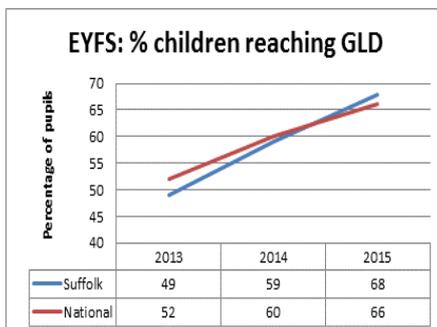
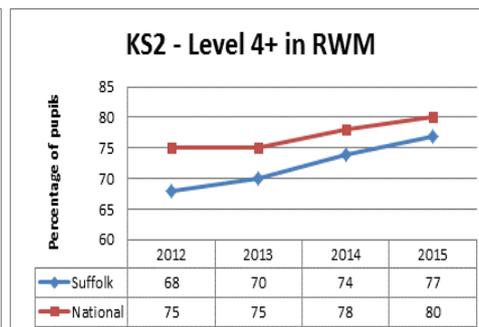


This progress report updates on the key measures of success for Raising the Bar 2015-17, since the inception of the Programme in 2012. The ambition of Raising the Bar is to move in all measures to “better than national” by 2017. The latest figures for the attainment related measures are the confirmed results of the academic year 2014/15. The report also gives an update on core Raising the Bar activities.

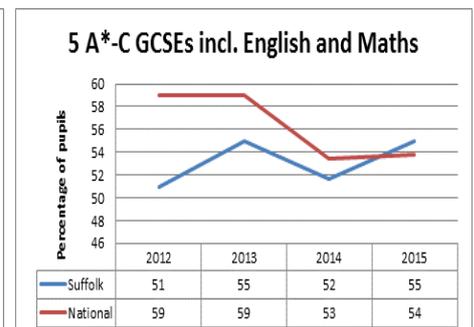
Increased achievement: Attainment at ages 5, 11, 16 and 18



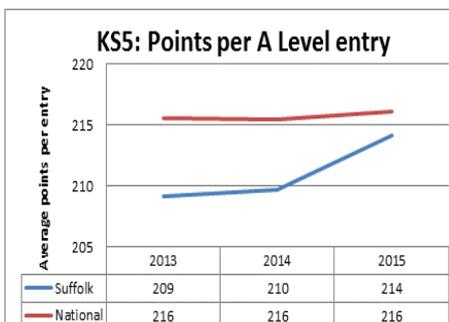
Age 5: Suffolk’s Early Years Foundation Stage attainment has risen from below to above national this year.



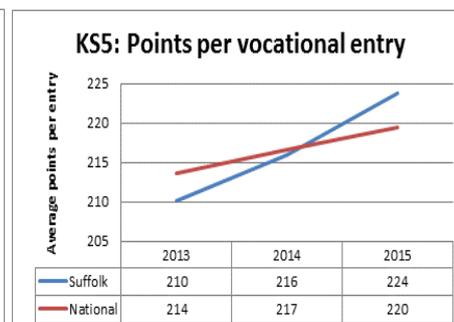
Age 11: Key stage 2 attainment in Reading/Writing/Maths has increased at a faster rate than national so the gap to national is narrowing.



Age 16: After another rise in attainment, Suffolk’s key stage 4/GCSE attainment is now above the national average.



Age 18: At key stage 5, Suffolk has seen improvements in A level and vocational entries, with the points per entry closing in on, and for vocational subjects well exceeding, national figures.

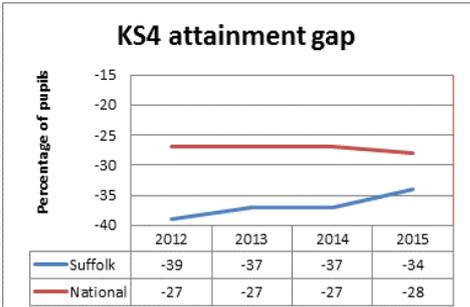
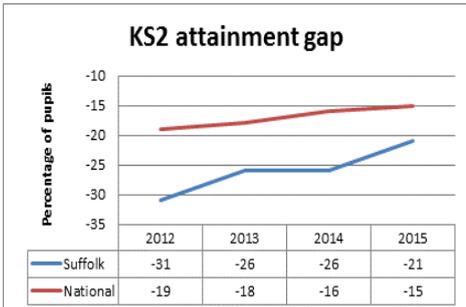
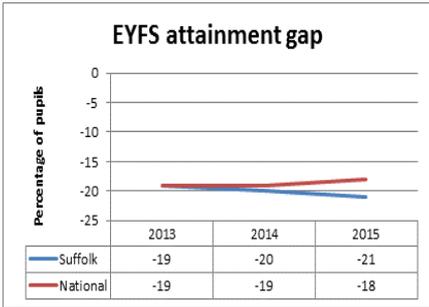


Increased achievement: Progress at ages 11 and 16

Progress at key stages 2 and 4

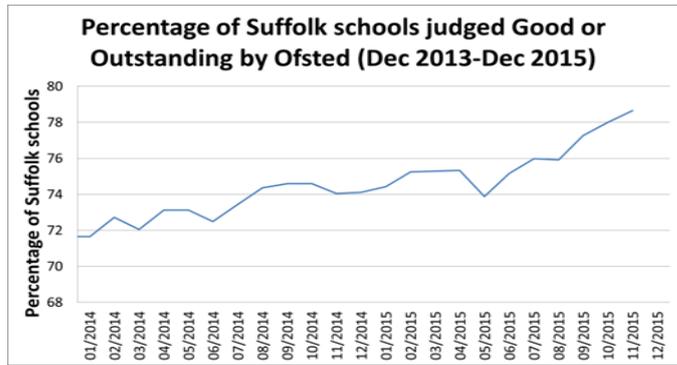
These measures reflect the rates at which children have progressed between key stages 1 and 2 (age 7 and 11), and between key stages 2 and 4 (ages 11 and 16). Progress rates measured at key stage 2 and key stage 4 have increased at greater rates than national since 2012, with the progress measures at key stage 4 having reached the same level as national in 2015.

