

Herefordshire school examination outcomes 2019

Primary context

- There are 78 primary schools 3 special schools that cater for primary age pupils.
- 96.8% of Herefordshire's primary schools are judged Ofsted good or better.
- 99% of Early Years settings have been judged Good or better by Ofsted
- 97% of child minders have been judged Ofsted good or better

Early Years Foundation Stage: Strengths

- 75.4% achieved a good level of development (GLD) compared to 71.8% nationally ranking Herefordshire in the top quartile (22/151 Local Authorities)
- Boys outperformed their peers nationally by 5.6%, ranking them in the top quartile.
- Girls also outperformed their peers nationally and ranked in the second quartile.

Early Years Foundation Stage: Strengths

- 64.1% EAL (English as an additional language) pupils reached a good level of development in 2019 compared with 59.3% in 2018. This ranks Herefordshire in the 2nd quartile.
- Children with Special Educational Needs but not an EHCP (Education Health Care Plan) also performed better than their peers nationally with 38.3% reaching GLD compared to 28.5% nationally

Early Years Foundation Stage: Areas for development

- Looked after children (LAC) performed less well than their looked after peers nationally in the early years foundation stage with 25% reaching the good level of development (GLD) compared to 48% of looked after children nationally. (cohort size of 12)
- 52.6% of children eligible for FSM (free school meals) achieved GLD compared to 56.4% nationally, ranking them in the third quartile (cohort size of 234)

Key Stage 1 (including Year 1 phonics): Strengths

- 82% of children in Herefordshire achieved the expected standard in the phonics screening check which is just above the national average.
- The percentage of free school meals (FSM) children achieving the phonics threshold (69.2%) is broadly in line with the national performance of FSM pupils (70.1%). The 'gap' between FSM and non FSM in Herefordshire reduced slightly in 2019.

Key Stage 1 (including Year 1 phonics): Strengths

- 79% of Herefordshire children reached the expected standard in Reading and Maths at the end of Key Stage 1, ranking Herefordshire in the top quartile.
- 73% of Herefordshire children reached the expected standard in writing at the end of Key Stage 1, which also ranked Herefordshire in the top quartile.
- The percentage of pupils achieving at greater depth in both reading (25%) and writing (15%) was in line with national and 2nd quartile

Key Stage 1 (including Year 1 phonics): Strengths

- The achievement of looked after children showed a strong performance in the separate measures of reading, writing and maths at KS1 with 63.6% achieving the expected standard compared with just 52.0% of their peers nationally in reading, 42.0% in writing and 49.0% in maths.
- The percentage of free school meals (FSM) pupils who achieved the expected standard in reading (61.5%) was just above the national average (60.4%).

Key Stage 1 (including Year 1 phonics): Strengths

- Pupils with special educational needs (SEN) but not having an Education Health care Plan (EHCP) achieved better than their peers nationally at key Stage 1 in reading (37.3%, second quartile), writing (27.0%, second quartile) and maths (47.1%, first quartile) for the third year consecutive year.
- The performance of pupils with English as an additional language (EAL) in writing and mathematics higher than their peers nationally with 69.9% achieving the expected standard in writing (second quartile) and 78.2% (second quartile) achieving the expected standard in maths. Reading was also in the second quartile, with 71.3% achieving but was marginally below the national average of 72.0%.

Key Stage 1 (including Year 1 phonics): Areas for development

- The percentage of pupils achieving at greater depth in mathematics (20%) lagged behind their peers nationally (22%) and was in the third quartile.
- Pupils eligible for free school meals made improvements in their attainment in writing (52.1%) and maths (59.4%) when compared to last year's results but were still performing in the third quartile

Key Stage 2: Strengths

- The percentage of children attaining the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics was above the national average (65%), with 69% of pupils reaching the expected standard in Herefordshire. This ranked Herefordshire as the top local authority in the West Midlands for a second consecutive year and in the top quartile nationally.
- Pupils made above average progress in the DfE progress measure in reading (+1.5), writing (+1.4) and mathematics (+1.0) at key stage 2 in 2019, placing Herefordshire in the top quartile.

Key Stage 2: Strengths

- The percentage of pupils identified with special educational needs (SEN) support who achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics was 35%, ranking in the top quartile nationally.
- More girls at key stage 2 achieved the expected standard (72%) than boys (67%). Both boys and girls outperformed their peers nationally, with boys ranked in the top quartile nationally and girls in the second quartile.
- The percentage of pupils working at greater depth (12%) was above the national average for the combined attainment measure in reading, writing and mathematics.

