

BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
REPORT TO SUBJECT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 1
REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT
8 FEBRUARY 2018
SCHOOL STANDARDS REPORT
FOUNDATION PHASE, KEY STAGES 2, 3, 4 AND
POST-16 OUTCOMES FOR 2016-2017

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide members with feedback on the foundation phase, key stage 2, 3, 4 and post-16 outcomes for the 2016-2017 academic year.

2. Connection to corporate improvement objectives/other corporate priorities

- 2.1 The information in this report relates to the following corporate priority:

- Supporting a successful economy

3. Background

- 3.1 The following report evaluates the educational performance in Bridgend. The evaluation identifies trends in standards over a three-year period including the most recent year. Standards are compared to the other local authorities in Wales and the rate of improvement is compared to the national rate of improvement. Further information has been provided by Central South Consortium (see Appendix A).
- 3.2 The three-year percentage of pupils of statutory school age eligible for free school meals (eFSM) for Bridgend is 18.8% and for Wales is 18.3% (source All Wales Core Data Set 2016/17). Due to the fact that there is a strong correlation between eligibility for free school meals and educational performance, Bridgend would be expected to perform slightly below national average performance. This is because the level of deprivation in Bridgend is slightly greater than that nationally. Eligibility for free school meals is a proxy indicator of deprivation.
- 3.3 There are 22 local authorities in Wales. When placed in order, with the least deprived in 1st position, Bridgend is 14th. This is based on the three-year average of pupils of statutory school age eligible for free school meals (Source: LA All Wales Core Data Set 2016/17). Therefore, when Bridgend performs better than rank position 14th, it is performing above expectations based on eligibility for free school meals.
- 3.4 In the tables below, arrows are used to indicate improving or declining performance from one year to the next. The arrows are also colour coded to allow

general patterns to be identified when scanning across the data.

4. Current situation/proposal

- 4.1 Standards over a three-year period are continuing to improve in line with national rates of improvement. Bridgend is performing better than national averages in many indicators.
- 4.2 Across the foundation phase, key stage 2 and key stage 3 performance at the expected level has shown overall improvement over the past three years.
- 4.3 Performance in the foundation phase was strong in 2017, countering the dip that occurred in 2016. Over time, Bridgend has continued to show overall improvement in all areas of learning. This places the local authority above the national average in all indicators at both the expected and above expected levels and in rank 7 position in the foundation phase outcome indicator in 2017. Therefore, performance can continue to be judged as good in this phase.
- 4.4 Standards in key stage 2 at both the expected and above expected level have improved in 2017. The three-year performance of pupils eligible for free school meals is now indicating a three year upward trend and now matches the upward trend in performance of nFSM (not eligible for free school meals) pupils.
- 4.5 Performance in key stage 3 continues to be good. The borough has seen improvements in all indicators in 2017. A positive improvement over time is evident across the board.
- 4.6 At key stage 4, Bridgend's performance remains above the Welsh average in the level 1 threshold, the level 2 threshold, the new average 'capped 9' wider points score per pupil (the average of best nine GCSE results per pupil) and the average wider point score per pupil.
- 4.7 However, the level 2 threshold inclusive of English/Welsh and best mathematics has this year dropped below the national average by 1.6 percentage points. Performance at key stage 4 has seen a fall in Bridgend's rankings when compared to the 22 local authorities across Wales, although Bridgend is still performing above expectations in many indicators. A table detailing the performance of all the local authorities in English/Welsh and mathematics in 2017 is provided at Appendix B. Glossary is included as Appendix E.
- 4.8 Schools in Bridgend add good value to pupil outcomes when compared to the average for Wales. The average 'capped 9' point score and the level 2 threshold inclusive are both in line with the national average when comparing value added for individual pupils.
- 4.9 Performance at post-16 is strong overall.
- 4.10 Inspection outcomes over time generally compare well against the other local authorities in the consortium.
- 4.11 Attendance is a particular strength in Bridgend with secondary attendance being

above the national average for the last four years and ranked 10th position in 2017. Primary attendance is also above the national average for the last three years and ranked in 5th position in 2017. Fewer pupils in Bridgend are persistently absent (less than 80% attendance) compared to the rest of Wales.

Strengths

4.12 The following aspects are seen as particular strengths:

- attainment in the foundation phase;
- the performance of girls in the foundation phase;
- attainment at key stage 3 at expected levels of performance;
- the performance of boys and girls in key stage 3;
- the performance of boys and girls in key stage 4; and
- attendance.

Evidence of improvements this year will be determined through spring and summer term 2018 challenge adviser visits to schools.

Areas for improvement

4.13 The following recommendations have been identified to support areas for improvement:

- Continue to raise boys' attainment in the foundation phase in the expected and above expected outcomes
- Raise attainment at key stage 2 in science and mathematics at the above-expected level
- Raise attainment in Welsh at the expected level at key stage 3
- Continue to improve the attainment of e-FSM pupils in all phases
- Improve the attainment of the level 2 inclusive of English/Welsh and mathematics in key stage 4

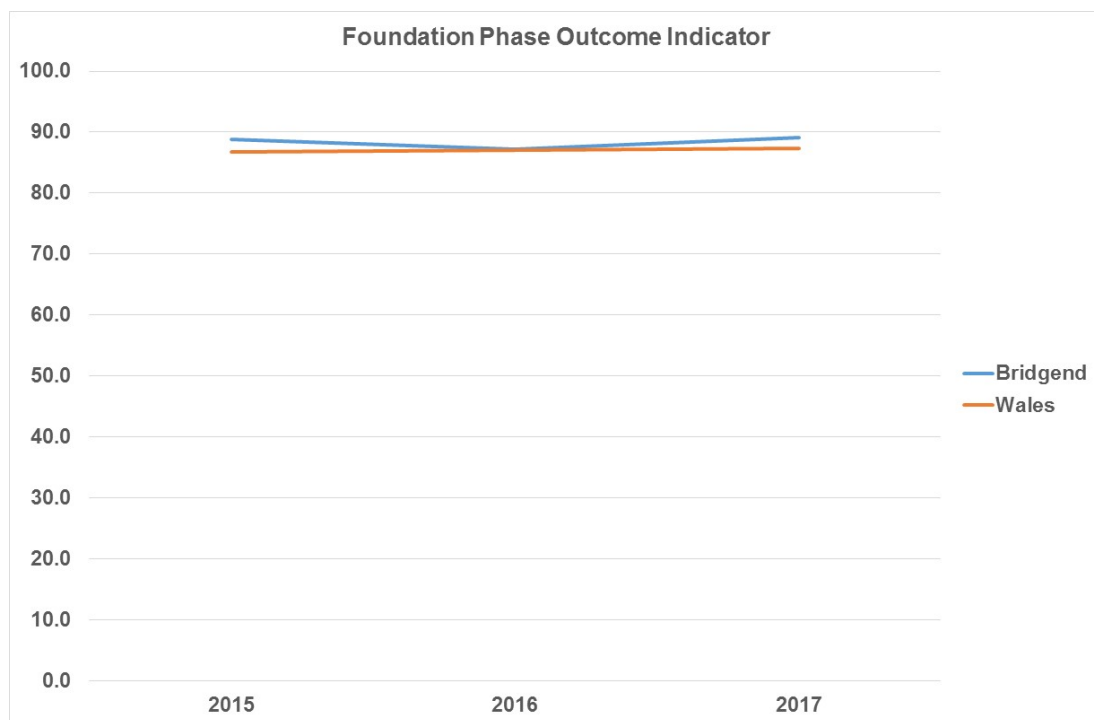
4.14 The schools in which there were dips in performance have been identified through the national categorisation process and are being provided with additional support and monitoring. An update on categorisation for 2016-2017 will be provided to scrutiny at the meeting, as final categorisation is confidential until Welsh Government national publication at the end of January 2018. The CSC plan details planned improvements across the region. The focus is narrowing the gap in performance between eFSM and nFSM pupils. Schools' work is tailored to the needs of their eFSM pupils. Each school's work in relation to the PDG is a focus for the spring term 2018 challenge adviser visits.

