

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

1 Effective and timely school improvement

Suffolk County Council's Education and Learning function continued the constructive ongoing professional dialogue with Headteachers regarding self-evaluation and school improvement. In consultation with schools, we have further refined the methodology to identify and target challenge and support.

Locality based **Area Education & Learning Plans** for all parts of Suffolk have been developed in collaboration with head teachers, as a way to agree local priorities and collaboratively plan actions.

2 Strong School to School support

The **School to School Support Partnership** has been further embedded, with focus on creating a training and development programme for all school staff and school to school support for school improvement. It aims to be an autonomous partnership by Sept 17. The website www.stssp.co.uk shares now over 130 case studies of best practice and engages with schools via social media.

The number of **teaching schools** in Suffolk has risen from 5 in Sept 2015 to 9 in March 2016; two further applications are being submitted.

We have launched a new partnership with the nationally renowned **Education Endowment Foundation**, and a new joint fund worth £600k.. More than 1/3 of Suffolk schools have already been offered funding to implement educational approaches evaluated by the EEF, allowing them to train more than 600 staff.

3 Excellence in leadership and governance

Through **Teach Suffolk**, the new teacher recruitment brand, we have undertaken extensive recruitment campaigns. A new promotional video featuring a Suffolk Headteacher received over 17,000 views.

Available **graduate intern places** for the 2016/7 school year have been sought after, with 97 applications for 50 places in schools. The graduate internship scheme was launched last year, and over half of the 2015/6 cohort have acquired teacher training places.

We are reorganising **governor services** to better align the councils statutory duties with our school improvement work.

4 Developing aspirations

The **Careers and Enterprise Company programme** has had a successful first year with 30 business people now partnered with Secondary Schools and colleges as Enterprise Advisors. We have employed an **Energy Skills Coordinator** to provide coordinated input from energy and other STEM businesses.

We are preparing a new round of the **Raising the Bar Community Fund**, focussed on parental engagement, where voluntary and community sector organisations can bid for funding to work with schools.

5 Strategy and communication

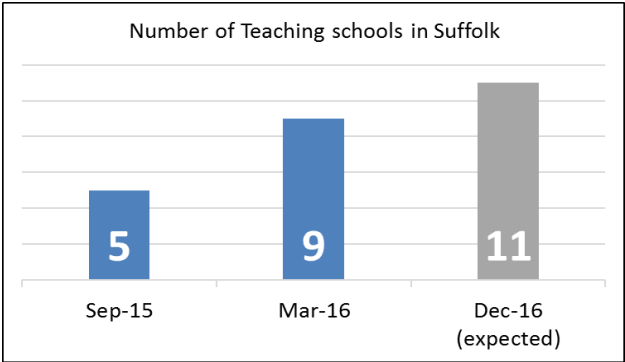
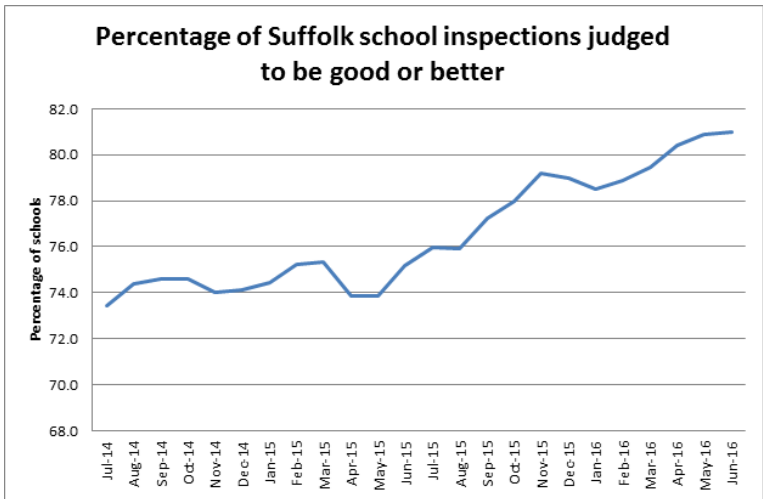
(enabling priority)

The **Raising the Bar Awards 2016** were a great night of celebration of the inspirational work happening in schools and setting across Suffolk, with the standard of nominations having been extremely high.

Following careful consideration of the views of school leaders, we have changed the way the County Council communicates with schools. Most notably, **County Council communications** to all schools are now combined in a single weekly bulletin "Suffolk Headlines".

Most of the success measures for Raising the Bar 2015-17 remain unchanged since the last report from 1 February 2016, being based on the results of academic year 2014/15. The proportion of good and outstanding schools in Suffolk increased further to over 80%.

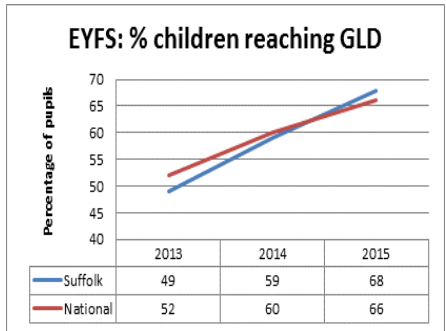
Percentage of schools rated good or outstanding by Ofsted / Number of Teaching Schools



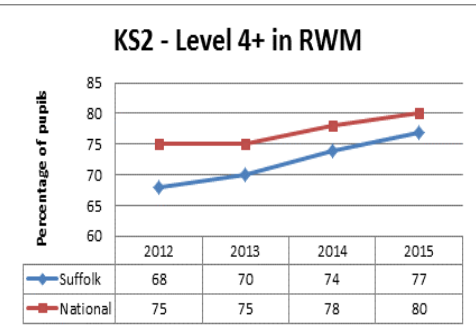
The percentage of schools in Suffolk judged Good or Outstanding by Ofsted has continued to increase, and stands now at above 80%.

