

Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
9th February 2015
Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of People
An Analysis of Examination Results for Staffordshire Schools 2014

1 Purpose of Report

To present SACRE members with a statistical analysis of the standards achieved in GCSE (Full Course), Advanced Level and Advanced Subsidiary GCE Religious Studies by pupils examined in the summer of 2014.

2 Summary

Members of SACRE will receive a graphical analysis of the standards achieved.

3 Recommendation

That members of SACRE receive the report.

That letters be sent on behalf of SACRE to identified schools offering congratulations or Support as appropriate.

4 Background

A statistical analysis of the standards achieved by Staffordshire schools in examinations held in summer 2014 is attached to this report.

Key issues identified in the analysis are as follows:

Overall

- a) In 2014 entries for GCSE Full Course have risen sharply and there have been no entries for GCSE Short Course. Since 2012 there are now 2233 more entries for full course GCSE
- b) This increase reflects the national changes in the examination system and the de-valuing of the short course GCSE.
- c) It is positive that entries overall have not declined and that examination and accreditation is still favoured at KS4. The Staffordshire Agreed Syllabus recommends that students at KS4 study an approved examination syllabus; these findings show that the vast majority of schools are compliant.
- d) Standards achieved at GCSE have declined in Staffordshire. This decline may reflect the fact that, amongst other things, as entries have increased sharply this may be the first attempt at full course RE for many schools; there may be staffing pressures in schools; staff may need further training in teaching the full course as opposed to the short course; teaching time for pupils may not have been increased to take account of the extra content involved in short course.
- e) Overall 58 students across 19 schools were entered for AS level and 162 students across 23 schools were entered for A Level at the end of KS5. There is a small drop in the number of entries at both AS and A Level.

Full Course GCSE

- a) The number of schools entering pupils for the Full Course has risen sharply this year. 48 of Staffordshire's 54 schools enter pupils for Full Course GCSE.
- b) The percentage of pupils attaining grades A* to C in Full Course nationally has decreased. This coincides with a decrease in Staffordshire. The differential between the national average and the Staffordshire average is -0.65 percentage points. For the first time in 2 years Staffordshire students have performed slightly below the national average.

Short Course GCSE

- a) There was no local data for GCSE Short Course RE this year.

Advanced Subsidiary (AS) Level GCE

- a) The number of entries at AS level has fallen slightly this year.
- b) The number of boys has remained steady but entries from girls have fallen.
- c) The percentage of pupils gaining higher grades A-B is below the national figures.

Advanced (A) Level GCE

- a) The number of pupils entered for A Level (A2) has fallen slightly. This is not unexpected and is a reflection of the fall in entries in 2013.
- b) At the higher grades Staffordshire pupils attainment is slightly below with the national average for both boys and girls.

Teachers and pupils in Staffordshire schools are to be congratulated on their hard work and continued efforts to raise the standard of attainment in the County.

Effective ways to raise standards at all levels are under consideration.

5 Equal Opportunities

This report has been prepared in line with the County Council's policy on Equal Opportunities.

6 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications

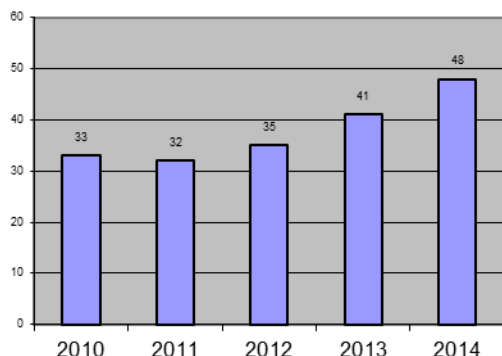
| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Contact Officer: | Emma Jardine |
| Telephone Number | 01785 277997 |

