



EDUCATION FOR LIFE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 8TH JANUARY 2019

SUBJECT: KEY STAGE 4 / KEY STAGE 5 PERFORMANCE – DECEMBER 2018

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND CORPORATE SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform Members of pupil performance at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5.

2. SUMMARY

2.1 This report presents Members with the final published 2018 performance data for key stage 4 and 5.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

Education Achievement Services (EAS) Business Plan
Education Service Improvement Plan
Single Integrated Plan

3.1 The attainment results published in this report contribute towards the following Well-being Goals within the Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2016:

- *A prosperous Wales**
- *A more equal Wales**

3.2 This is because 'a prosperous Wales' is about developing a well-educated and skilled population and 'a more equal Wales' is defined as a 'society that enables people to fulfil their full potential no matter what their background or circumstances, education attainment is a part of fulfilling that potential.

4. THE REPORT

4.1 At Key Stage 4, a range of performance measures are used to evaluate and compare the full range of achievement within and across local authorities. These include the following broad measures and individual subjects:

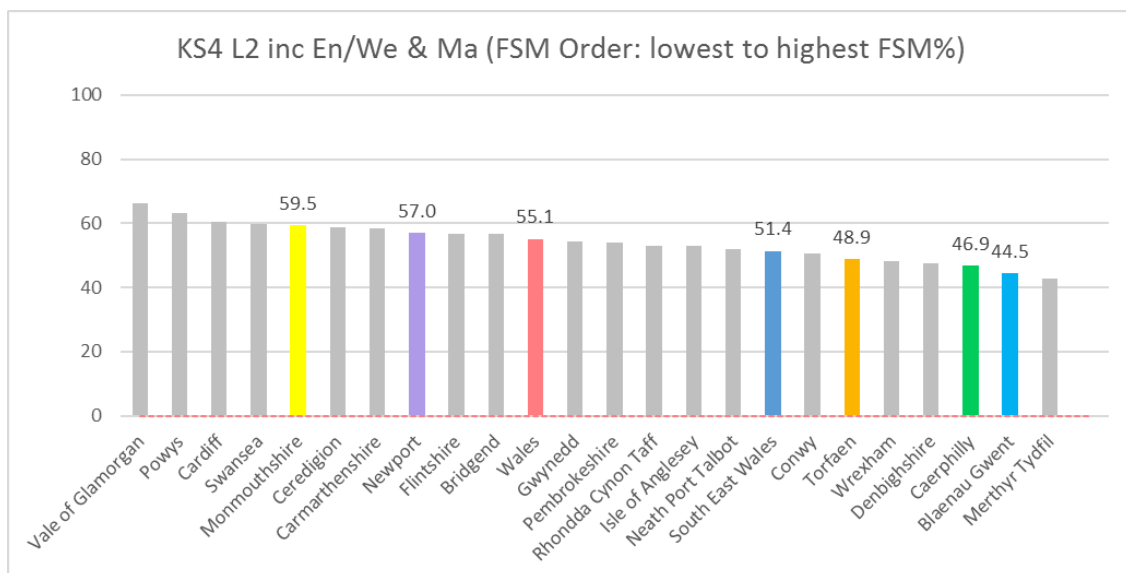
- Level 2 threshold including English or Welsh first language and best of mathematics/numeracy (L2+)
- Level 2 threshold (L2)
- Level 1 threshold (L1)
- Capped Points 9 (CP9)
- A*-C in English or Welsh first language GCSE
- A*-C in mathematics/numeracy GCSE
- A*-C in science GCSE

Update on changes in accountability frameworks at Key Stage 4

- 4.2 In agreement with LA Directors the EAS offered a series of workshops for elected members in each LA, in September 2018. These described changes to examination arrangements at key stage 4.
- 4.3 As with 2017-18 there are significant revisions to examinations that means they focus in part on different skill sets and knowledge than in previous years. The region continues to work with schools to track individual pupil performance over time. This will mean that school leaders and our local authorities are supported in gauging where schools are progressing well or where they may need additional support.
- 4.4 Communications from the examination awarding body and the regulator indicated that this variability was to be expected, and this is reflected in regional results. As in previous years we have been talking to post-16 providers to ensure that no learner is disadvantaged and that they are provided with appropriate pathways following results.

