

YEAR 2004 RESULTS FOR HEREFORDSHIRE SCHOOLS

Report By: Head of School Effectiveness

Wards Affected

Countywide

Purpose

1. To consider the Summer 2004 **final** results at Key Stages 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 for Herefordshire Schools.

Financial Implications

2. None

Report

3. Each summer, pupils sit national tests at the ages of 7, 11, 14 and 16 (i.e. Key Stages 1,2,3 and 4 respectively). Post 16 (Key Stage 5) pupils sit a range of examinations, including 'A' levels and GNVQ. The Government has decided that the performance of schools and of LEAs should be measured principally by the percentage of pupils who attain defined thresholds at each Key Stage.
4. The final results for 2004 are now available with the exception of Key Stage 3 where there is a continued a delay over their final publication.
5. Overall, the results indicate another successful year for pupils and schools across the County with some significant improvements at the end of primary school in English and Maths, and a sustained level of high performance at Secondary schools. Herefordshire performs well above the national averages at Key Stages 2, 3, 4 and 5 and, in general, close to or above the average of similar authorities. The 2004 results reflect well on Herefordshire schools and the commitment given by the Council for the provision of good professional support and the highest possible level of resources.
6. **Key Stage 1: (7 year olds)** The national target standard for Key Stage 1 is level 2 or above. Level 2 is sub-divided into 3 bands – level 2c (lowest), 2b and 2a (highest). Pupils can also achieve a level 3 which is above the expected standard. The results listed below indicate the percentage of pupils achieving level 2 or above, with the 2003 results in brackets alongside.

Level 2+ %	Reading	Writing	Maths
Herefordshire	87 (87)	82 (84)	91 (91)
National	85 (84)	82 (82)	90 (90)

For further information on the subject of this report is available from
Ted St George, Head of School Effectiveness, School Improvement Service (01432) 260803

7. The results at Key Stage 1 are broadly similar to last year and in line with the national average.
8. **Key Stage 2: (11year olds)** The national target standard for Key Stage 2 is level 4, with the spread of results normally ranging from level 3 to level 5. The established expectation is that pupils need to achieve level 4 when they leave primary school in order to access the secondary school curriculum.
9. Pupils are tested in English, maths and science. In English, reading and writing are combined to give a single level for the subject. The final results below indicate the percentage of pupils achieving level 4 plus or level 5. Last year's (2003) figures are in brackets.

2004 Level 4 +	English	Maths	Science
Herefordshire	81 (76)	76 (73)	88 (90)
National	77 (75)	74 (73)	86 (86)

2004 Level 5	English	Maths	Science
Herefordshire	29 (26)	32 (30)	47 (45)
National	27 (26)	31 (28)	43 (40)

10. These are a very good set of Key Stage 2 results at both level 4 and level 5 for Herefordshire, and above the average for similar authorities.
11. **Key Stage 3: (14 year olds)** the national target standard for Key Stage 3 is level 5 and the spread of results normally range from level 3 to level 6. The results for Key Stage 3 remain provisional and are listed below with the 2003 results in brackets. Herefordshire's performance at Key Stage 3 is above that of similar authorities.

2004 Level 5+	English	Maths	Science
Herefordshire	76 (72)	79 (77)	71 (75)
National	68 (69)	73 (70)	66 (68)

2004 Level 6+	English	Maths	Science
Herefordshire	35 (35)	58 (55)	39 (46)
National	34 (33)	52 (49)	34 (40)

12. These provisional results for Key Stage 3 indicate an improved performance in Mathematics at level 5+ and Level 6, but a decline in science.
13. **Key Stage 4: (16 year olds)** The final GCSE results have been published and are listed below.

GCSE 2004	5A*-C	5A*-G
Herefordshire	57 (58)	90 (92)
National	54 (53)	89 (89)

14. No Herefordshire school fell below the 30% 5A* - C floor target set by the government. The individual school range was from 33% to just under 90% of pupils achieving 5A* - C. The 5A* - C performance in 2004 remains very similar to last year but the percentage of pupils achieving the higher grades 5A* - B levels has risen.
15. **Key Stage 5 (18 year olds)** Pupils in Herefordshire wishing to enter a 6th form can study at five different institutions. The figures below in brackets for 2003 broadly indicate the numbers of students enrolled (column A) and the numbers of pupils entered for advanced level GCE and VCE (column B).

	A	B
Lady Hawkins High School	(50)	(23)
John Masefield High School	(160)	(70)
The Minster College	(70)	(20)
John Kyrle High School	(162)	(70)
Hereford 6 th Form College	(1300)	(530)

16. The table below, using the revised method of calculating average point scores, is one measure for comparing relative performance.

Average Score per student		
	2003	2004
Lady Hawkins	261	253
John Masefield	226	268
Minster College	209	141
John Kyrle	185	247
6 th Form College	345	357

17. The Herefordshire average point score per student was 320 compared with a national average of 269. This is believed to be the highest 'A' level performance in the Country.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Committee comment on the results achieved in 2004, and identify any matters it wishes to bring to the attention of the Cabinet Member (Children's Services).

Background Papers

- None identified.