Full Course GCSE in Religious Studies Results Analysis 2014

National Average A* to C 70.7%

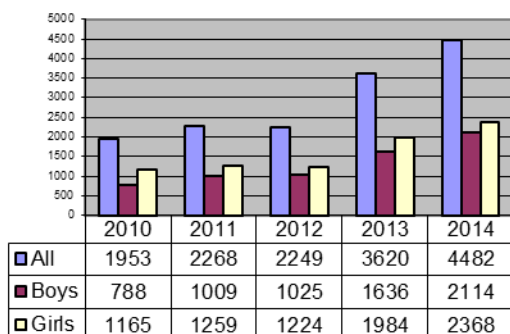
Staffordshire Average A* to C 68.3%

Number of schools entering pupils for GCSE Full Course



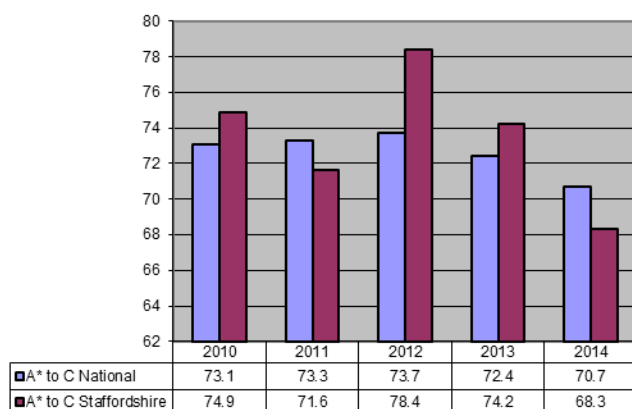
- The number of schools entering pupils for Full Course GCSE typically fluctuates slightly year on year. This year the number has risen once again from 41 to 48.
- As there were no entries for GCSE Short course RE in Staffordshire in 2014 this rise reflects both the changes in the national examination system and also the lack of entries for Short course.

Number of students entered for Full Course GCSE



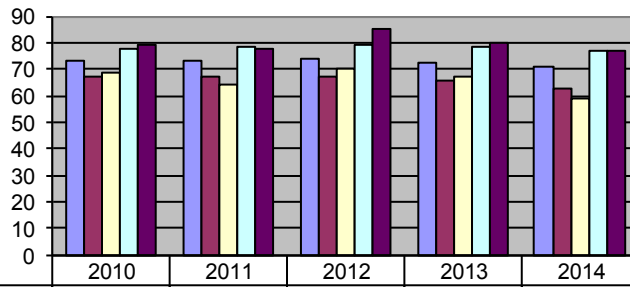
- The numbers of entries has significantly increased once again this year for both boys and girls.
- Since 2012 there are now 2233 more entries for full course GCSE
- This increase reflects the national changes in the examination system and the de-valuing of the short course GCSE.
- The increase in entries is once again a strong indication that in Staffordshire the feared impact on RE of changes nationally has been relatively small.
- The increase is also a positive indication that the KS4 recommendations in the agreed Syllabus are being followed and that schools are working hard to credit their students learning and achievements.

Percentage of students gaining A* to C grades in Full Course



- The percentage of pupils attaining grades A* to C in Full Course nationally has decreased. This coincides with a decrease in Staffordshire.
- The differential between the national average and the Staffordshire average is -0.65 percentage points. For the first time in 2 years Staffordshire students have performed slightly below the national average.
- This decline may reflect the fact that as entries have increased sharply this may be the first attempt at full course RE for many schools, there may be staffing pressures in schools, staff may need further training in teaching the full course as opposed to the short course, teaching time for pupils may not have been increased to take account of the extra content involved in short course.

Attainment by gender Full Course



| | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| ■ A* to C National | 73.1 | 73.3 | 73.7 | 72.4 | 70.7 |
| ■ A* to C Boys National | 67.1 | 67.2 | 67.1 | 65.5 | 63 |
| □ A*to C Boys Staffordshire | 68.9 | 64.1 | 70.1 | 67 | 59 |
| □ A* to C Girls National | 78 | 78.5 | 79.4 | 78.3 | 77 |
| ■ A* to C Girls Staffordshire | 78.9 | 77.5 | 85.3 | 80.2 | 77 |

- In 2014 Staffordshire boys have performed slightly below the national average and girls have performed in line with the average for girls nationally.