Level 2 threshold inclusive of English/Welsh and maths

- 4.5 The proportion of pupils achieving the Level 2 threshold inclusive of English/Welsh first language and mathematics is now 46.9%. Last year performance at this measure was 49.9%, so there has been a drop of 3pp. Across Wales performance improved by 0.5pp to 55.1%.



Performance against Targets

- 4.6 When comparing results against June predictions, none of the 13 secondary schools in Caerphilly, performed in line or above prediction. Five schools reported performance more than 10 pp below June prediction. Four schools reported performance within 5 pp of their June estimates (30.8%).

FSM L2 inclusive threshold

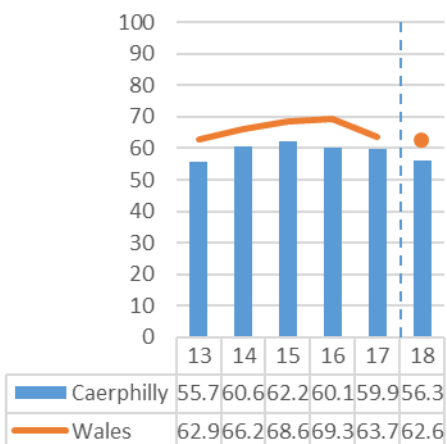
- 4.7 L2 inclusive threshold performance of FSM pupils in 2018 has declined by 0.5 pp to 24.0%. The FSM/non FSM gap has narrowed by 1.4 pp. In comparison, the national FSM average improved by 0.9 pp from 28.6% to 29.5%, and the Caerphilly gap is narrower than across Wales (30.2% compared to 32.2%).
- 4.8 There were 6 schools with improved FSM performance this year.

Note: Science figures prior to 2018 include BTECs, from 2018 onwards the figures will be for GCSE science only. These changes have had an impact on both L2 science outcomes and also the overall Level 2 Threshold.

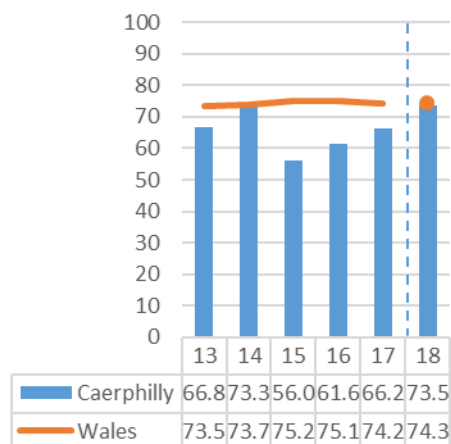
4.9 There were declines at all indicators and subjects except for A*-C Welsh. All indicators are still below the Wales average.



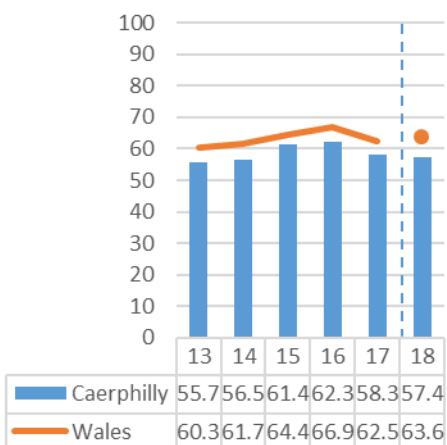
English (A*-C)