4.15 Central South Consortium (CSC) has continued to evaluate how schools audit their practice in relation to their use of the Pupil Development Grant (PDG) and identify ways in which the use of the grant can be improved. The CSC Business Plan details how improvements will be achieved. Challenge advisers will continue to support schools with this process this year.

4.16 The areas for improvement that have been identified above have been shared with CSC which has built relevant actions into its business plan.

Foundation phase commentary

- 4.17 The foundation phase outcome indicator (FPOI) illustrates the proportion of children achieving the expected outcome, outcome 5, in all three areas of learning in the foundation phase. The areas of learning are personal and social development, well-being and cultural diversity (PSWBCD), language literacy and communication English (LCE)/language literacy and communication Welsh (LCW) and mathematical development (MD).



Foundation Phase Indicator (%)

	2015		2016		2017		3-yr Improvement
Bridgend	88.8	↑	87.1	↓	89.1	↑	0.2
Wales	86.8	↑	87.0	↑	87.3	↑	0.5
Rank	7		12		7		

- 4.18 The individual areas of learning at the expected outcome, outcome 5+, and the higher than expected outcome, outcome 6+.

PSWBCD at Expected Outcome (O5+) and Higher Than Expected Outcome (O6+) (%)

	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend O5+	94.9	↑	94.3	↓	95.6	↑	0.7
Wales O5+	94.8	↑	94.5	↓	94.7	↑	-0.1
Bridgend O6+	50.6	↑	52.7	↑	58.4	↑	7.8
Wales O6+	56.0	↑	58.9	↑	61.3	↑	5.3
Rank O5+	=13		15		6		
Rank O6+	18		21		15		

LCE at Expected Outcome (O5+) and Higher than Expected Outcome (O6+) (%)

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend O5+	90.5	88.6	90.0	-0.5
Wales O5+	88.0	88.0	88.1	0.1
Bridgend O6+	38.6	37.7	39.9	1.3
Wales O6+	34.2	36.2	38.1	3.9
Rank O5+	6	10	8	
Rank O6+	5	8	8	

LCW at Expected Outcome (O5+) and Higher than Expected Outcome (O6+) (%)

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend O5+	95.4	92.5	94.4	-1.1
Wales O5+	91.3	90.7	90.9	-0.4
Bridgend O6+	39.9	39.1	50.0	10.1
Wales O6+	36.9	36.2	38.1	1.2
Rank O5+	3	10	6	
Rank O6+	5	9	=1	

MDT at Expected Outcome (O5+) and Higher than Expected Outcome (O6+) (%)

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend O5+	91.5	89.5	92.3	0.8
Wales O5+	89.7	89.9	90.3	0.6
Bridgend O6+	37.2	37.9	41.2	4.0
Wales O6+	34.3	36.4	38.7	4.4
Rank O5+	7	16	4	
Rank O6+	5	5	6	

4.19 Performance in the foundation phase is strong. There is a three-year improving trend in all indicators.

4.20 At the expected outcome of attainment (O5+) improvements have been made in all areas of learning in 2017. All indicators have increased by at least 1 percentage point (pp) since 2016, with mathematical development (MDT) increasing by 2.8pp over the last year. The increase in performance in 2017 counters the dip in performance in 2016. All areas at the expected level are above the national average seen in 2016.

4.21 At the higher than expected outcome, there has been an improvement in all of the indicators, countering the decline in literacy (LCE and LCW) last year. Bridgend is now performing above the national average in all areas of learning at this level, with overall improvements over three years ranging from 5.8% to 18.3%.

4.22 Considering all indicators at the expected and higher than expected outcome, the rate of improvement over a three-year period in Bridgend is greater than the national rate of improvement in seven out of eight indicators, compared to four out of eight indicators in 2016.

4.23 The local authority ranking of the combined indicator, FPOI, now places Bridgend 7th in Wales, compared to 12th last year. This compares well against the other local authorities across Wales.

4.24 The schools that had the most impact on the declining indicators have been identified and will receive additional support and monitoring in order to improve standards.

Areas for improvement

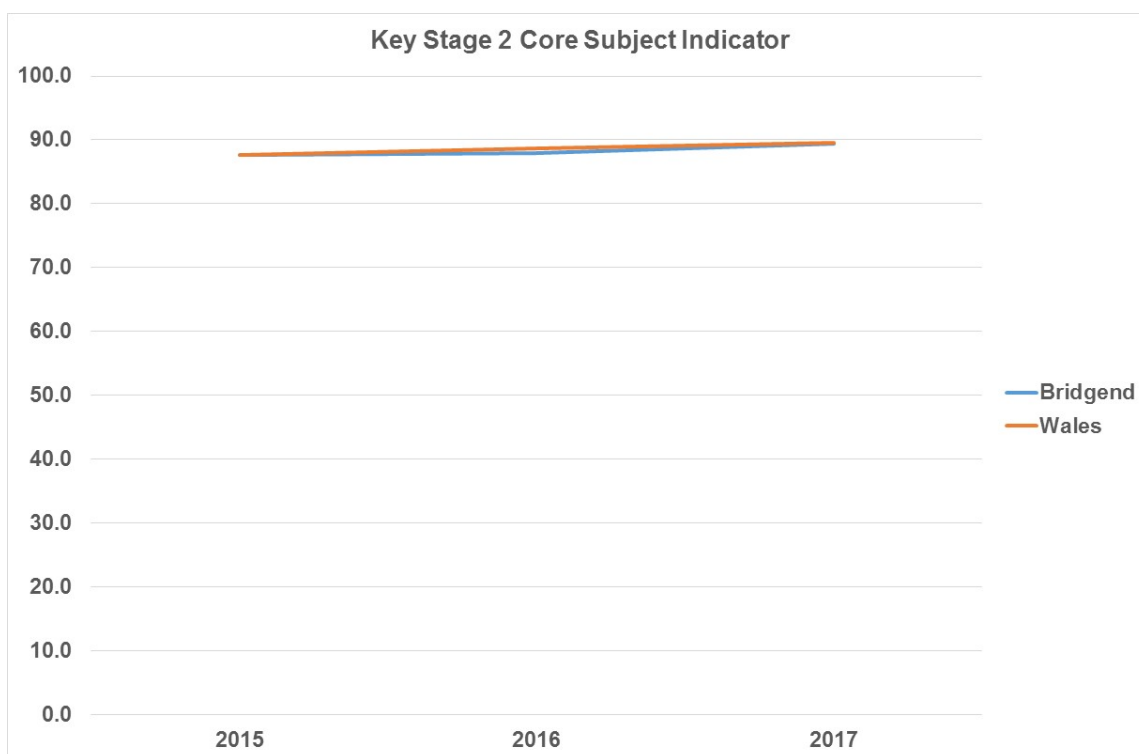
4.25 The following recommendations have been made to support the identified areas for improvement:

- Improving boys' performance when compared to girls' performance at the expected level, particularly in LCE, MDT and PSWBCD
- Improving boys' performance at the above expected level in LCE, LCW and PSWBCD

Boys' performance when compared to girls in LCE, MDT and PSWBCD over the past three years is provided at Appendix C.

Key stage 2 commentary

4.26 The core subject indicator (CSI) illustrates the proportion of children achieving the expected level (level 4+) in all three core subjects. The core subjects are English/Welsh, mathematics and science.



