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Pocket Watch – What’s in the 2013 ‘league’ tables?

Introduction

Closing the attainment gap, a key objective of the Government’s education reforms, will receive added impetus in this year’s league tables with the separate reporting of progress and attainment measures for disadvantaged pupils. It’s one of a number of changes for the 2013 tables indicated in the DfE’s recent **notification** and shows how far the accountability system is changing overall. Last month further destination data for Key Stage 4 and 5 students for 2010/11 was published, a couple of weeks ago the FE Minister announced changes for the recognition of Key Stage 5 voc quals, and this week the Government announced proposals to report pupil performance in National Curriculum tests in a national decile ranking as part of its reforms for primary school accountability

Nor does it end there. The Government is due to report back this summer on overall accountability arrangements for secondary schools while consultation on accountability arrangements for 16-19 provision is likely to greet the start of the new school year. Their key word in all this is ‘transparency.’ The Government believes that by putting more performance data out in the open, standards can be lifted

Where do performance tables sit amongst all these changes?

The Government remains clear that performance tables “*sit at the heart of the accountability framework.*” The tables therefore remain as a core ingredient but with modifications. The introduction for instance of average grades per pupil, capped at eight, is part of the shift away from what had become an undue focus on borderline candidates and equivalent point scores to one which favours a broader and more balanced picture of a school’s performance

What are some of the changes that are coming in for 2013 reporting?

Full details can be found [here](#) but some of the changes include:

- For Primary schools: the % of pupils achieving ‘good’ (broadly 4B) in reading and maths along with a 4+ in writing; % of pupils achieving respective levels in Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS;) the % of pupils achieving level 6 in each of reading, writing, GPS and maths; the introduction of a combined KS1-KS2 value-added measure alongside expected progress and VA measures for each of reading, writing and maths
- For secondary schools: progress and attainment reporting for all eligible pupils as well as for disadvantaged and ‘other’ pupils; average grade per pupil in the best 8 subjects
- For 16-19: separate cohort reporting of average point scores and value added for those taking A levels, academic full time equivalent qualifications and advanced voc qual provision including the % gaining 1, 2, and 3 respective qualifications. Also initial data on performance of those retaking English/maths GCSE for possible future reporting

When are the 2013 tables published?

December 2013 for primary schools, late January 2014 for secondary schools and colleges



Steve Besley

Head of Policy (UK and International)
Pearson Think Tank

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Performance Tables July 2013