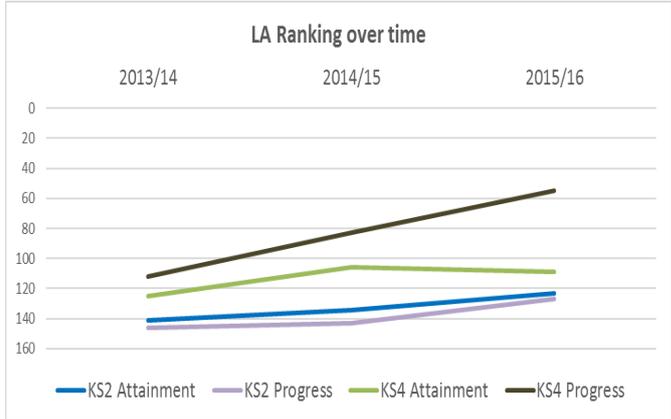
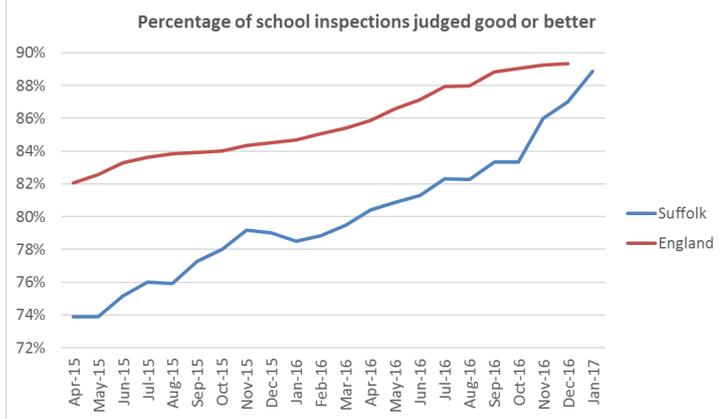


This bi-annual progress report updates on key measures of success for Raising the Bar 2015-17, and gives an update on core Raising the Bar activities. The ambition of Raising the Bar is to move in all measures to “better than national” by 2017. The latest figures for the attainment related measures are the confirmed results for the academic year 2015/16.

Percentage of schools rated good or outstanding by Ofsted / Suffolk Ranking

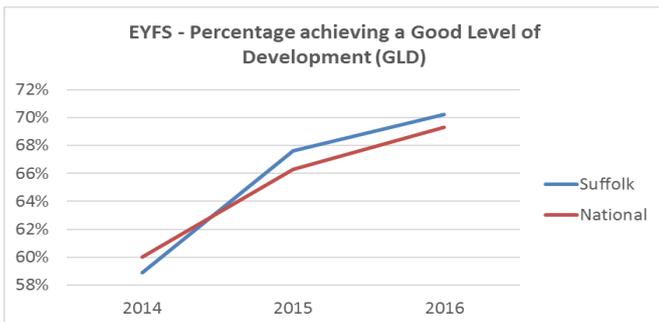


The percentage of schools in Suffolk judged Good or Outstanding by Ofsted has continued to increase, and stands now at 89%, having closed the gap to national.

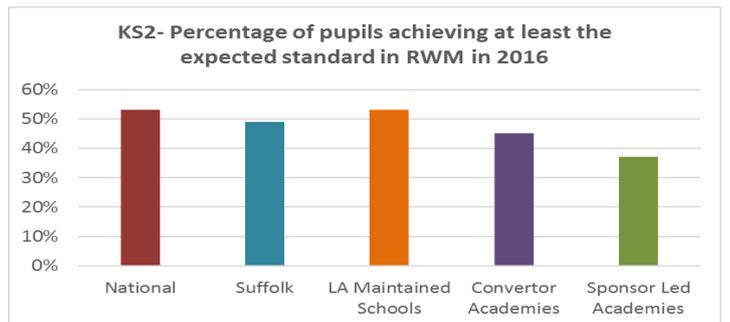
Suffolk’s national ranking within local education authorities has increased in KS2 (age 11) attainment and progress, and in KS4 (age 16) progress.

