can thrive and flourish

(2) **Council Policies** (Please detail)

8.0 Equalities Impact

8.1 Have you undertaken the required equalities impact assessment to ensure that no groups are adversely affected by the recommendations?

Yes No

9.0 Legality

9.1 It has been confirmed that in adopting the recommendations contained in this report, the Council is acting within its legal powers. Yes

10.0 Appendices

10.1 Please list any appendices attached to this report. If there are no appendices, please state "none".

Appendix 1 Clackmannanshire Attainment Report

11.0 Background Papers

11.1 Have you used other documents to compile your report? (All documents must be kept available by the author for public inspection for four years from the date of meeting at

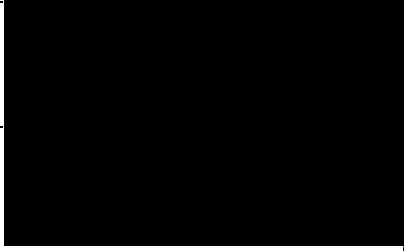
which the report is considered)

Yes (please list the documents below) No

Author(s)

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Approved by

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
Anne Pearson	Chief Education Officer	
Elaine McPherson	Chief Executive	

Clackmannanshire Attainment Report

• Improving Attainment in Literacy & Numeracy (Overall S4, S5 & S6)

There was a slight increase in the percentage of school leavers who achieved both Level 4 Literacy & Numeracy in 2016/17 (83%); this continues an *improving trend* over the last 5 years. However, despite this increase, the percentage is still lower than the Virtual Comparator (VC) (85.1%) and the National average (89.2%).

There was an increase of 5.1% points of school leavers who achieved Level 5 Literacy & Numeracy in 2016/17 (62%); this continues an *improving trend* over the last 3 years. This figure is also higher than the VC by 1.6% points (60.2%) although lower than the National average (66.5%).

The following paragraphs detail the level of attainment achieved by different cohorts.

S4: The percentage of school leavers in S4 who achieved both Level 4 Literacy & Numeracy fell this year to 39.4% (equates to 26 pupils). This figure is both lower than the VC (54.6%) by 10 pupils and the National average (60.6%) by 14 pupils. Fewer school leavers from S4 achieved both Level 5 Literacy & Numeracy this year (5 pupils); lower than the VC by 1 pupil and the National average by 6 pupils. The percentage of school leavers from S5 who achieve Level 5 is traditionally low.

S5: Over the last 5 years there has been an *improving trend* in relation to the percentage of school leavers in S5 who achieved both Level 4 Literacy & Numeracy. This year 117 school leavers (78.5%) achieved both Level 4 Literacy & Numeracy. Despite the improving trend, the number of S5 leavers achieving is lower than the VC by 0.8% points (equates to 1 pupil) and lower than the National average (82.5%) by 4% points (equates to 6 pupils). The percentage of school leavers in S5 who achieved both Level 5 Literacy & Numeracy increased this year, continuing an *improving trend* over the last 5 years. The percentage (45.6% - equates to 68 pupils) was also higher than the VC (41.3%) by 6 pupils and the National average (42.5%) by 5 pupils.

S6: The percentage of school leavers in S6 who achieved both Level 4 Literacy & Numeracy *improved* by 1.3% points to 95.7% (equates to 268 pupils). This increase continues an *improving trend* over the last 3 years and is higher than the VC (95.3%) by 1 pupil although lower than the National average (97.2%) by 4 pupils. The percentage of school leavers in S6 who achieved both Level 5 Literacy & Numeracy improved by 2.4% points to 83.6% (equates to 234 pupils). This increase continues an *improving trend* over the last 3 years and is higher than the VC by 3 pupils (82.6%).

Additional Support Needs (ASN) (S4, S5, & S6): There has been a fall in the attainment of school leavers with ASN: 61.6% (equates to 106 pupils) who achieved Level 4 Literacy & Numeracy; a fall of 4.2% points on last year; both lower than the VC (68.4%) by 12 pupils and the National average (74.8%) by 23 pupils. More than a third (34.9%) of school leavers with ASN achieved Level 5 Literacy & Numeracy (equates to 60 pupils); an increase of 2.7% points on last year and continuing an *improving trend* over the last 3 years. Despite the increase, the number of school leavers with ASN who achieved this level was lower than the VC (35.9%) by 2 pupils and the National average (41.1%) by 11 pupils.

30% Most Deprived (S4, S5 & S6): More than three quarters (76%) of school leavers from the 30% most deprived areas of the authority achieved Level 4 Literacy & Numeracy (equates to 184 pupils), a fall of 2% points compared to last year and lower than both the VC (80.4%) by 11 pupils and the National average (82.2%) by 15 pupils. However more school leavers from the same area of deprivation achieved Level 5 Literacy & Numeracy: 50% (equates to 121 pupils); an increase of 5.5% points and continuing an *improving trend* over the last 3 years. This percentage of school leavers was higher than the VC (49.1%) by 2 pupils but lower than the National average (51.3%) by 3 pupils.