Core Subject Indicator (%)

	2015		2016		2017		3-yr Improvement
Bridgend	87.6	↑	87.9	↑	89.4	↑	1.8
Wales	87.7	↑	88.6	↑	89.5	↑	1.8
Rank	15		17		15		

English at the Expected Level (L4+) and Higher than Expected Level (L5+)

	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend L4+	89.5	↑	89.7	↑	90.8	↑	1.3
Wales L4+	89.6	↑	90.3	↑	91.1	↑	1.5
Bridgend L5+	39.2	↑	39.9	↑	45.7	↑	6.5
Wales L5+	40.8	↑	42.0	↑	44.7	↑	3.9
Rank L4+	15		19		14		
Rank L5+	13		17		10		

Cymraeg at the Expected Level (L4+) and Higher than Expected Level (L5+)

	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend L4+	94.7	↑	94.3	↓	98.3	↑	3.6
Wales L4+	90.5	↑	90.8	↑	91.6	↑	1.1
Bridgend L5+	35.1	↑	31.1	↓	48.7	↑	13.7
Wales L5+	38.0	↑	38.0	↑	41.5	↑	3.5
Rank L4+	4		8		1		
Rank L5+	15		18		3		

Mathematics at the Expected Level (L4+) and Higher than Expected Level (L5+)

	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend L4+	90.0	↑	90.2	↑	91.4	↑	1.3
Wales L4+	90.2	↑	91.0	↑	91.6	↑	1.4
Bridgend L5+	39.8	↑	42.4	↑	46.2	↑	6.4
Wales L5+	41.2	↑	43.2	↑	47.0	↑	5.8
Rank L4+	15		17		17		
Rank L5+	13		11		11		

Science at the Expected Level (L4+) and Higher than Expected Level (L5+)

	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend L4+	91.1	↑	91.5	↑	91.6	↑	0.5
Wales L4+	91.4	↑	91.7	↑	92.2	↑	0.8
Bridgend L5+	38.4	↑	38.7	↑	46.2	↑	7.7
Wales L5+	41.1	↑	42.5	↑	46.4	↑	5.3
Rank L4+	14		15		17		
Rank L5+	17		19		15		

4.27 Standards of attainment at key stage 2 are adequate. However, there is a three-year

improving trend in all indicators.

- 4.28 At the expected level of attainment (level 4+) there has been an increase in performance in all indicators. All performance measures have increased by at least 1.1pp since 2014, with Welsh seeing the largest increase of 7.8pp over the same period, countering the dip in performance of last year.
- 4.29 Bridgend is still below the national average in four indicators and above in one (Welsh). However, the difference in performance compared to national performance is very narrow and is no more than 0.6 of a percentage point below the national average.
- 4.30 At the higher than expected level, there has been an improvement in all indicators. Bridgend is now above the national average in English and Welsh, however the borough is still below the national average in the other two indicators at this level. At this level the difference in performance between Bridgend and the national averages is slightly greater but by 0.8pp (mathematics) at the most.
- 4.31 The performance in 2017 is the highest achieved in all subjects across the local authority since 2014.
- 4.32 Considering all indicators at the expected and higher than expected level, the rate of improvement over a three-year period in Bridgend has improved and is now greater than the national rate of improvement in four indicators, but is still below in five indicators. This compares with performance being greater than the national average in one indicator and less in eight in 2016.
- 4.33 The local authority ranking of the combined indicator, CSI, places Bridgend 15th this year, which is just below the expected position when compared to the other local authorities across Wales.
- 4.34 The schools that have limited the rate of improvement have been identified and will receive additional support and monitoring in order to improve at a faster rate.

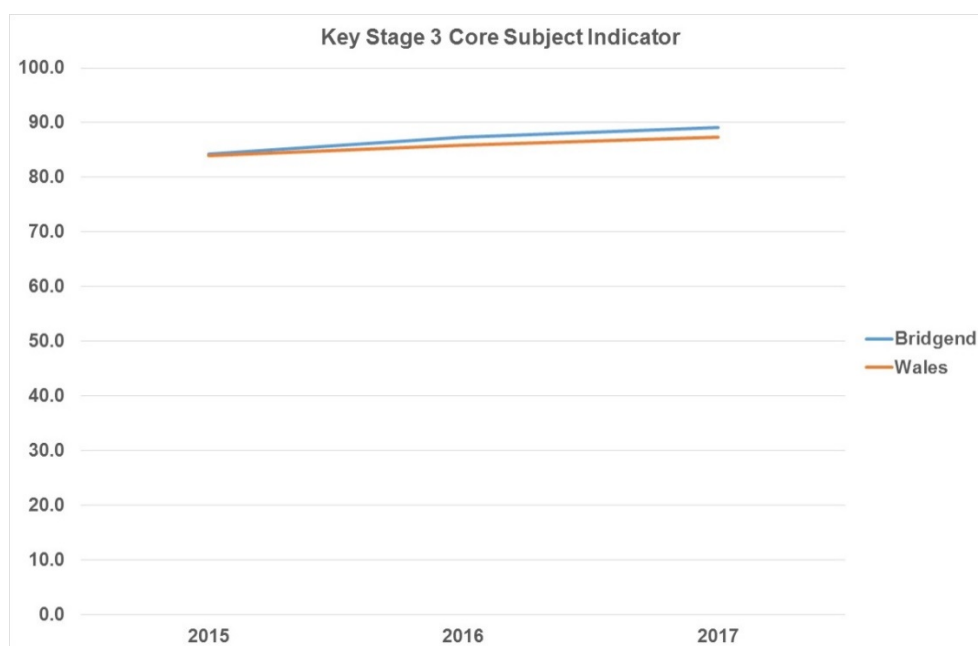
Areas for improvement

- 4.35 The following recommendations have been made to support the identified areas for improvement:
- Continue to raise attainment in English, mathematics and science at the expected level in key stage 2 so that Bridgend is exceeding the national average
 - Maintain the improvements in Welsh at key stage 2 to continue to be above national averages
 - Raise the attainment in mathematics and science at level 5 in key stage 2 to be above the national average performance

Key stage 3 commentary

- 4.36 Standards of achievement in key stage 3 are good. There is a three-year improving trend in all indicators.

4.37 The core subject indicator (CSI) illustrates the proportion of children achieving the expected level (level 5+) in all three core subjects. The core subjects are English/Welsh, mathematics and science.



Core Subject Indicator (%)

	2015	2016	2017	3-yr Improvement
Bridgend	84.3	87.4	89.0	4.7
Wales	83.9	85.9	87.4	3.5
Rank	=11	8	6	

English at the Expected Level (L5+) and Higher than Expected Level (L6+)

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend L5+	88.6	90.2	91.6	3.0
Wales L5+	87.9	89.2	90.5	2.6
Bridgend L6+	51.7	54.8	59.0	7.3
Wales L6+	52.6	56.2	58.7	6.1
Rank L5+	=8	10	8	
Rank L6+	11	12	10	

Cymraeg at the Expected Level (L5+) and Higher than Expected Level (L6+)

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend L5+	87.3	89.6	92.7	5.4
Wales L5+	90.9	92.0	93.5	2.6
Bridgend L6+	44.5	54.5	57.8	13.3
Wales L6+	56.2	57.2	62.9	6.7
Rank L5+	14	15	12	
Rank L6+	16	12	14	

Mathematics at the Expected Level (L5+) and Higher than Expected Level (L6+)

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend L5+	87.8	90.4	92.1	4.3
Wales L5+	88.7	90.1	90.8	2.1
Bridgend L6+	55.3	60.6	65.8	10.5
Wales L6+	59.5	62.7	65.4	5.9
Rank L5+	14	12	9	
Rank L6+	16	16	12	

Science at the Expected Level (L5+) and Higher than Expected Level (L6+)

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend L5+	91.7	93.9	95.5	3.8
Wales L5+	91.8	92.8	93.5	1.7
Bridgend L6+	62.2	66.1	68.0	5.8
Wales L6+	58.6	62.9	65.5	6.9
Rank L5+	12	10	5	
Rank L6+	=7	7	8	

4.38 At the expected level of attainment (level 5+) there has been an improvement in all indicators compared to 2015 and 2016 performance. Bridgend has remained above the national average in four indicators, but is below once again in Welsh at this level.

4.39 At the higher than expected level (level 6+), there has been an improvement in all indicators. For the first time, Bridgend is above the national average in all four indicators.

4.40 Considering all indicators at the expected and higher than expected level, the rate of improvement over a three-year period in Bridgend is greater than the national rate of improvement in all indicators compared to most indicators in 2016.

4.41 The local authority ranking of the combined indicator, CSI, places Bridgend 6th. This compares well against the other local authorities across Wales.