Increased achievement: Attainment at ages 5, 11, 16 and 18 (2015/16 results)

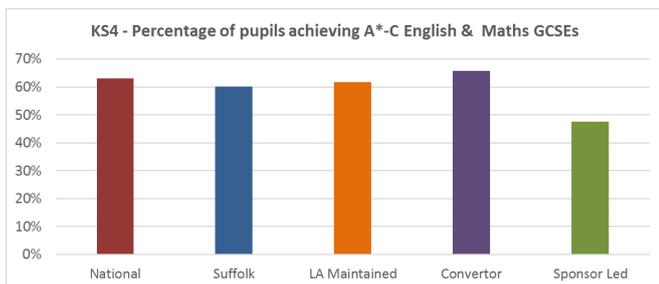
Please note: 2015/16 is the first year that the new national curriculum has been assessed and new assessment measures have been used (this has not affected Early Years Foundation Stage). No comparison can be made with previous years. Charts of years until 2015 can be found in last year’s report.



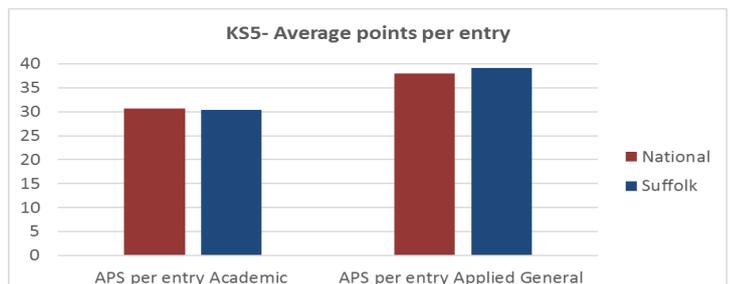
Age 5: Suffolk’s Early Years Foundation Stage attainment remains above national level.



Age 11: Key stage 2 results in Reading/Writing/Maths are slightly below national. LA maintained schools’ results are at national level, academies lower.



Age 16: Key stage 4/GCSE attainment in English/Maths is slightly below national average.



Age 18: At key stage 5, the 2016 academic results are close to national, and the results of applied subjects exceed national figures.

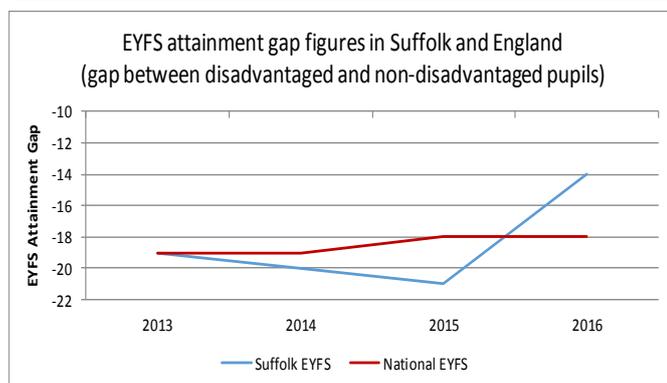
Increased achievement: Progress at ages 11 and 16 (2015/16 results)

Key Stage 2	Suffolk	National
Reading Progress Score	-0.8	0
Writing Progress Score	-0.8	0
Mathematics Progress score	-1.2	0

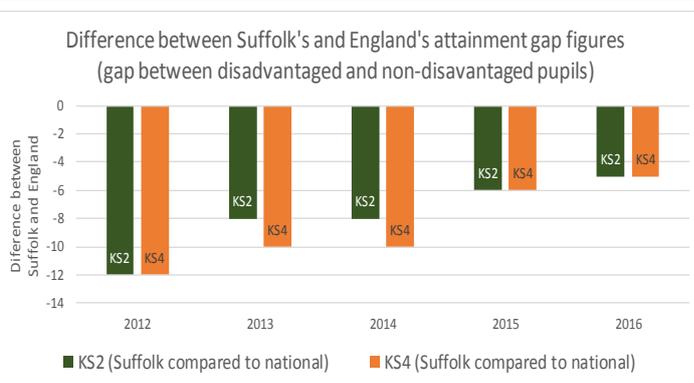
Key Stage 4	Suffolk	National
Progress 8 score	+0.02	0

Progress measures at key stages 2 and 4 reflect the rates at which children have progressed between key stages 1 and 2 (age 7 and 11), and between key stages 2 and 4 (ages 11 and 16). 2016 progress rates measured at key stage 2 are slightly below national, with an improved progress ranking compared to 2015. Key stage 4 is above national, with an improved ranking and Suffolk being now in the top half of all local education authorities.