Looked After Children (LAC) (S4, S5 & S6): (Note: due to the small number in the cohort, actual numbers are not included in this section) A lower number of LAC (home & away) school leavers this year achieved both Level 4 Literacy & Numeracy compared to last year; a fall of almost 12% points. The percentage of LAC school leavers who achieved both Level 5 Literacy & Numeracy also fell to 16.7%, a fall of 14.6% points compared to last year and lower than both the VC (21.7%) by 5% points and the National average (17.3%) by 0.6% points.

- **Improving Attainment for All**

The following analysis is based on 'Complementary' tariff points. This is the average tariff score of a pupil based on their five highest achieving qualifications.

Across all school leavers, our highest 20% performing school leavers left school with a lower tariff score than in previous years (1130 points in 2017 compared to 1169 points in 2016 – fall of 39 points); this was also lower than the VC (1215 points) and the National average (1269 points).

Our middle 60% performing school leavers left school with 15 tariff points more than the 2016 school leavers (522 points compared to 507 points in 2016); an improving trend over the last 3 years. Despite this increase though, the tariff scores were lower than the VC (556 points) and the National average (634 points).

Our lowest 20% performing also left school this year with a lower tariff score; 90 tariff points compared to 100 in 2016. This was also lower than the VC (109 points) and the National average (148 points).

LAC School Leavers: The number of LAC school leavers is too low for any appropriate comparisons to be made in relation to average tariff points.

- **Attainment vs Deprivation**

For the purposes of this section, the average complementary tariff points of school leavers from SIMD 1 & 2 are compared against both the National average and the VC for the same SIMD profile.

A quarter of the school leavers this year were from SIMD 1&2 (129 pupils). Analysis of the average tariff points of school leavers from this SIMD profile in Clackmannanshire compared to the National average highlights that Clackmannanshire school leavers did not achieve as many tariff points as the National average, with a gap of 91 tariff points this year between the two cohorts. This gap has grown since last year where the gap was 80.5 tariff points.

Comparing Clackmannanshire school leavers from the same SIMD profile with the VC highlights a smaller gap between the two cohorts with the difference being 37.5 tariff points, a fall from the previous year where the gap was 42.5 tariff points.

LAC School Leavers: Please note the figures are too small to be able to make a proper comparison using the INSIGHT benchmarking tool to identify attainment gap with this cohort.

Comparing the gap between school leavers from SIMD 1&2 and SIMD 9&10 highlights a similar gap this year compared to last year with very little change.

The following charts (Chart 1 & Chart 2) illustrate the gap in SIMD 1 & 2 against the National and the VC.

Chart1: Attainment Gap between Clackmannanshire & National

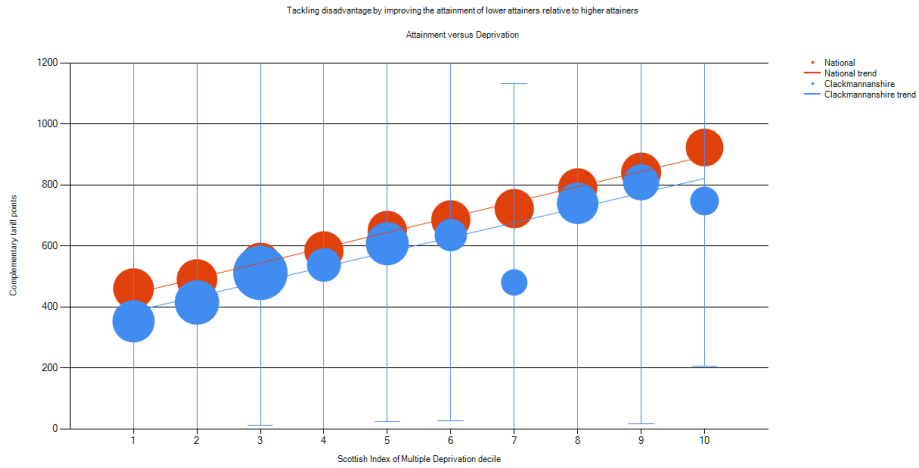
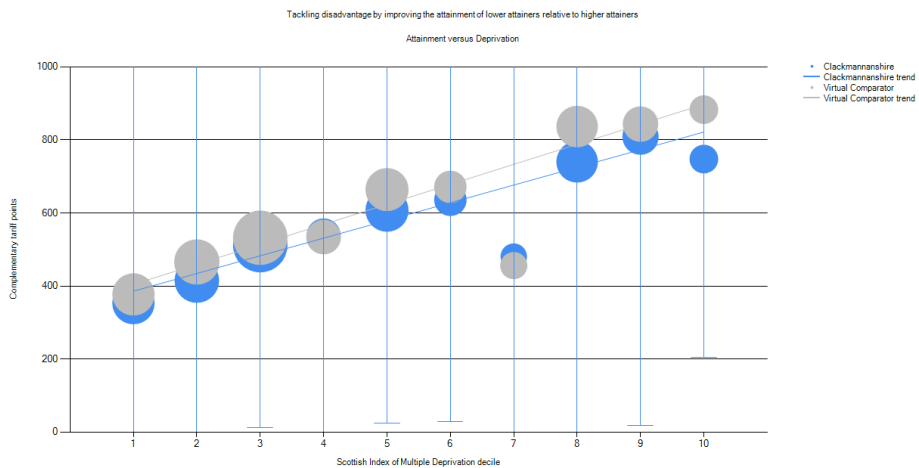