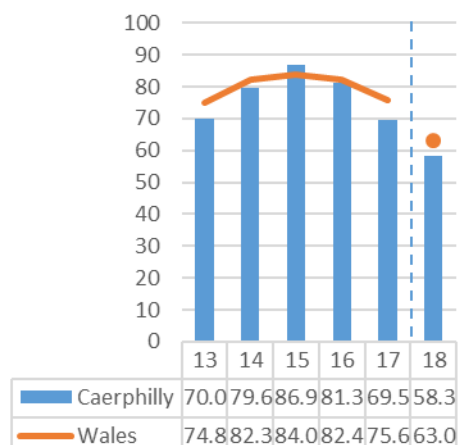
Welsh (A*-C)



Mathematics (A*-C)

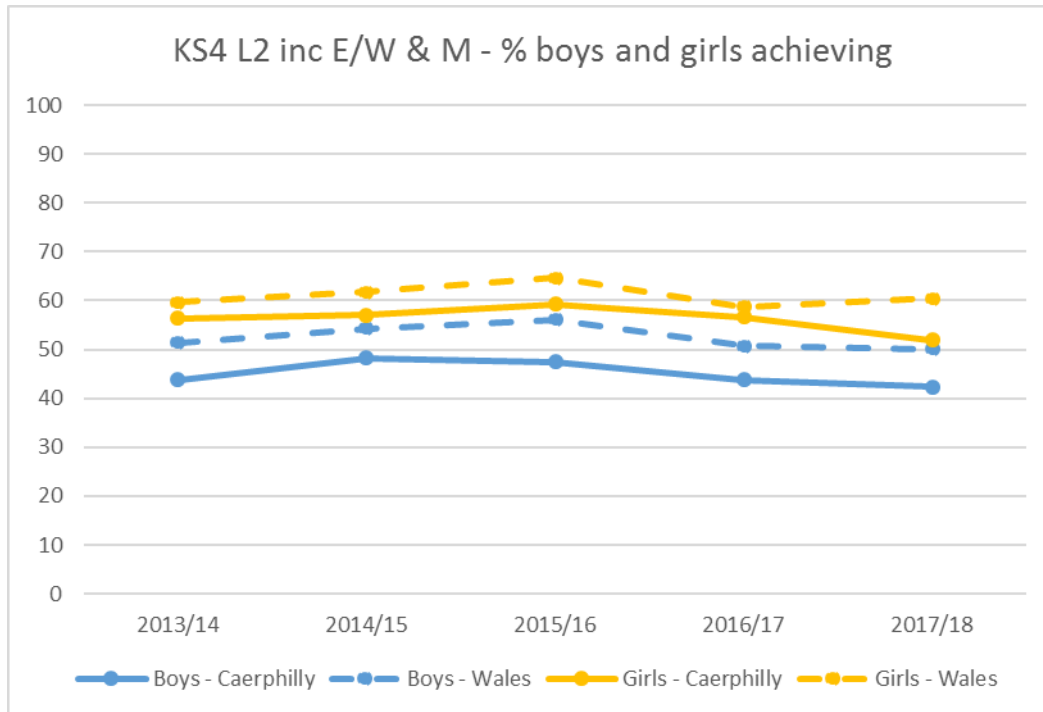


Science (A*-C)