Key Stage 2: Strengths

- Pupils eligible for free school meals also made good progress in reading (+0.01) compared to -0.8 for their peers nationally. FSM progress in writing (0.5) was better than the national figure (-0.7) as was progress in maths (-0.1 in Herefordshire versus -1.0 nationally).
- Looked after children made exceptionally good progress in reading (1.89), writing (1.80) and mathematics (1.59) at key stage 2, outperforming their peers regionally and nationally.
- Attainment for looked after children at Key Stage 2 in 2019 improved greatly from 2018 with 50% of looked after children reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to 37% of looked after children nationally.

Key Stage 2: Areas for development

- 64% of pupils with English as an additional language (EAL) achieved the expected standard in reading writing and mathematics, slightly below their peers nationally (third quartile performance).
- The performance of children with an education health care plan (EHCP) was below national (4.0% compared to 9.13%) in the combined measure of reading, writing and maths. This ranked Herefordshire in the fourth quartile.

Key Stage 4: Context

- 79.3% of pupils are taught in a secondary school ranked by Ofsted as good or better
- There are 15 secondary schools (1 all through school) and of the 4 special schools, 3 had secondary age pupils.

Key Stage 4: Strengths

- Pupils with no SEN (special educational needs) performed in the second quartile in two measures: English and Maths at Grade 5 or above (47.3%) and the Ebacc average point score (4.4)
- FSM (Free School Meals) pupils also ranked in the second quartile in the Grade 5 or above measure in English and maths (20.7%)
- The performance of LAC (looked after children) across the range of 8 GCSE subjects (Attainment 8) was better than that of looked after children nationally (Attainment 8 was 24.0 versus 19.0 nationally). Herefordshire's looked after cohort also performed better than their peers nationally in Progress 8 (-0.73) compared to looked after children nationally who scored -1.27 (cohort size 19)

Key Stage 4: Areas for development

- In 2019 Herefordshire secondary schools and academies performance at key stage 4 was below national (state funded schools) in the key performance indicators of :
 - Progress 8 (-0.19 versus -0.03),
 - Attainment 8 (44.7 versus 46.8),
 - GCSE English and mathematics attainment at grades 9-5 (40.1 versus 43.4%%) and grades 9-4 (62.4 versus 64.9%) and
 - attainment in the E-Baccalaureate (Average Points Score 3.96 versus 4.08).
- Performance for all indicators was in the third quartile for all external national measures, except progress 8 which was in the fourth quartile.

Key Stage 4: Areas for development

- In Herefordshire the performance of disadvantaged pupils (FSM in the previous 6 years, LAC and previously LAC) in the Attainment 8 and Progress 8 measure was well below national and in the fourth quartile (A8 – 33.2 and P8 -0.69).
- Pupils with SEN support also performed below national in both the Attainment 8 and Progress 8 measures, putting them into the fourth quartile.
- Pupils in Herefordshire with an EHCP (education and health care plan) performed in the fourth quartile in the Attainment 8 measure and the third quartile for the progress 8 measure.

Key Stage 5 Context

- There are 3 secondary schools with sixth forms: Earl Mortimer College, John Masefield High school and John Kyrle High School.
- These schools are all judged Ofsted Good.
- Only two of these secondary schools offer 'Level 3 qualifications' (A Level or their equivalent)

Key Stage 5: Strengths

- Across Herefordshire the average points score per entry, recorded by students at A-level was 33.98 at A Level, an improvement on 2018 (32.40).
- The average grade achieved at A Level is a C+ which is in line with the national average.
- In the progress measure our school sixth forms performed in line with national or better than national. One school sixth form was well above average with a score of 0.48.
- For students following a less academic route performance improved with an average points score per entry in applied general qualifications rising from 25.08 in 2018 to 30.79 in 2019. (cohort size 184)

Key Stage 5: Areas for development

- The average points score per entry in Tech Levels (28.75) was below national for a second year. (cohort size 8)

What are we doing to improve outcomes for all learners?

- Solid Roots project for Nursery and EYFS children: Three strands – the home learning environment, speech and language and Solihull parenting
- Golden Ticket scheme to get more two year olds into nursery
- School to school support projects
- HSIP (Hereford School Improvement Partnership) projects: 2018 -19 these focussed on small school leadership, Pupil Premium and the KS4 Curriculum. In 2019-2020 they are focussed on raising the attainment of boys in English at KS4 and for primary schools developing subject knowledge and leadership in the foundation subjects of History and Science through subject networks.
- Leadership, safeguarding, RSE and Ofsted Conferences

What are we doing to improve outcomes for all learners?

- Phonics project
- KS4 – Herefordshire Challenge. This project is under development. All secondary schools have in principal agreed to support and participate in this work which will look at raising attainment and increase social mobility.
- The use of external NLEs (National Leaders for Education) in underperforming schools.
- The use of Primary Teaching Schools to support and drive up standards in underperforming primary schools.