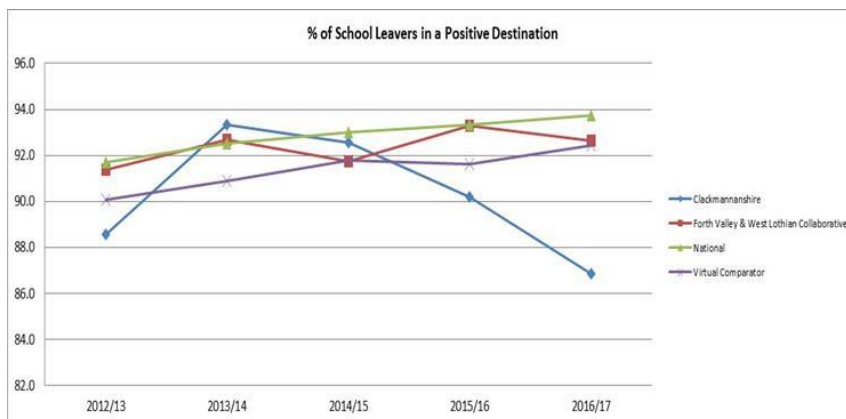
Chart 2: Attainment Gap between Clackmannanshire & VC



• **Positive Destinations**

There has been a fall in the percentage of school leavers this year compared to last year with 86.9% (430) of school leavers resulting in a Positive Destination in 2016/17, a fall of 4.4% points compared to 2015/16 (90.2%). This is also lower than the VC by 5.5% points. This means that 65 school leavers were not in a positive destination upon leaving school this year. It also represents a downward trend over the last three years, as illustrated in Chart 3.

Chart 3: Percentage of School Leavers in a Positive Destination



One in 10 school leavers became unemployed (equates to 52 pupils) upon leaving school; higher than last year by 10 more pupils. Also a lower number of school leavers entered Further Education (College) than last year (27.7% - 137 pupils); this is also lower than the VC (35%). There is also a downward trend for the percentage of school leavers entering Activity Agreements (1.8%), again lower than the VC (2%); although the numbers are low.

There has been a slight improvement in the percentage of school leavers who entered Higher Education (University) with more than a quarter (27.7%) of school leavers which is higher than last year but lower than the VC (35%). Almost a third (31.9%) of school leavers secured employment upon leaving school; an upward trend over the last 3 years and higher than the VC (21.3%).

Two thirds of LAC school leavers resulted in a positive destination upon leaving school. This is a decreasing trend over the last 3 years. Almost 40% of LAC school leavers started College however no LAC school leavers left to go to University this year, compared to last year.

There was a fall in the percentage of school leavers who resulted in a positive destination across all three secondary schools (although Alva Academy was a very slight fall).

85% (113) of school leavers from Alloa Academy resulted in a positive destination; a fall of 3.5% points compared to last year and lower than both the VC (90.8%) & the overall Clacks average (86.9%). Over the last two years, the percentage of school leavers from Alloa Academy who resulted in a positive destination has fallen.

90.6% (135) of school leavers from Alva Academy resulted in a positive destination; a fall of 0.1% points compared to last year; lower than the VC (94.3%) but higher than overall Clacks average (86.9%). Over the last 3 years, the percentage of school leavers from Alva Academy in a positive destination has fallen (although the fall was very slight this year).

85.5% (182) of school leavers from Lornhill Academy resulted in a positive destination; a fall of 5.3% points compared to last year; lower than both the VC (92.1%) and overall Clacks average (86.9%). Over the last 3 years, the percentage of school leavers from Lornhill Academy resulting in a positive destination has fallen.