Areas for improvement

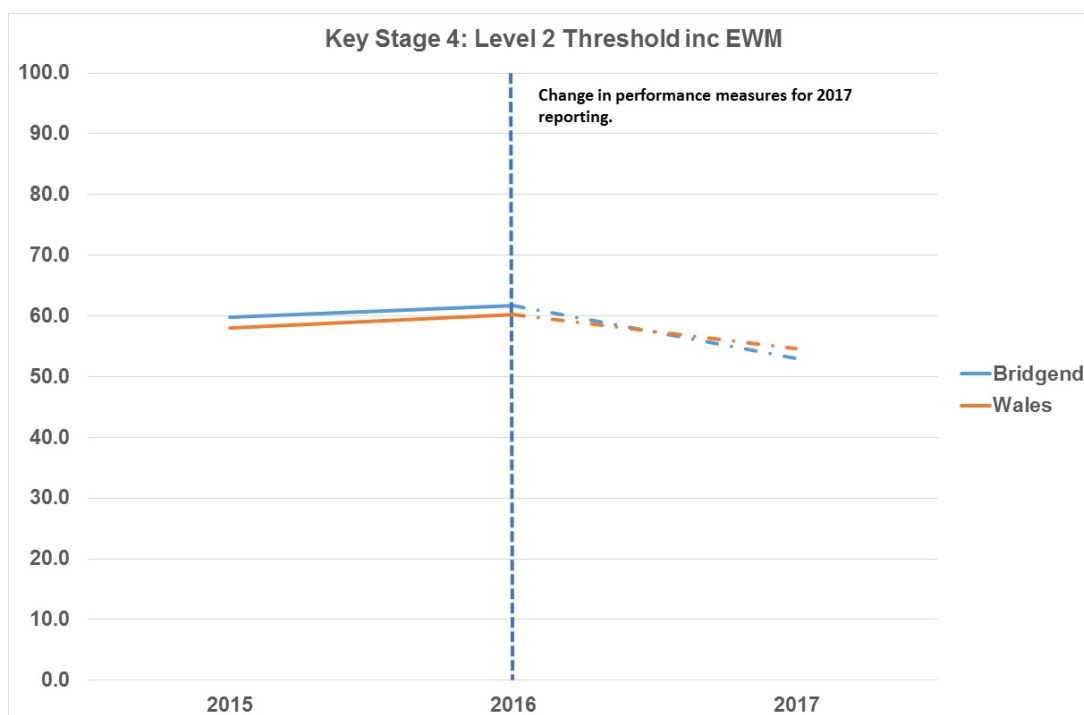
4.42 The following recommendations have been made to support the identified areas for development:

- Maintain the improved attainment in all four core subjects at the higher than expected levels
- Improve the performance of Welsh at the expected and above expected level at key stage 3 to be in line with national performance

Key stage 4 commentary

4.43 Standards at key stage 4 are good.

4.44 As a result of the changes to the way scores are calculated this year, and Welsh Government advice, we are unable to undertake a simple comparison of key stage 4 results year-on-year at school level.



Level 2 Threshold including English/Welsh and Mathematics

	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend	59.7		61.7		53.0		-6.7
Wales	57.9		60.3		54.6		-3.3
Rank	9		9		13		

Level 1 Threshold

	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend	95.2		95.4		94.1		-1.1
Wales	94.4		95.3		94.4		0.0
Rank	16		11		13		

Level 2 Threshold

	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend	83.7		88.0		67.9		-15.8
Wales	84.1		84.0		67.0		-17.1
Rank	13		6		9		

Level 2 English

	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend	71.6		71.6		61.5		-10.1
Wales	68.6		69.3		63.7		-4.9
Rank	10		7		15		

Level 2 Cymraeg

	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend	79.5		85.9		83.8		4.4
Wales	75.2		75.1		74.2		-1.0
Rank	3		2		2		

Level 2 Mathematics

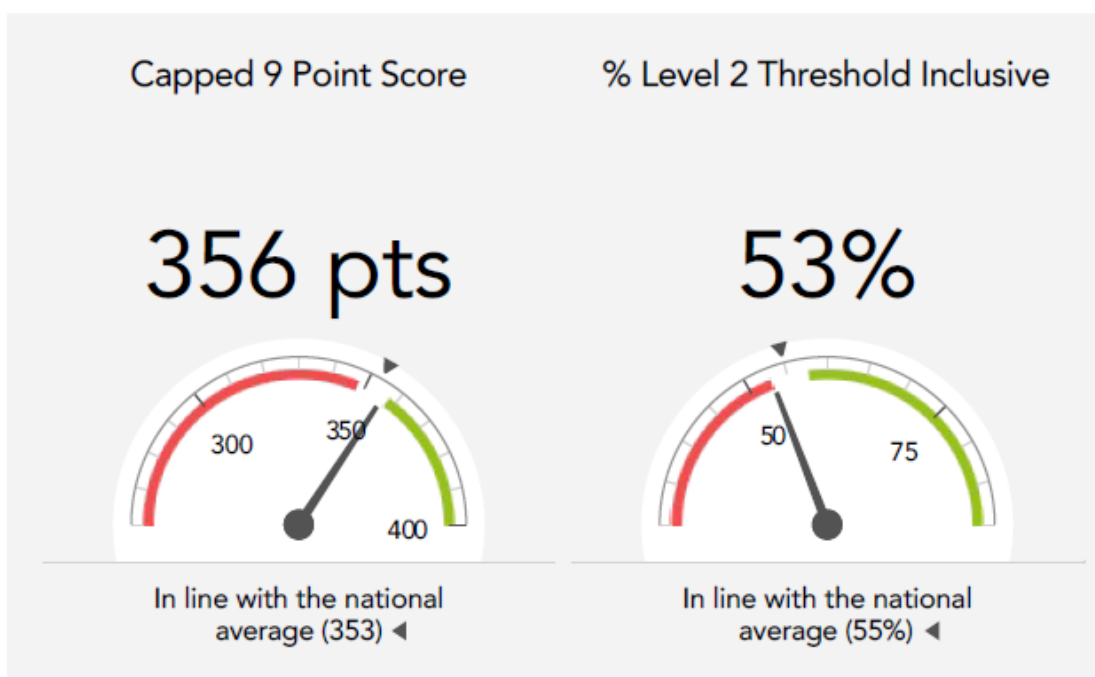
	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend	65.7		67.2		61.2		-4.5
Wales	64.4		66.9		62.5		-1.9
Rank	9		11		13		

Level 2 Science

	2015		2016		2017		Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend	89.5		89.1		75.7		-13.8
Wales	84.0		82.4		75.6		-8.3
Rank	5		4		10		

LA KS4 Attainment 2017 · Actual results

1636 pupils



Performance at key stage 4 at school level

School	L1	L2	L2+	Capped 9	L2 Eng	L2 Cym	L2 Mat	L2 Sci
Bridgend PRU	69	19	13	229	38	0	19	13
Cynffig Comprehensive School	98	61	43	328	47	0	53	48
Bryntirion Comprehensive School	99	81	64	403	74	0	72	100
Maesteg School	97	53	41	327	51	0	45	46
Pencoed Comprehensive School	93	66	57	349	64	0	60	63
Brynteg School	100	77	64	391	73	0	69	79
Porthcawl Comprehensive School	100	82	64	400	70	0	69	97
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd	100	74	61	374	70	84	61	81
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	94	59	42	348	50	0	53	87
Archbishop Mcgrath Catholic School	100	83	59	387	74	0	59	98
Heronbridge Special	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
Ysgol Bryn Castell	4	0	0	65	0	0	0	0
Bridgend LA	94	68	53	357	61	84	61	76
Wales	94	67	55	351	64	74	62	76

4.45 In the commentary, a comparison has been made of BCBC performance at local authority level compared to the Welsh average. In the level 2 threshold inclusive of English/Welsh and mathematics, Bridgend's overall percentage fell 8.7 pp from 61.7% to 53.0% this year. The Welsh average fell by 5.7pp from 60.3% to 54.6%. In 2016, performance was 1.4pp above the Welsh average, but it has now dropped to 1.6pp below the Welsh average. Bridgend's ranking has dropped from 9th to 13th across Wales in this measure, although Bridgend is still performing above expectations. Three-year trend data for key stage 4 for individual schools is provided at Appendix D.

4.46 The level 1 threshold fell 1.3% from 95.4pp to 94.1pp this year. The Welsh average also fell from 95.3pp to 94.4pp (0.9pp). Bridgend's results remain below the Welsh average. Bridgend's Welsh average ranking has dropped from 10th to 13th, although is still performing above expectations.

