



Apprenticeship reform programme – benefits realisation

In the [apprenticeship reform programme: benefits realisation strategy](#)¹ published in March 2017, we committed to reporting on a quarterly basis against success measures relating to increased growth, taken from the published statistical data sets.

We have summarised progress towards our 3 million target and other growth success measures, with latest figures taken from the [statistical data sets](#)² covering the period up to April 2017.

Update on growth

The Government has committed to reaching 3 million new apprenticeship starts in England by 2020. During the period August 2016 to April 2017, 440,300 apprenticeships have been started. This compares to 384,500 in the same period the previous year, an increase of 14.5%.

This takes us to 1,065,000 against the target (35.5% of 3 million) and on trajectory to meet this target by 2020.

Starts on each apprenticeship level have all increased: the highest percentage increase has been in higher apprenticeships, which have increased by 64.9% from 19,200 in 2015 to 16 to 31,600 in 2016 to 17.

Starts from black, asian and minority ethnic groups

During the period August 2016 to April 2017, 49,330 apprenticeships were started by individuals who are from a black, asian and minority ethnic group. This compares to 39,800 in the same period the previous year.

This is equivalent to 11.20% during this academic year, compared to 10.35% in the previous academic year. Our success measure for this group is to increase the proportion of black, asian and minority ethnic participation by 20%, to reach 11.9% by 2020.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apprenticeship-reform-programme-benefits-realisation-strategy>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/fe-data-library-apprenticeships>

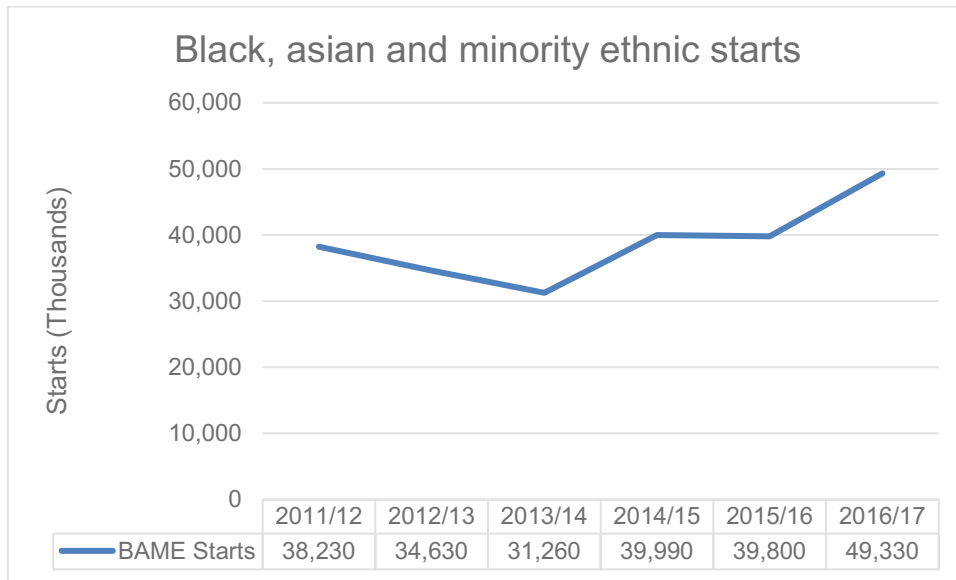


Figure 1: Black, asian and minority ethnic starts (Q1, Q2 & Q3) from 2011 to 2012 to 2016 to 2017

Learning disabilities

During the period August 2016 to April 2017, 44,730 apprenticeships were started by individuals who are from the learning difficulties and / or disabilities group. This compares to 39,290 in the same period in the previous year.

This is equivalent to 10.16% during this academic year, compared to 10.22% in the previous academic year. Our success measure for this group is to increase the proportion of learning difficulties and / or disabilities participation by 20%, to reach 11.9% by 2020.



Figure 2: Learning disabilities (Q1, Q2 & Q3) from 2011 to 2012 to 2016 to 2017

Disadvantaged

Statistical data sets do not currently provide a break down of starts by disadvantaged area and further analysis is required to produce a measure of the value of engagement, as

determined by sector subject area. We are currently considering our approach, and will update in a subsequent report.

Future reporting

The next quarterly report will be available after publication of the next further education statistical first release in October, covering the period up to July 2017.

In the benefits realisation strategy, we committed to reporting against all measures on an annual basis. This will be timed to coincide with the availability of all relevant data.

Public sector bodies employing more than 250 employees in England now have a target to employ an average of at least 2.3% of their staff as apprentices over the period 2017 to 2021. They are required to report annually and the first formal submission will be available in late 2018. Progress against our success measure relating to increasing the number of public sector apprenticeships will be available from this time, and subsequently included in our report.

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