Advanced Subsidiary (AS) GCE in Religious Studies Results Analysis 2014

National Average A to B

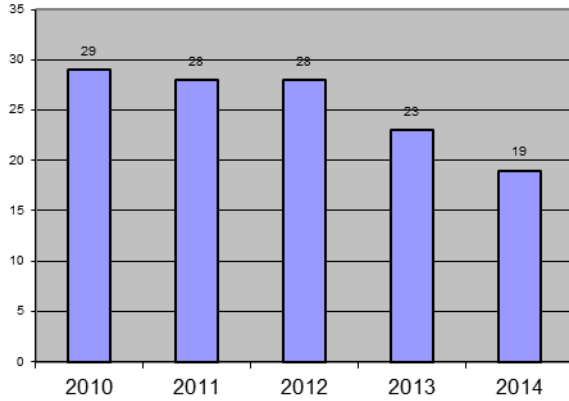
27.1%

Staffordshire Average A to B

20.7%

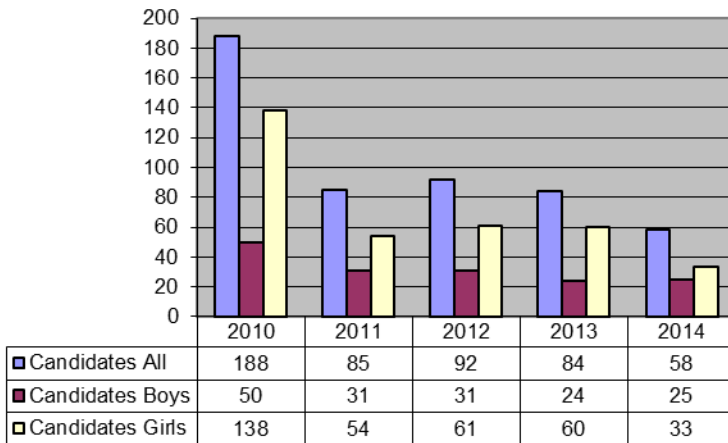
Year 12

No of schools entering students for AS in Year 12



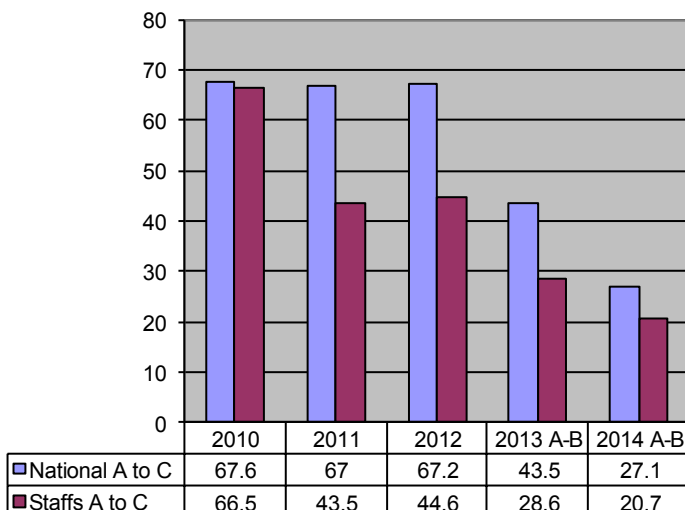
- The number of schools entering students for AS in Year 12 has fallen slightly this year.

Number of students entered for Advanced Level AS in Year 12



- The numbers of students entered for AS has fallen.
- Staffordshire continues to be in line with entries nationally.

Percentage of students gaining A to C in Year 12



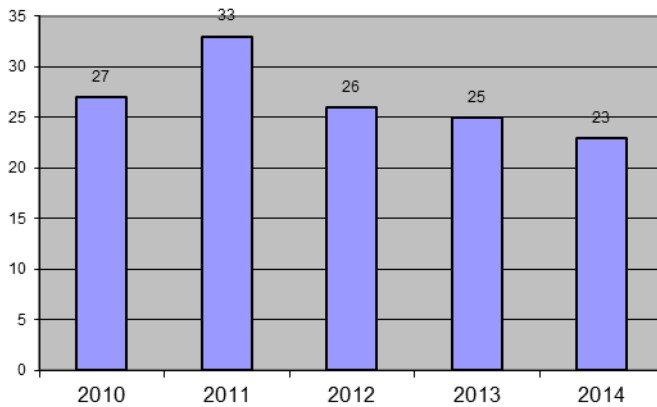
- This graph shows results in Staffordshire for grades A-C at AS RS. The measure has changed, however to A-B which is reflected in the figures for 2013 and 2014.
- Grades nationally have fallen. Results in Staffordshire at the higher grades A-B continue to fall slightly below the national average.