- 4.47 The level 2 threshold fell 20.1pp from 88.0pp to 67.9pp this year. The Welsh average also fell from 84.0pp to 67.0pp (17.0pp). Bridgend's performance remains above the Welsh average, and although Bridgend's ranking has dropped from 6th to 9th, the borough is still performing above expectations.
- 4.48 In the first year of the average 'capped 9' wider points score per pupil measure Bridgend's performance of 356.9 points was above the Welsh average of 350.9 points. Bridgend's Welsh average ranking across Wales was 9th which is above expectations.
- 4.49 Bridgend's average wider points score per pupil score fell 51.1 points from 566.2 to 505.1 this year. In the same period the Welsh average also dropped from 529.3 to 458.7 (70.6 points). Despite the drop in performance, Bridgend's Welsh average ranking has improved from 5th to 2nd this year. In 2016 performance was 36.9 points above the Welsh average, but it has now improved to 46.4 points above the Welsh average. This performance is well above expectations.
- 4.50 In relation to the individual core subjects at level 2, Bridgend's performance in Welsh and Science remains above the Wales average by 9.6pp (rank 2) and 0.1pp (rank 10) respectively. However, performance in English and mathematics is below the Wales average by -2.2pp and -1.3pp respectively. The borough is still however performing above expectations in mathematics (rank 13) and is just below expectations (rank 15) in English.
- 4.51 Attainment in key stage 4 remains a strength in the local authority, as indicated by many indicators performing above expectations. However, the variability between schools remains an area for improvement.
- 4.52 Value added performance (the progress made by pupils against their starting points between key stage 2 and key stage 4, compared to the progress made by similar pupils nationally) at the level 2 threshold including English/Welsh and mathematics and in the average wider capped point score are both in line with the national average.

Post-16

- 4.53 Standards of attainment at post-16 are good.

School	% points difference 2017 vs 2016		
	A* to A	A* to C	A* to E
Archbishop McGrath Catholic High School	-3.4	-0.6	0.4
Brynteg School	0.5	0.6	-0.9
Bryntirion Comprehensive School	-1.1	-0.8	-0.7
Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen	-12.9	-20.8	2.2
Cynffig Comprehensive School	9.2	7.2	1.2
Maesteg School	4.9	2.7	-3.5
Pencoed Comprehensive School	6.5	13.0	4.7
Porthcawl Comprehensive School	-2.1	-0.2	0.5
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd	-12.7	-5.9	-2.1
Bridgend	-1.4	-0.8	-0.1
Central South Consortium	0.9	-0.6	0.0

- 98.2% of students in the Borough passed their A Levels with 75.8% gaining grades A*-C compared to last year at 76.6%.
- Bridgend has , in general, maintained the improvements made in 2016 with the exception of a 1.4% decline in grades A*-A
- Where small dips in overall performance across the Borough occurred this was due to a drop in girls' performance in three sixth forms (post-16 reviews with individual schools are starting during week commencing 29 January 2018 and this item will be discussed in those review meetings)

4.54 Proportion of students gaining 3 A*-A grades and 3 A*- C (WG data 2017)

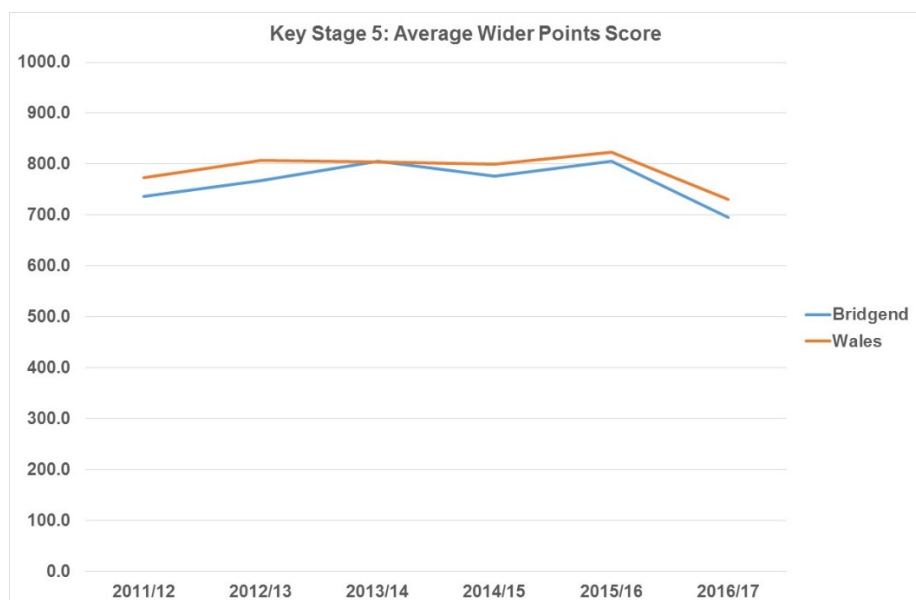
	3 A*-A grades		3 A*-C grades	
	Bridgend	Wales	Bridgend	Wales
All Pupils	9.4	10.5	54.2	54.7
Boys	7.5	10.3	47.4	47.6
Girls	11.1	10.6	59.8	60.5

- Bridgend performance is broadly in line with all-Wales averages
- Boys underperform at 3 A*-A but are in line with all-Wales averages at 3 A*-C
- Girls are slightly above the all-Wales average for 3 A*-A but slightly below for 3 A*-C
- Good performance in the overall number of A*-A grades is evident despite a 0.6% reduction in 2017 but with half the sixth forms in Bridgend showing improvement. Bridgend needs to continue to consolidate the work of the most able students and ensure more of them achieve three or more of the top grades
- The launch of the Seren Network is supporting this aspiration and this year 105 students attended the annual national conference compared to 10 last year.

4.55 Average GCE points score

The average points score is calculated by assigning each level a certain number of points (eg an A* grade scores 300 points, A = 270, B = 240, C = 210, D = 180 and E = 150).

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Bridgend	736.9	767.6	805.8	776.5	806.2	694.7
Wales	772.9	806.6	804.1	799.7	823.2	730.6



- The Average GCE Points Score for Bridgend has declined by 111 points in 2017 reversing the improvement seen in 2016. The all-Wales average also showed a significant decline of 93 points
- The gap between Bridgend and the all-Wales average has widened in 2017 to 36 points – a margin of 5%
- Bridgend is now ranked 12th out of the 22 LAs across Wales compared to 11th last year

4.56 Average GCE Points score by school

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Rank	% change 16 to 17
Archbishop Mcgrath Catholic School	805.5	807.1	1017.2	850.5	934.2	818.6	1	-12.4
Brynteg School	710.3	745.5	755.7	679.2	716.4	660.6	9	-7.8
Bryntirion Comprehensive.	752.3	816.9	958.3	1010.0	960.9	732.8	5	-23.7
Coleg Cymunedol y Dderwen	788.8	729.6	840.0	722.9	901.7	683.2	8	-24.2
Cynffig Comprehensive	562.3	882.8	739.0	757.1	900.1	711.6	7	-20.9
Maesteg Comprehensive School	812.3	988.1	914.4	910.4	996.4	737.1	4	-26.0
Pencoed Comprehensive	857.4	935.8	898.9	827.1	792.5	719.3	6	-9.2
Porthcawl Comprehensive School	805.2	781.6	743.6	754.4	771.2	747.8	3	-3.0
Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Llangynwyd	-	-	-	966.4	1065.1	788.4	2	-26.0