Gender Differences

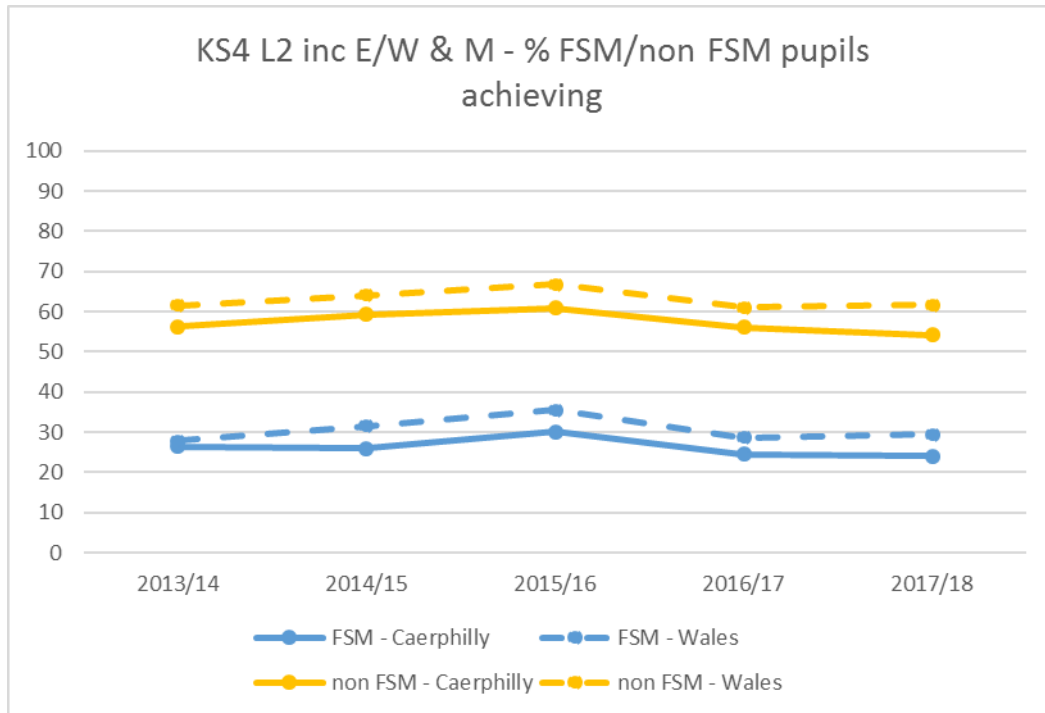
- 4.10 The gender gap in Caerphilly has fluctuated over the past 5 years, and for the Level 2 threshold inclusive of English/Welsh first language and mathematics is now 9.6 percentage points, a decrease from 12.8 percentage points in 2017, and is now below the Wales average of 10.4 percentage points. Performance of both boys and girls declined from 2016, but girls declined by more than boys.



KS4 L2 inc E/W & M (% achieving)	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Boys - Caerphilly	43.8	48.2	47.5	43.8	42.3
Boys - Wales	51.4	54.3	56.1	50.7	50.1
Girls - Caerphilly	56.4	57.0	59.3	56.6	51.9
Girls - Wales	59.7	61.8	64.7	58.8	60.5
Difference (boys% - girls%) -Caerphilly	-12.6	-8.8	-11.8	-12.8	-9.6
Difference (boys% - girls%) - Wales	-8.3	-7.5	-8.6	-8.1	-10.4

Performance of eFSM / non-eFSM Pupils

4.11 The FSM/non FSM gap has fluctuated over the past few years and has narrowed for the Level 2 threshold inclusive of English/Welsh first language and mathematics from a 31.6pp gap in 2017 to a 30.2pp gap in 2018, which is below the Wales average of 32.2pp. The gap is the narrowest since 2014/15.



KS4 L2 inc E/W & M (% achieving)	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
FSM - Caerphilly	26.5	25.9	30.1	24.5	24.0
FSM - Wales	27.8	31.6	35.6	28.6	29.5
non FSM - Caerphilly	56.3	59.3	60.9	56.1	54.2
non FSM - Wales	61.6	64.1	66.8	61.0	61.7
Difference (FSM% -non FSM%) - Caerphilly	-29.8	-33.4	-30.8	-31.6	-30.2
Difference (FSM% -non FSM%) - Wales	-33.8	-32.5	-31.2	-32.4	-32.2