Attainment gap between disadvantaged and other pupils, at ages 5, 11 and 16 (2015/16 results)

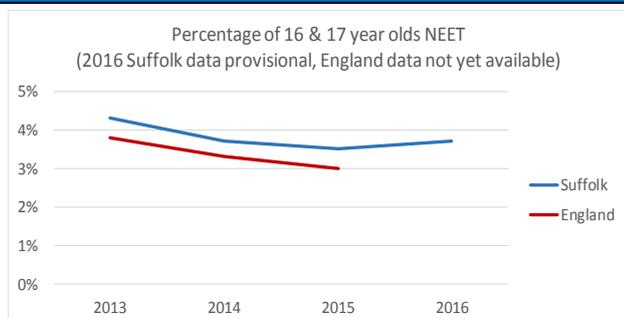


At the end of Early Years Foundation Stage (age 5), the attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils in Suffolk has narrowed. The difference is now significantly less than the national attainment gap.

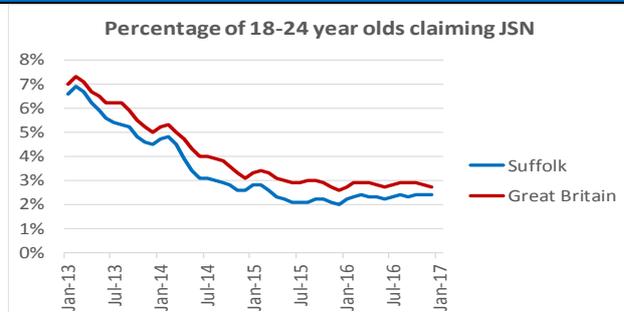


At key stages 2 and 4 (age 11 and 16) the difference between Suffolk's and England's attainment gap figures (the gap between disadvantaged and other pupils) has continued to reduce and Suffolk is closing in on the national level.

Reduced unemployment rate for 16-24 year olds



The percentage of 16-17 year olds has slightly increased in 2016. National figures for 2016 are not yet available.



The percentage of 18-24 year olds claiming Job Seekers Allowance has remained stable, with Suffolk's figures being slightly lower than for the UK.

Facts and figures in this report are current on 1 February 2017. Progress reports for Raising the Bar 2015-17 are published bi-annually; the next report is due on 1 July 2017. For further information on Raising the Bar, see www.suffolk.gov.uk/rb

Progress update on Raising the Bar's 2015-17 priorities

1 Effective and timely school improvement

Suffolk County Council's **system for monitoring all schools** is now well established and effective, with an effective process for bespoke and rapid formal **interventions** where required. Schools share information about their targets and predictions. SEOs have received further training to make them even more effective in their role of challenging and supporting school leaders. All **Locality Plans** are in place and Headteacher engagement is increasing.

2 Strong School to School support

The **School to School Support Partnership (STSSP)** has been further embedded. Its capacity in system leadership to support schools has rapidly increased, through recruitment and training of 100 Specialist Leaders of Education (SLEs), including four specialised in Culture and Arts (CASLEs). The STSSP has worked with the County Council to develop the range of school to school support available to our schools. Suffolk is on target to have 12 teaching schools by the end of 2017. The website www.stssp.co.uk now shares over 150 case studies of best practice and engages with schools via social media.

As a result of **Raising the Bar's partnership with the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF)**, more than a third of Suffolk schools have been trained in approaches evaluated by the EEF. The approach of this joint fund has attracted interest nationally and internationally. With the EEF, we have offered training to school leaders and governors in evidence based practice. We have also worked with the EEF to set up a **Research School in Suffolk** in 2017.

3 Excellence in leadership and governance

A new **governance strategy** has been drafted and consultation will be undertaken. The governor recruitment strand is gaining strength, engaging key stakeholders. Financial resourcing for governance intervention and support has been rationalised to enable greater accountability.

The **Teach Suffolk** recruitment brand and related web pages and social media channels are now well established. A wider range of schools are getting engaged with Teach Suffolk initiatives, including more secondary schools.

The **Recently Qualified Teacher programme** is being rolled out across Suffolk's Teaching Schools, focussing on teachers showing leadership potential.

4 Developing aspirations

The Suffolk **ICanBeA...** platform has been launched, showing local career opportunities to young people in Suffolk. We launched the **New Anglia Youth Pledge Marque**, recognising businesses. The third **Suffolk Skills Show** in October attracted nearly 5000 attendees. The **careers and enterprise programme** currently has 29 Enterprise Advisers matched to schools in Suffolk, with many additional ones for further schools already recruited.

A **parental engagement** round of the Raising the Bar Community Fund approved 12 projects (subject to agreement to conditions).

5 Strategy and communication

(enabling priority)

The **Raising the Bar Awards 2017** have opened for nominations, and a competition has been launched for young people presenters to host the event.

A new **Governor news bulletin**, "Governor Headlines", has been created.

We have started developing **the future Raising the Bar education strategy** for Suffolk. We have visited a large number of schools to consult on this.