Advanced (A) Level GCE in Religious Studies Results Analysis 2014

National Average A* to B 51.7 %

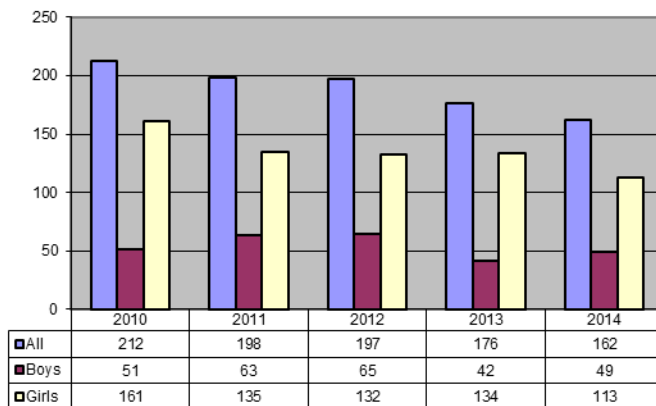
Staffordshire Average A to B 42.6 %

Number of schools entering pupils for Advanced Level A2



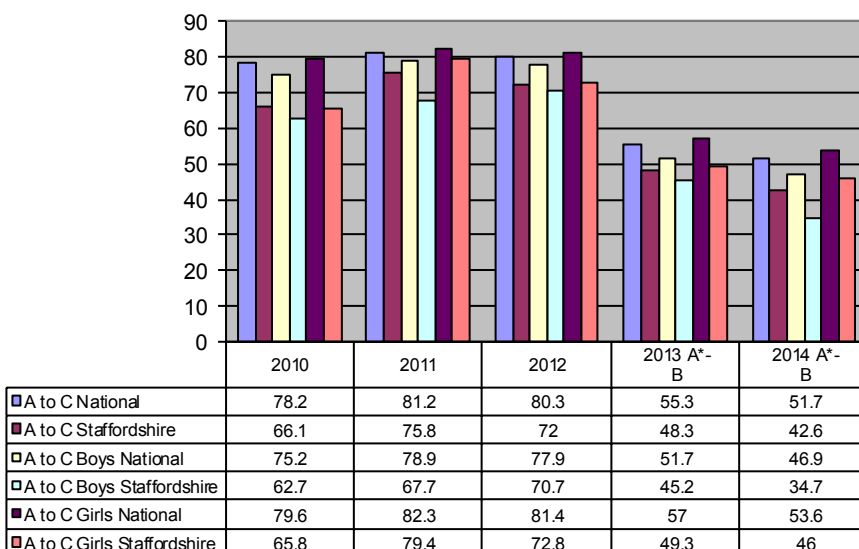
- The number of schools entering students for Advanced Level (A2) RS fluctuates slightly from year to year.
- 23 schools entered students in 2014.

Number of students entered for Advanced Level (A2)



- The number of Staffordshire pupils entered for Advanced Level (A2) has remained fairly consistent for the past five years but has fallen slightly this year.
- The ratio of girls to boys is approximately 3:1

Percentage of students gaining A to C grades at Advanced Level (A2)



- This graph shows results in Staffordshire for grades A*-C at AS RS. The measure has changed, however to A-B which is reflected in the figures for 2013 and 2014.
- Results in Staffordshire at the higher grades A-B continue to fall below the national average for both boys and girls.

Staffordshire schools well above the national average

GCSE Full Course

| School | Number On Role | Number Of Entries | Well above national average A* to C (70.7%) |
|--|----------------|-------------------|---|
| Burton Short Stay School | 17 | 2 | 100 |
| King Edward VI School, Lichfield | 208 | 13 | 100 |
| Tamworth Enterprise College and AET Academy | 177 | 3 | 100 |
| Norton Canes High School, Cannock | 101 | 11 | 90.9 |
| Cannock Chase High a Specialist Science School | 231 | 50 | 90 |
| Nether Stowe School, Lichfield | 91 | 16 | 87.5 |
| Chase Terrace Technology College | 214 | 22 | 86.4 |
| Moorside High School, Werrington | 142 | 141 | 85.8 |
| Thomas Alleyne's High School, Uttoxeter | 294 | 234 | 84.2 |
| John Taylor High School | 224 | 222 | 80.6 |
| The Friary School, Lichfield | 209 | 118 | 80.5 |
| Clayton Hall Business & Language College | 194 | 186 | 79 |
| Wolstanton High School, Newcastle | 220 | 19 | 78.9 |
| Walton High School, Stafford | 186 | 21 | 76.2 |
| Alleyne's High School, Stone | 225 | 180 | 75.6 |
| Wilnecote High School, Tamworth | 203 | 41 | 75.6 |
| Great Wyrley Performing Arts High School | 184 | 12 | 75 |

Staffordshire schools well below the national average

GCSE Full Course

| school | NOR | NOE | Well below national average A* to C (70.7%) |
|--|-----|-----|---|
| Maryhill High School Media Arts College | 132 | 13 | 46.2 |
| Blythe Bridge High School and Sixth Form | 178 | 165 | 46.1 |
| NCHS - The Science College | 94 | 92 | 35.9 |
| Clough Hall Technology School, Kidsgrove | 108 | 103 | 25.2 |
| Stafford Sports College | 59 | 53 | 13.2 |

Staffordshire schools well above the national average

AS level

| school | NOE | Well above national Average A to B (27.1%) |
|---|-----|--|
| Chase Terrace Technology College | 1 | 100 |
| King Edward VI School, Lichfield | 1 | 100 |
| Landau Forte Academy, Amington | 2 | 50 |
| Thomas Alleyne's High School, Uttoxeter | 4 | 50 |
| Edgecliff High School, Kinver | 5 | 40 |

Staffordshire schools well above the national average

A level

| school | NOE | Well above national Average A to B (51.7%) |
|--|-----|--|
| The Cheadle Academy | 1 | 100 |
| Landau Forte Academy, Amington | 18 | 77.8 |
| Westwood College | 4 | 75 |
| John Taylor High School | 11 | 63.6 |
| Cannock Chase High a Specialist Science School | 12 | 58.3 |