

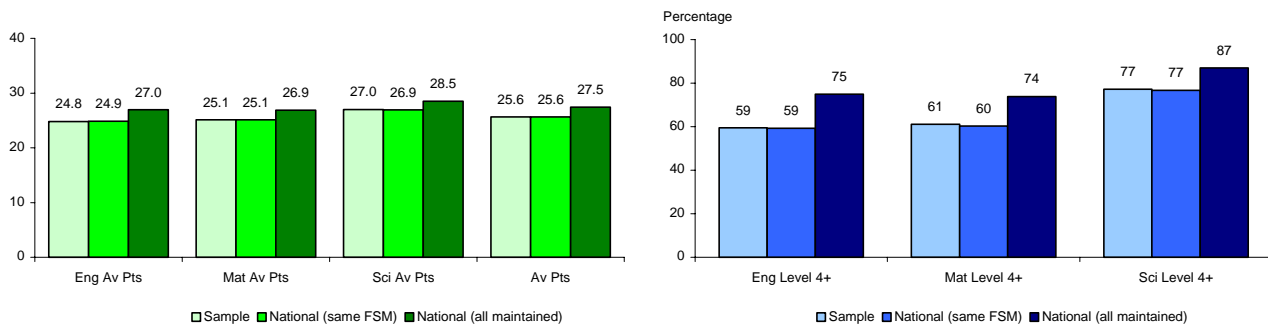


Attainment in deprived urban primary schools

This note looks at attainment in Key Stage 2 tests in deprived urban primary schools. The analysis in this note is based on the sample of 499 primary schools that meet the criteria outlined in the note: “Selecting the new sample of deprived urban schools”. However, the actual number of schools used in each part of the analysis varies due to parts of the data being incomplete, or the extra conditions imposed.

KS2 average points and percentage attaining Level 4 or higher

Comparing sample schools with those of similar levels of free school meal eligibility and schools nationally at Key Stage 2 test subject level.

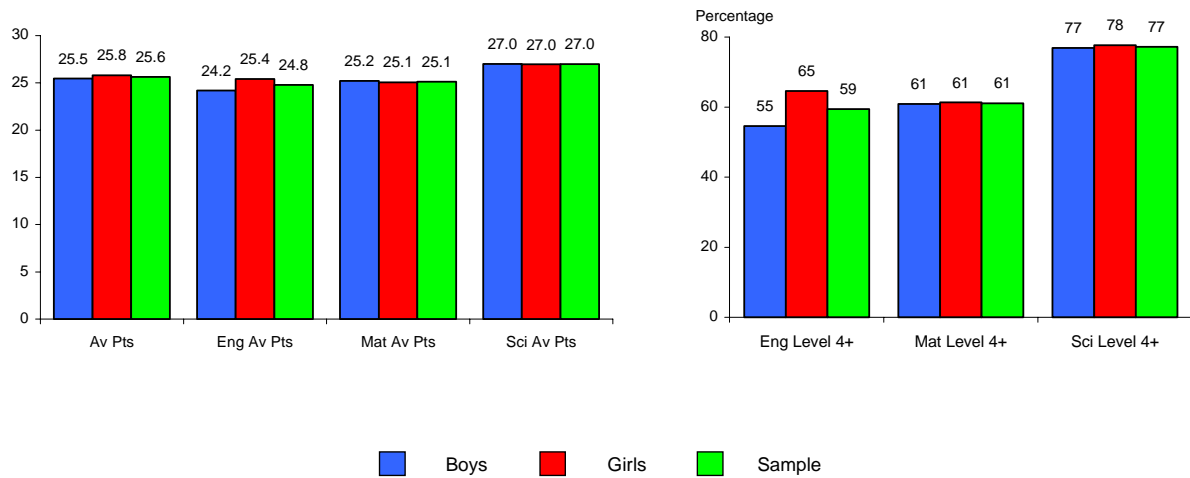


Both charts show that the performance of children in the sample of deprived urban primary schools is virtually identical to other schools with 35% or more pupils eligible for free school meals. These groups however both achieve below the national level for all schools at **all** subject levels.

This is most noticeable when examining the chart showing the percentage of pupils attaining Level 4 or better. Pupils clearly attain higher at Science than both English and Maths (87% compared to 75% and 74% respectively at the national level). When looking at the sample data however pupils are slightly lower attaining at English than Maths (59% as opposed to 61%), 16 percentage points below the all schools figure. This picture is reflected in the group of all schools where 35% or more of pupils are eligible for free school meals.

Group	Number of schools
Sample	443
Same FSM	1,842
National (all maintained)	14,337

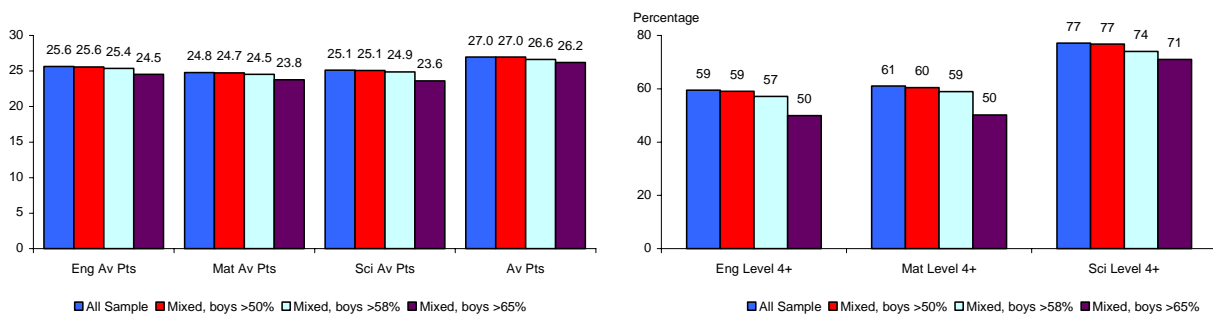
Comparing girls' and boys' attainment in deprived urban primary schools



The graphs above show that overall, girls do indeed attain slightly higher on average than boys at Key Stage 2 in deprived urban primary schools. Girls average 25.8 points in our sample of schools; boys average 25.5 points. In the individual subjects, girls' average KS2 English score is 1.2 points higher than boys; but boys very slightly outperform girls in Maths and Science.

A higher proportion of girls than boys attain Level 4 or higher in KS2 English. 65% of girls attain level 4 or higher, while only 55% of boys do. 61% of both boys and girls in deprived urban schools attain level 4 or higher in Maths, while 78% of girls attain level 4 or higher in Science – 1 percentage point higher than boys.

Are primary schools with high proportions of boys lower attaining?



Both of these charts illustrate the same pattern, which appears to confirm the hypothesis that schools with higher proportions of boys have lower overall attainment.

The same downward trend exists in all test subjects as the percentage of boys in each group increases although this is more marked when looking at the percentage of pupils achieving Level 4+ as opposed to average points scores, especially in English and

Maths where attainment seems to drop off quite severely as we move from the greater than 58% group to the greater than 65% group.

Sample Information:

Group	Number of schools in sample
Mixed – boys >50%	220
Mixed – boys >58%	89
Mixed – boys >65%	23

Note that the 220 schools in which boys outnumber girls include those where the percentage of boys is greater than 58% and 65% as well.