Attainment gap between disadvantaged and other pupils, at ages 5, 11 and 16



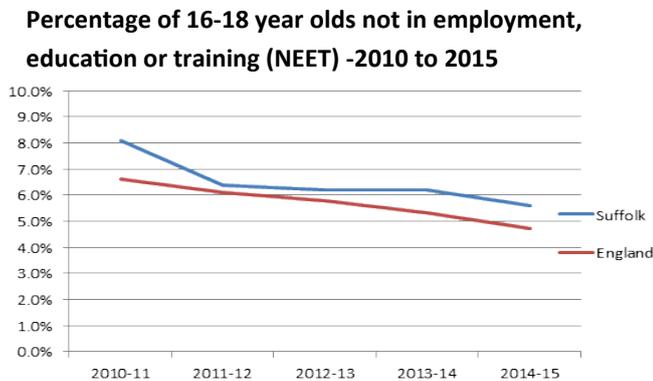
The gap between attainment of disadvantaged pupils in Suffolk compared to that of national other (non-disadvantaged) pupils has narrowed at key stages 2 and 4 (age 11 and 16) at a faster rate than nationally. At Early Years Foundation Stage (age 5) the gap in Suffolk has slightly increased, and remains for a second year greater than national.

Percentage of schools rated good or outstanding by Ofsted

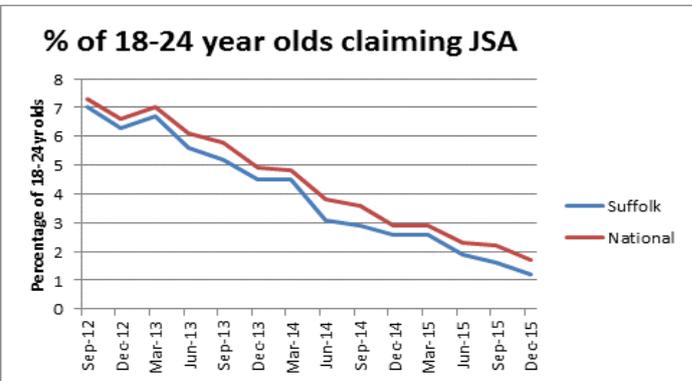


Since May 2015, there has been an accelerated increase of schools in Suffolk judged Good or Outstanding by Ofsted.

Reduced unemployment rate for 16-24 year olds



While the percentage of 16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training has continued to reduce, the rate remains higher than national.



The percentage of 18-24 year olds claiming Job Seekers Allowance has continued to reduce at a similar rate to national, with Suffolk's figures continuing being lower than national.

1 Effective and timely school improvement

We **restructured Suffolk County Council's Education and Learning** function, embedding a new way of working focussed on effective monitoring of achievement in all schools, in order to identify schools at risk of declining and intervene more rapidly where necessary. The team has established a constructive ongoing professional dialogue with head teachers regarding self-evaluation and school improvement.

Locality based **Area Education & Learning Plans** have been developed in collaboration with head teachers for all parts of Suffolk, as a way to tackle locally identified weaknesses.

2 Strong School to School support

The **Suffolk School to School Support Partnership** has been launched, aiming to promote and develop a system of school-led self-improvement. This included the publication of a new **best practice website**, with quality assured case studies from Suffolk schools.

As a result of the **Raising the Bar Challenge Fund**; more than 100 schools have benefitted from a share of over £400k committed funding to introduce new innovative practise in their schools. We are preparing high profile innovation events to promote a new phase for the Challenge Fund.

3 Excellence in leadership and governance

Raising the Bar launched the new teacher recruitment brand for Suffolk, **Teach Suffolk**, which is already extensively used in marketing campaigns to attract teachers to our schools, in our NQT campaign, as part of a strong new web presence, and as part of attending recruitment fairs.

To attract more graduates into teaching, we have introduced a **graduate intern scheme**; with 50 graduate interns now working in Suffolk Schools.

225 aspiring school leaders have so far taken advantage of **Raising the Bar bursaries to attend leadership training** for senior and middle leadership positions.

We are currently reviewing the Council's **governors strategy**.

4 Developing aspirations

The new national **Careers and Enterprise Company programme** is being implemented to provide stronger business links for all secondary schools in Suffolk, building on the previous Raising the Bar Work Inspiration Brokerage Service. A new **Primary Broker** has been recruited to provide a continued service to Primary schools.

26 community projects have been funded so far through the **Raising the Bar Community Fund**, where VCS organisations work with schools to support children and young people in 'coming to school ready to learn'.

5 Strategy and communication

(enabling priority)

The **new priorities** for the 2015-17 phase of Raising the Bar have been communicated widely.

Raising the Bar has **consulted school leaders** on its communications and consultation methods, and is making changes based on the feedback.

After the success of the 2015 **Raising the Bar Awards**, we have opened in January the 2016 Awards for nominations, with an Awards Ceremony planned for June 2016..