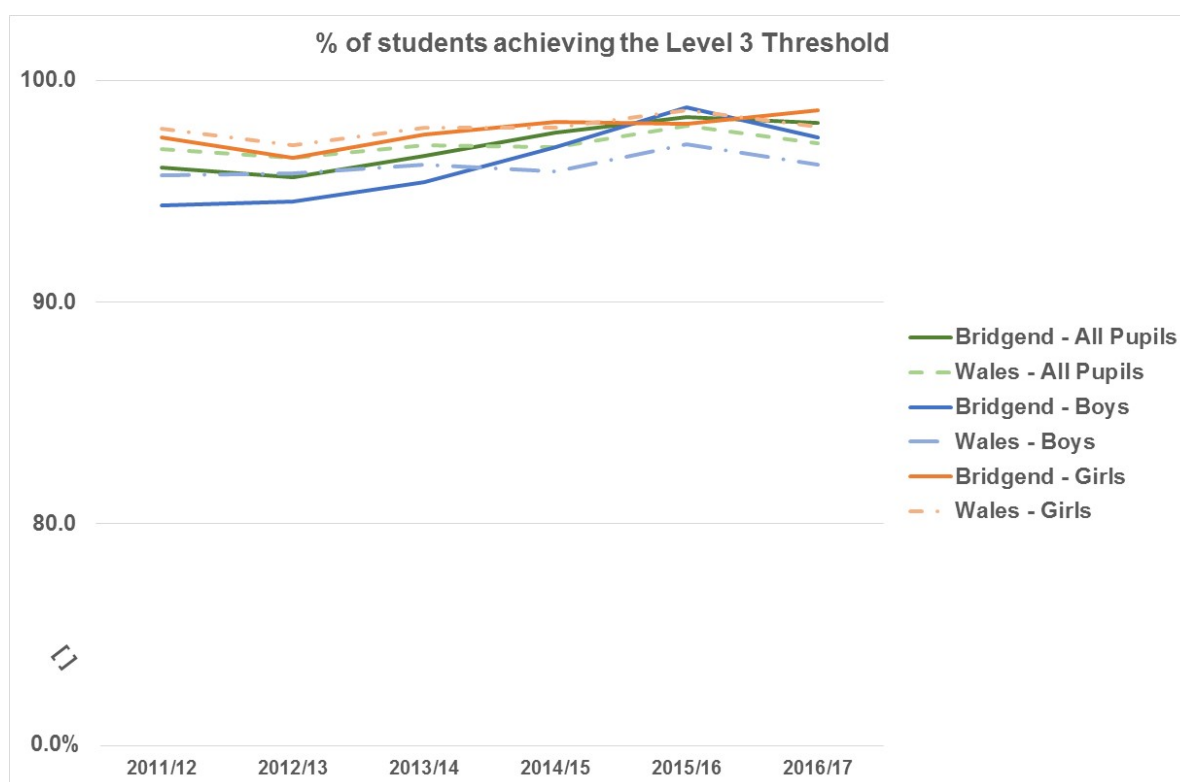
- Although all Bridgend schools and the all-Wales data show a decline this year, two schools are significantly above the all-Wales average, five schools are more or less in line and two schools are significantly below
- This indicator is significantly affected by the numbers of students taking the Welsh Baccaulaureate (our largest sixth form, Brynteg, has the lowest WBQ entry and lowest average GCE points score) and changes in the patterns of examination entry (numbers of A levels in combination with the WBQ)
- By contrast Archbishop McGrath had the best Advanced WBQ results across Wales with 100% A*-C – a significant contribution to achieving a wider points score well above the all-Wales average

This performance indicator is affected by the number of qualifications taken, whether or not the WBQ has been followed. This is the first cohort with a large number of revised A level specifications.

4.57 Percentage of students achieving the Level 3 Threshold

The level 3 threshold is the % of students entered for exams who achieve at least 2 A levels (or their equivalent).

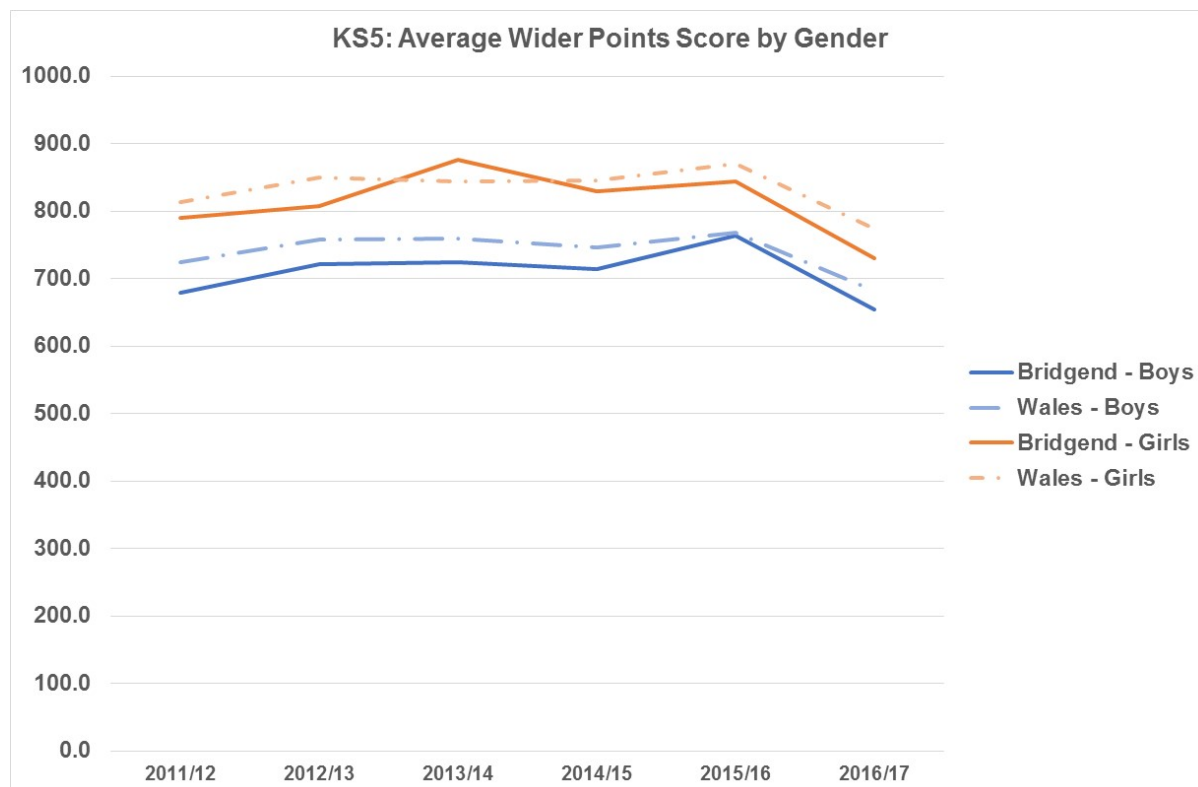
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Bridgend - All Pupils	96.0	95.6	96.6	97.6	98.3	98.1
Wales - All Pupils	96.9	96.5	97.1	97.0	98.0	97.1
Bridgend - Boys	94.3	94.5	95.4	97.0	98.8	97.4
Wales - Boys	95.7	95.8	96.2	95.9	97.1	96.2
Bridgend - Girls	97.4	96.5	97.5	98.1	98.0	98.7
Wales - Girls	97.8	97.0	97.8	97.8	98.6	97.9



- Bridgend has maintained its recent improvement in this indicator and continues to exceed the all-Wales average
- At 98.1% Bridgend is above the regional average of 97.9% and the all-Wales average of 97.1%
- The performance of boys in Bridgend declined by 1.4% in 2017 but this performance still exceeds the all-Wales average
- Bridgend has improved its ranking for this indicator to 2nd out of 22 LAs across Wales from 8th last year

4.58 Average GCE Points Score – Gender performance

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Bridgend - Boys	678.5	720.7	724.8	713.7	763.2	653.9
Wales - Boys	724.8	757.6	759.3	746.5	768.0	681.2
Bridgend - Girls	789.7	807.8	876.0	829.2	843.5	730.5
Wales - Girls	813.0	849.0	843.8	845.9	869.9	773.2



- The performance of boys and girls in Bridgend reflects the decline seen generally across Wales
- The gap in performance between girls and boys has fallen slightly and is down from 80.3 in 2016 to 76.6 in 2017

4.59 Value-added performance

- BCBC's value-added data shows that standards across the Borough are Good at Alps Grade 5 (Grade 1 is Outstanding, Grade 9 is Poor) with the proportion of students experiencing high quality teaching and learning being Very Good at Alps Grade 4
- 11 subjects are in the top quartile of performance across England and Wales compared to 9 in 2016 with strengths identified in Applied ICT (double and single awards), Applied Science, Art and Design - Craft, Art and Design – Photography, Drama and Theatre Studies, History, Law, Music, Religious Studies, Sociology; two students performed in the top quartile for Government and Politics and Polish`
- In the lowest quartile of performance BCBC shows 10 subjects with the weakest performance from 9 in 2016. Steps are being taken with support from the Education Improvement Grant (EIG) to establish peer support networks to focus on areas of weakness and drive up standards in these subjects.