LA Rankings

4.12 Caerphilly's performance improved at L2 threshold, but declined for the other indicators.

	L2 inclusive	L2	L1	Capped Point 9
2018	20	19	17	19
2017	18	20	15	17

L2 inc Eng/Wel & Mat		Level 2 Threshold		Level 1 Threshold		Capped Points 9 Score	
Vale of Glamorgan	66.3	Ceredigion	75.3	Carmarthenshire	96.1	Vale of Glamorgan	377.1
Powys	63.1	Vale of Glamorgan	75.1	Vale of Glamorgan	95.8	Ceredigion	373.7
Cardiff	60.4	Powys	74.8	Gwynedd	95.7	Cardiff	366.0
Swansea	59.8	Carmarthenshire	72.3	Powys	95.5	Swansea	364.6
Monmouthshire	59.5	Cardiff	72.0	Swansea	95.5	Powys	363.6
Ceredigion	58.6	Monmouthshire	71.5	Isle of Anglesey	95.3	Carmarthenshire	363.1
Carmarthenshire	58.4	Swansea	70.4	Ceredigion	95.2	Monmouthshire	360.5
Newport	57.0	Bridgend	69.9	Rhondda Cynon Taff	94.7	Gwynedd	359.5
Flintshire	56.6	Gwynedd	69.4	Flintshire	94.7	Bridgend	357.2
Bridgend	56.6	Flintshire	69.2	Bridgend	94.6	Flintshire	352.2
Wales	55.1	Wales	67.0	Monmouthshire	94.6	Wales	349.5
Gwynedd	54.5	Isle of Anglesey	66.0	Cardiff	94.2	Isle of Anglesey	349.1
Pembrokeshire	53.9	Neath Port Talbot	65.5	Wales	93.7	Rhondda Cynon Taff	348.0
Rhondda Cynon Taff	53.1	Rhondda Cynon Taff	64.2	Blaenau Gwent	93.3	Conwy	342.5
Isle of Anglesey	53.0	Newport	64.1	Conwy	93.3	Neath Port Talbot	341.3
Neath Port Talbot	52.0	Conwy	64.1	Neath Port Talbot	92.9	Pembrokeshire	336.1
South East Wales	51.4	Pembrokeshire	62.4	Wrexham	92.5	Newport	336.0
Conwy	50.7	Wrexham	62.2	South East Wales	92.2	South East Wales	333.2
Torfaen	48.9	South East Wales	61.8	Caerphilly	92.1	Wrexham	332.7
Wrexham	48.2	Denbighshire	60.1	Pembrokeshire	91.8	Torfaen	327.7
Denbighshire	47.5	Caerphilly	59.7	Newport	91.4	Caerphilly	327.2
Caerphilly	46.9	Merthyr Tydfil	58.1	Torfaen	91.1	Denbighshire	323.2
Blaenau Gwent	44.5	Torfaen	57.9	Merthyr Tydfil	90.9	Blaenau Gwent	318.7
Merthyr Tydfil	42.7	Blaenau Gwent	56.7	Denbighshire	87.0	Merthyr Tydfil	317.9

Individual Schools

4.13 The table below presents the individual schools' data in order of Free School Meal eligibility (lowest to highest).

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
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School	2018 FSM	% L2 E,W+M			% L2			% L1			Capped Point 9	
		2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2017	2018
Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni	13.7	62.0	52.5	51.6	69.7	57.8	62.3	96.2	98.5	93.4	344.1	331.1
Newbridge School	16.5	60.6	58.0	48.2	93.9	68.4	70.4	97.5	98.3	97.0	386.4	372.5
St Martin's School	17.0	64.2	65.2	60.9	92.0	74.5	72.7	99.3	95.7	96.3	366.6	369.4
Lewis School Pengam	18.6	58.5	36.6	43.8	93.2	51.1	60.0	96.6	88.5	93.8	335.8	340.7
Islwyn High	18.8	51.1	45.1	54.4	83.4	48.9	61.3	95.5	91.8	95.4	307.1	326.1
Lewis Girls' Comprehensive School	19.7	54.5	56.0	52.7	83.3	68.8	70.5	97.0	98.4	93.0	355.7	347.5
Blackwood Comprehensive School	19.9	57.9	51.1	43.9	73.1	61.1	57.9	97.5	93.2	92.4	334.7	324.4
Bedwas High School	22.1	51.0	54.7	55.6	88.2	66.7	66.7	98.0	96.6	94.9	356.6	348.2
Risca Community Comprehensive	22.2	56.8	53.0	49.4	75.7	62.1	50.6	97.3	97.0	95.2	346.5	306.2
St Cenydd School	24.4	41.9	45.5	36.3	68.8	58.8	46.3	94.6	95.2	95.6	323.3	300.5
Cwmcarn High School	25.0	55.2	57.6	51.1	80.0	66.3	68.1	97.1	96.7	100.0	340.0	359.4
Heolddu Comprehensive School	26.5	44.3	40.4	43.3	58.2	55.3	63.3	99.2	97.4	97.8	324.9	344.9
Idris Davies 3-18 School, Caerphilly	31.5	49.6	44.3	31.3	66.9	56.4	47.3	99.2	89.9	92.0	310.8	297.0
Wales	17.4	60.3	54.6	55.1	84.0	67.0	66.9	95.3	94.4	93.6	350.9	350.0