The number of Teaching Schools in Suffolk has risen from 5 to 9 in less than a year.

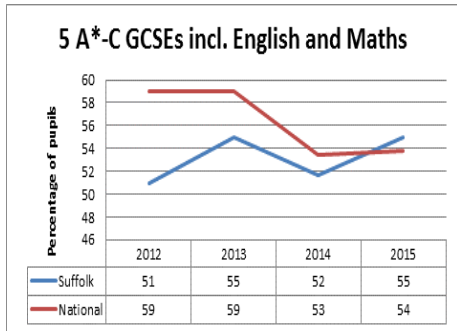
Increased achievement: Attainment at ages 5, 11, 16 and 18 (2014/15 results)



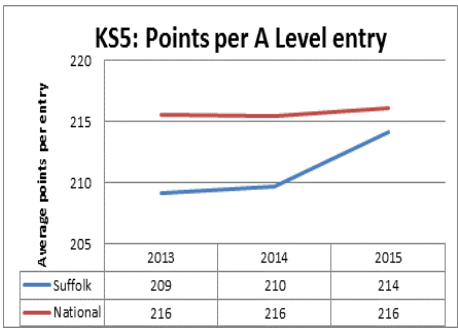
Age 5: Suffolk's Early Years Foundation Stage attainment has risen from below to above national in 14/15.



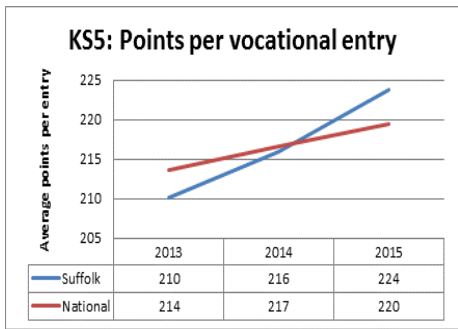
Age 11: Key stage 2 attainment in Reading/Writing/Maths has increased at a faster rate than national so the gap to national is narrowing.



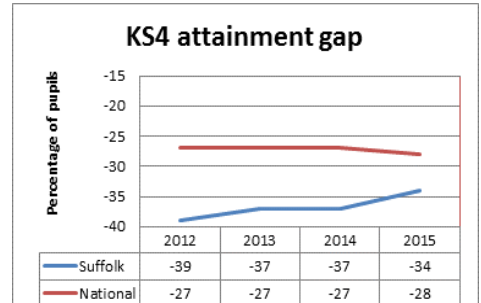
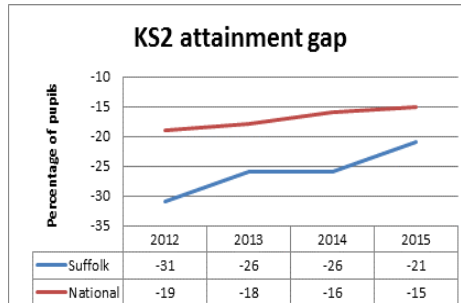
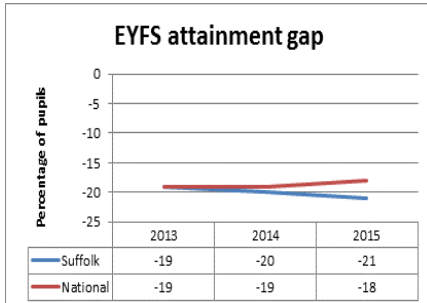
Age 16: After another rise in attainment, Suffolk's key stage 4/GCSE attainment is now above the national average.



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.



Attainment gap between disadvantaged and other pupils, at ages 5, 11 and 16 (2014/15 results)



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.

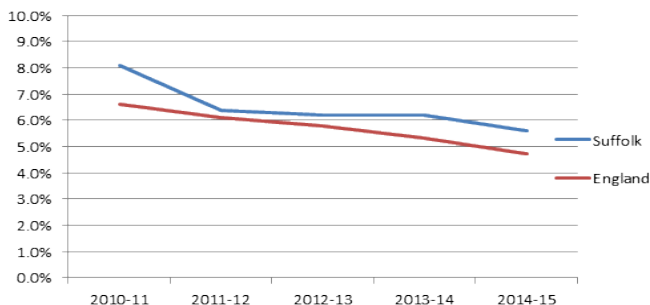
Increased achievement: Progress at ages 11 and 16 (2014/15 results)

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.

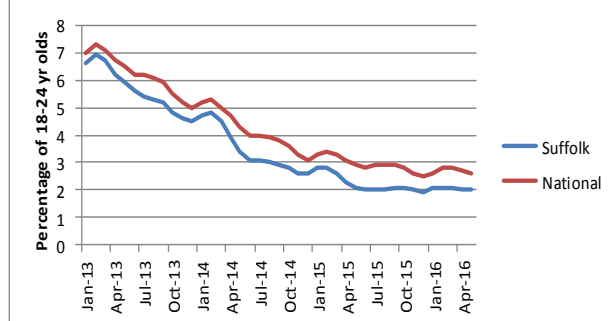
Reduced unemployment rate for 16-24 year olds

Percentage of 16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training (NEET) -2010 to 2015



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

%age of 18-24 year olds claiming JSA



The percentage of 18-24 year olds claiming Job Seekers Allowance has remained stable over the last year, with Suffolk's figures continuing being lower than national.

Facts and figures in this report are current on 1 July 2016. Progress Reports for Raising the Bar 2015-17 are published bi-annually; the next report is due on 1 February 2017. For further information on Raising the Bar, see www.suffolk.gov.uk/rtb