The performance of different groups of learners – Gender

4.60 Foundation phase

Foundation phase outcome indicator

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - Boys	85.4	82.6	85.8	0.4
Wales - Boys	83.0	83.0	83.8	0.8
Bridgend - Girls	92.6	92.6	92.5	-0.2
Wales - Girls	90.8	91.2	90.9	0.1
Bridgend - Gap	-7.3	-9.9	-6.7	0.6
Wales - Gap	-7.8	-8.2	-7.1	0.7

- The high attainment of girls was maintained in 2017 placing the borough above the national average for the fourth consecutive year. The attainment of boys has fluctuated over time and in 2017 is once again slightly below the national level.
- The gap in performance of boys when compared to girls has narrowed in most of the measures in 2017. The gap in performance of boys and girls in the FPOI has narrowed this year to be below the national gap.
- The performance of girls is a strength and the performance of boys in the foundation phase is improving, but is still an area that needs to be closely monitored.

4.61 Key stage 2

Key stage 2 – Core Subject Indicator (CSI)

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - Boys	84.0	85.5	87.2	3.3
Wales - Boys	84.9	86.1	87.3	2.4
Bridgend - Girls	91.1	90.8	91.6	0.6
Wales - Girls	90.7	91.3	91.9	1.2
Bridgend - Gap	-7.1	-5.3	-4.4	2.7
Wales - Gap	-5.8	-5.2	-4.5	1.3

- The trend in improvement in the attainment of girls over a three-year period is similar to the national trend, but in 2017 is slightly below the national level (by 0.3pp). The performance of boys is steadily improving and is now just slightly below the national level, by 0.1pp.
- The gap in performance between boys and girls is similar to the national gap
- The performance of boys at key stage 2 has improved. We need to continue to raise the achievement of boys in key stage 2.

4.62 Key stage 3

Key stage 3 – Core Subject Indicator (CSI)

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - Boys	81.2	83.3	86.1	5.0
Wales - Boys	80.3	82.3	83.8	3.5
Bridgend - Girls	87.3	91.7	91.8	4.5
Wales - Girls	87.7	89.7	91.2	3.5
Bridgend - Gap	-6.2	-8.4	-5.7	0.5
Wales - Gap	-7.4	-7.4	-7.4	0.0

- At the expected level, the gender gap has narrowed for all subjects and the CSI. The performance of boys has increased for each subject and the CSI. The performance for girls has also increased for each subject with the exception of English, which has dipped slightly.
- The three-year improving trend in the attainment of both boys and girls has continued in most subjects. In 2017 the attainment of boys and girls were above the respective national averages in most indicators.
- The performance of boys and girls in key stage 3 are strengths.

4.63 Key stage 4

Key stage 4 – Level 2 Threshold including English/Welsh and Mathematics

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - Boys	56.6	57.1	49.0	-7.6
Wales - Boys	54.3	56.1	50.7	-3.6
Bridgend - Girls	63.3	66.4	57.0	-6.3
Wales - Girls	61.8	64.7	58.8	-3.0
Bridgend - Gap	-6.7	-9.2	-7.9	-1.2
Wales - Gap	-7.5	-8.6	-8.1	-0.6

- In 2017, girls outperformed boys for all performance measures at key stage 4, except level 2 mathematics, where boys now outperform girls. For the first time in the past three years, the attainment of boys and girls are below the respective national averages.
- The gap in performance of boys compared to girls is below the national average in most indicators.
- The performance of boys and girls in key stage 4 needs to be closely monitored in 2017-2018.

4.64 The performance of different groups of learners - pupils eligible for free school meals (eFSM) compared to those not eligible for free school meals (nFSM)

Foundation phase outcome indicator

	2015	2016	2017 (p)	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - eFSM	78.0	79.7	80.3	2.3
Wales - eFSM	75.1	75.7	75.9	0.8
Bridgend - nFSM	91.9	89.1	91.2	-0.7
Wales - nFSM	90.0	90.0	90.1	0.2
Bridgend - Gap	-13.9	-9.4	-10.9	3.0
Wales - Gap	-14.9	-14.3	-14.3	0.6

4.65 Foundation phase – good

- The attainment of eFSM pupils improved in 2017. There is a steady improving trend over three years. The performance of nFSM pupils has remained broadly constant around the 90% level which is comparable to the national level.
- The gap in the performance of eFSM compared to nFSM pupils has reduced over time. It was lower than the national gap in 2015 and 2016 and has provisionally remained lower in 2017. The 2017 national data is not yet verified.
- The improving trend in performance of eFSM in foundation phase is a strength, however it remains an area for development because it is still lower than the performance of nFSM pupils.

Key stage 2 Core Subject Indicator (CSI)

	2015	2016	2017 (p)	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - eFSM	76.3	73.3	77.6	1.3
Wales - eFSM	75.1	77.1	77.2	2.1
Bridgend - nFSM	90.9	91.3	92.2	1.3
Wales - nFSM	90.8	91.4	92.3	1.5
Bridgend - Gap	-14.6	-18.1	-14.6	-0.1
Wales - Gap	-15.7	-14.3	-15.0	0.6

4.66 Key Stage 2- satisfactory

- The attainment of eFSM pupils improved in 2017, countering the dip in the previous year. This now represents a three-year upward trend, which matches the upward trend in performance of nFSM pupils. Provisional data for 2017 indicates the gap is slightly smaller than the national gap.
- The performance of nFSM pupils in key stage 2 continues to be a strength and match national performance. Bridgend needs to continue to improve the attainment of eFSM pupils at key stage 2.

Key stage 3 Core Subject Indicator (CSI)

	2015	2016	2017 (p)	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - eFSM	68.4	75.5	74.7	6.3
Wales - eFSM	65.9	69.4	70.8	4.9
Bridgend - nFSM	88.2	90.0	91.7	3.5
Wales - nFSM	88.1	89.8	91.1	3.0
Bridgend - Gap	-19.8	-14.5	-17.0	2.8
Wales - Gap	-22.2	-20.4	-20.2	2.0

4.67 Key Stage 3 - good

- The attainment of eFSM pupils improved in most indicators in 2017. There is a strong improving trend over three years in the attainment of both eFSM and nFSM pupils.
- The gap in performance between eFSM pupils and nFSM pupils has reduced over time. In 2017 provisional figures indicate the gap is narrower in most indicators than the national gap.
- The performance of eFSM and nFSM pupils at key stage 3 are strengths. However, improving the performance of eFSM pupils remains an area for development because it is lower than the performance of nFSM pupils. Improving the performance of eFSM pupils at level 7 in science and mathematics also needs to be a focus.

Key Stage 4. Level 2 Threshold including English/Welsh and Mathematics

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - eFSM	37.4	35.7	29.4	-8.0
Wales - eFSM	31.6	35.6	28.6	-3.0
Bridgend - nFSM	64.6	68.2	58.5	-6.1
Wales - nFSM	64.1	66.8	61.0	-3.1
Bridgend - Gap	-27.2	-32.5	-29.1	-2.0
Wales - Gap	-32.4	-31.3	-32.3	0.1

4.68 Key Stage 4 - adequate

- The attainment of eFSM pupils has dropped again in 2017, although this is the case across Wales. The drop at a national level is greater than the drop in the borough. The performance of nFSM pupils has fallen, as has the national performance, however the borough is performing -2.7pp below the Wales average in 2017.
- The gap in performance of eFSM pupils compared to nFSM is narrower than the Wales gap, but the dip in performance of nFSM pupils in 2017 needs to be monitored closely.

4.69 The performance of different groups of learners - pupils with special educational needs compared to those without special educational needs (SEN includes: School action, school action plus and statemented pupils)

Foundation phase outcome indicator

	2015	2016	2017 (p)	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - SEN	64.4	58.7	61.7	-2.7
Wales - SEN	57.8	57.3	N/A	-
Bridgend - Non SEN	97.8	96.9	97.8	0.0
Wales - Non SEN	96.4	96.8	N/A	-
Bridgend - Gap	-33.4	-38.2	-36.1	-2.7
Wales - Gap	-38.5	-39.5	N/A	-

- The performance of pupils with special educational needs in the foundation phase is good.
- There is a three-year fluctuating trend in the performance of pupils with SEN. Although, Bridgend has performed above the national average throughout this period.
- The gap in performance of pupils with SEN over time compared to those without SEN is less than that nationally. The gap in performance in Bridgend has been lower than that nationally for each of the three years. 2017 figures not available yet.