School	2018 FSM	English (A*-C)			Welsh (A*-C)			Maths (A*-C)			% L2 Science		
		2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni	13.7	62.8	71.1	59.4	61.6	66.2	73.5	72.2	56.9	59.4	65.4	73.5	64.3
Newbridge School	16.5	68.2	66.7	56.8				70.7	67.8	66.3	92.9	94.8	69.8
St Martin's School	17.0	70.1	67.1	72.0				73.7	74.5	66.5	93.4	88.8	60.9
Lewis School Pengam	18.6	58.5	42.0	47.7				73.5	51.9	64.6	90.5	47.3	53.1
Islwyn High	18.8	49.3	51.1	61.3				62.3	54.9	63.1	85.7	55.4	66.4
Lewis Girls' Comprehensive School	19.7	70.5	69.6	68.2				55.3	60.0	56.6	87.9	73.6	76.0
Blackwood Comprehensive School	19.9	70.1	60.5	58.5				61.4	60.5	51.5	75.6	64.7	53.2
Bedwas High School	22.1	53.9	66.7	64.6				70.6	62.4	67.7	81.4	76.1	67.7
Risca Community Comprehensive	22.2	71.6	66.7	65.1				64.9	56.1	56.6	86.5	48.5	47.0
St Cenydd School	24.4	49.5	58.8	50.0				52.2	54.0	46.3	73.1	82.9	45.6
Cwmcarn High School	25.0	67.6	69.6	63.8				61.9	64.1	57.4	98.1	48.9	72.3
Heolddu Comprehensive School	26.5	52.5	56.1	50.0				52.5	50.9	52.2	91.0	59.6	60.0
Idris Davies 3-18 School, Caerphilly	31.5	55.1	47.7	34.8	61.6	66.2	73.5	58.3	52.3	53.6	85.8	76.5	39.3
Wales	17.4	69.3	63.7	62.6	75.1	74.2	74.3	66.9	62.5	63.5	82.4	75.6	63.0

Free School Meal Benchmark Summary

- 4.14 When FSM benchmark data is used to compare the performance of similar schools, the number of Caerphilly schools above the median since 2016 has increased for all indicators and subjects except L2 inc, and Capped 9. There is only one Welsh medium secondary school, and performance has been below the median in each of the past 3 years for Welsh. The number of schools in the bottom quarter has either remained static or decreased.



Individual school benchmark performance is presented in Appendix A.

Welsh Government Modelled Expectation

- 4.15 In 2018, three schools (23%) achieved higher results for L2+ than their modelled estimates. These were Bedwas High, Islwyn High and St Martin's.

School Name (* Indicates a school with a Special Needs Resource Base)	2018 Final SSSPs	WG Modelled Estimates 2b	Difference (Final Results 2018-WG estimates)
Bedwas High	55.6	50.9	4.7
Blackwood Comprehensive	43.9	53.0	-9.1
Cwmcarn High	51.1	56.4	-5.3
Heolddu Comprehensive	43.3	44.2	-0.9
Idris Davies 3-18 School	31.3	33.0	-1.7
Islwyn High	54.4	51.8	2.6
Lewis School Pengam	43.8	50.0	-6.2
Lewis Girls' Comprehensive	52.7	57.5	-4.7
Newbridge School	48.2	61.2	-13.0
Risca Community Comprehensive*	49.4	53.5	-4.1
St Cenydd Comprehensive*	36.3	44.5	-8.2
St Martin's Comprehensive	60.9	56.3	4.6
Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni	51.6	52.0	-0.3

LA – Key Stage 5 (Caerphilly LA Schools only)

4.16 Performance Data

Note: Welsh Government are considering new performance measures for future years, which have yet to be decided

Percentage of students achieving the level 3 threshold (a volume of qualifications at Level 3 equivalent to the volume of 2 A levels at grades A*-E)				
	2017	2018 Results Day	2018 Final SSSPs	Difference
Caerphilly	96.6	94.8	97.5	0.9
South East Wales	96.4	96.3	96.2	-0.2
Wales	97.1		97.6	0.5

Cohort size 2017 = 448, Cohort size 2018 = 438

- When vocational qualifications are taken into account and the Welsh Government's main indicator of post-16 performance, the Level 3 threshold, is considered, performance increased from 96.6% to 97.5%.
- This 0.9pp decrease is larger than the 0.5pp increase across Wales, and performance is now comparable with Wales. Regional performance over the past 2 years has decreased slightly from 96.4% to 96.2%.

5. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS

- 5.1 This report content (Education attainment) contributes to the Well being Goals as noted and explained in 3.1
- 5.2 This report is for information only and so does not analyse the 5 ways of working in terms of decision making but it does recognise that going forward interventions that are put in place to improve attainment must take a **long term** view as part of its impact on life chances, employment and quality of life. One of the principles of the 5 ways of working is to look at how we can **prevent** problems occurring and to do this we need to understand what the causes are. Causes within attainment are complex although one of the main ones is deprivation. The measure that is commonly used to measure deprivation is a pupil's eligibility to receive Free School Meals. The data provides an insight into the performance of all pupils in comparison to the pupils in receipt of Free School Meals and the gap in performance increases throughout school life (para 4.7). One of the Council's Well-being Objectives is to 'Improve outcomes for all learners but we want to particularly focus on those vulnerable to underachievement. We have an action plan to achieve this and it we will **involve and collaborate** with a range of partners such as schools, parents, governors and children to raise aspiration and attainment.

6. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There is no specific equalities impact in relation to the content of this report. When performance information is discussed with schools as part of the monitoring, challenge, support and intervention programme, equalities issues, such as gender and ethnicity are taken into account. Similarly the Local Authority self-evaluation considers all equalities issues.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no specific financial implications.

8. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

8.1 There are no specific personnel implications.

9. CONSULTATIONS

9.1 All comments have been reflected in the report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 Members are asked to note and scrutinise the content of the report.

11. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

11.1 To keep Members informed of standards achieved by Caerphilly learners at, key stage 4 and key stage 5.

12. STATUTORY POWER

- Children and Families Measure (Wales) 2010
- Schools Standards and Organisation (Wales) 2013
- Education Act 1996
- Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) 2015
- Schools Causing Concern 2013.

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Councillor Philippa Marsden, Cabinet Member, Education and Achievement
Councillor Derek Havard, Chair of Education Scrutiny Committee
Councillor Carol Andrews, Vice Chair of Education Scrutiny Committee
Nicole Scammell, Head of Corporate Finance and Section 151 Officer
Lynne Donovan, Head of People Services
Anwen Cullinane, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities and Welsh Language)
Rob Tranter, Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
Ros Roberts, Performance Manager
Steve Harris, Interim Head of Business Improvement Services/Deputy Section 151
Jane Southcombe, Education Finance Manager

Appendices:

Appendix A: Key Stage 4, School Benchmark Quarter Performance