Key stage 2 Core Subject Indicator (CSI)

	2015	2016	2017 (p)	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - SEN	55.3	56.0	64.8	9.5
Wales - SEN	61.2	62.6	N/A	-
Bridgend - Non SEN	98.3	99.0	98.9	0.6
Wales - Non SEN	98.0	98.5	N/A	-
Bridgend - Gap	-43.0	-43.0	-34.1	8.9
Wales - Gap	-36.8	-35.8	N/A	-

- The performance of pupils with special educational needs in key stage 2 is good.
- There is a three-year improving trend in the performance of pupils with SEN. Performance in 2017 compares well to national performance in 2016.
- The gap in the performance of pupils with SEN has continued to decrease over time. This should now better match the national gap.

Key stage 3 Core Subject Indicator (CSI)

	2015	2016	2017 (p)	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - SEN	51.6	57.6	61.2	9.7
Wales - SEN	55.2	58.9	N/A	-
Bridgend - Non SEN	95.4	96.6	97.2	1.8
Wales - Non SEN	94.7	96.1	N/A	-
Bridgend - Gap	-43.8	-39.0	-36.0	7.8
Wales - Gap	-39.5	-37.2	N/A	-

- The performance of pupils with special educational needs in the key stage 3 is good.
- There is a three-year improving trend in the performance of pupils with SEN. Performance compares well compared to Wales because it has been above the national average in two of the last three years and the 2017 provisional figure is also above the 2016 national average.
- The gap in performance has been steadily reducing and is provisionally lower than the national average reported in 2016.

Key stage 4 Level 2 Threshold including English/Welsh and Mathematics

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend - SEN	21.1	26.3	17.0	-4.1
Wales - SEN	23.3	26.1	N/A	-
Bridgend - Non SEN	69.7	73.7	64.2	-5.5
Wales - Non SEN	69.5	72.6	N/A	-
Bridgend - Gap	-48.6	-47.5	-47.2	1.4
Wales - Gap	-46.3	-46.5	N/A	-

- The performance of pupils with special educational needs in the key stage 4 is good.
- The performance of pupils with SEN has dipped by 9.3pp in 2017. Over time the performance in Bridgend was slightly better than the national performance.
- The gap in the performance of pupils with SEN compared to those without has remained static over the last three years. However, the gap has mostly been lower than the national gap over time.

4.70 The performance of ethnic groups

- 4.71 The all-Wales Figures are taken from the Welsh Government 'Academic achievement by pupil characteristics' publication. These tables are available at the following link:
<http://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/academic-achievement-pupil-characteristics/?lang=en>

4.72 Attendance

Primary

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend Attendance	95.1	95.3	95.2	0.1
Wales Attendance	95.0	94.9	94.9	-0.1
Rank	7	6	5	

Secondary

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend Attendance	94.3	94.5	94.4	0.1
Wales Attendance	93.9	94.2	94.1	0.2
Rank	6	8	10	

4.73 Persistent absence (PA - attendance of less than 80%)

Data Source: SB 17/2015 Absenteeism from schools in Wales by pupil characteristics, 2013/14

Data Source 2017: AWCDS

Primary

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend PA	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.0
Wales PA	1.4	1.5	1.5	0.1

Secondary

	2015	2016	2017	Diff '15 - '17
Bridgend PA	3.5	3.1	3.4	0.0
Wales PA	4.5	3.9	4.0	-0.4

A set of reports on STEM performance is currently being prepared for discussions with schools from 29 January 2018. Officers will provide further information in due course.

4.74 Commentary

- The three-year improving trend in the attendance of pupils in both secondary and primary phases of education continues.
- The attendance of pupils in Bridgend compares well to the national average. Secondary and primary attendance has been above the national average for the last three years.

- There is a smaller proportion of pupils who are persistently absent in Bridgend primary and secondary schools than nationally and this has been the case over a three-year period.

4.75 Estyn inspection outcomes 2016-2017 compared with Central South Consortium 2010—2016

Primary 2016/17	Bridgend					CSC
	Unsatisfactory	Adequate	Good	Excellent	% Good or Excellent	% Good or Excellent 2010-2016 CSC
9 Schools						
Current performance	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0	66.7	73.0
Prospects for improvement	0.0	44.4	44.4	11.1	55.6	74.8
KQ1	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0	66.7	73.9
KQ1: Standards	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0	66.7	73.9
KQ1: Wellbeing	0.0	11.1	88.9	0.0	88.9	77.7
KQ2	0.0	44.4	55.6	0.0	55.6	79.6
KQ2: Learning Experiences	0.0	55.6	22.2	22.2	44.4	71.7
KQ2: Teaching	0.0	44.4	55.6	0.0	55.6	74.5
KS2: Care, support and guidance	0.0	11.1	77.8	11.1	88.9	90.9
KQ2: Learning Environment	0.0	11.1	88.9	0.0	88.9	89.9
KQ3	0.0	44.4	44.4	11.1	55.6	75.8
KQ3: Leadership	0.0	55.6	33.3	11.1	44.4	73.0
KQ3: Improving Quality	0.0	44.4	44.4	11.1	55.6	71.4
KQ3: Partnership Working	0.0	0.0	77.8	22.2	100.0	93.4
KQ3: Resource Management	0.0	44.4	44.4	11.1	55.6	73.3

Secondary 2016/17	Bridgend					CSC
	Unsatisfactory	Adequate	Good	Excellent	% Good or Excellent	% Good or Excellent 2010-2016 CSC
2 Schools						
Current performance	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	43.6
Prospects for improvement	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	60.0
KQ1	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	41.8
KQ1: Standards	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	41.8
KQ1: Wellbeing	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	70.9
KQ2	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	61.8
KQ2: Learning Experiences	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	65.5
KQ2: Teaching	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	45.5
KS2: Care, support and guidance	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	81.8
KQ2: Learning Environment	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	83.6
KQ3	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	61.8
KQ3: Leadership	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	60.0
KQ3: Improving Quality	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	41.8
KQ3: Partnership Working	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	80.0
KQ3: Resource Management	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	40.0

- Two schools in Bridgend were inspected under the new pilot inspection arrangements in 2016-2017. One school was judged as “Good” for all five inspection areas, with the other school judged as “Good” for two areas, and “Adequate but needs improvement” for the remaining three areas.

- The Estyn inspection outcomes for Bridgend secondary schools in 2016-2017 compared very well to the average for Central South Consortium in all aspects. There were nine primary schools inspected in 2016-2017. Three schools were placed in an Estyn follow-up category, which affected the borough's comparative performance when compared with the consortium.
- All schools are making strong progress with their recommendations for improvement. Overall inspection outcomes in 2016-2017 in relation to wellbeing, care support and guidance, learning environment and partnership working compared well when compared with CSC.
- The secondary school that was placed in the statutory category of 'special measures' in November 2015 has been removed from the category and in a shorter timeframe than was expected.

5. Effect upon policy framework and procedure rules

5.1 There is no effect upon the Council's policy framework and procedure rules.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

6.1 An assessment of the appointment of local authority governors shows that there are no equalities issues related to this report.

7. Financial implications

7.1 There are no financial implications regarding this report.

8. Recommendation

8.1 Overview and Scrutiny is recommended to note the contents of the report.

Lindsay Harvey
Interim Director of Education and Family Support

Contact Officer: Nicola Echanis
 Head of Education and Family Support

Telephone: (01656) 642611

E-mail: ellen.franks@bridgend.gov.uk

Postal Address: Angel Street
 Bridgend
 CF31 4WB

Background documents

None

Appendix A

Impact of work in Central South Consortium's business plan on the region and Bridgend Council (22 December 2017)

Appendix B

Percentage achieving in each subject

Appendix C

Performance of girls and boys over time

Appendix D

Three-year trend in performance indicators at key stage 4

Appendix E

Glossary