

Division(s): N/A

EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 17 JUNE 2019

An overview of 16-18 attainment in Oxfordshire and destinations of pupils following key stage 5

Report by Director for Children's Services

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is RECOMMENDED to note the report.

Executive Summary

This report covers three main areas:

- 16-18 attainment – for schools and colleges (A level, Applied General and Tech Level qualifications) – 2017/18
- Achievement rates for Further Education settings (2017/18):
 - Apprenticeships
 - Education and training
- Destinations of students following key stage 5 (2016/17).

16-18 attainment for schools and colleges

1. In 2018 there were 3562 students who completed their 16-18 studies and entered at least one level 3 qualification (eligible for performance tables) in Oxfordshire. 16-18 attainment covers all level 3 qualifications, this includes A levels, applied general, and tech levels.
2. The headline attainment measure is the average point score (APS) per entry
The APS per entry measure is reported separately for cohorts of students depending on the types of qualifications taken: A level, academic, applied general, tech level, technical certificate and level 2 vocational qualifications.

A-level qualifications

Figure 1: A level attainment 2016-2018

	All A level students ¹				Students ² entered for one or more A level or applied A level			
		Number Students	APS per entry (grade)	Achieving at least 2 A levels (%)	Number students	APS per entry – best 3 A levels	3+ A*-A grades or better (%)	Grades AAB or better (%)
2016	Oxon	3714	30.21 (C)	Na	2723	33.24 (C+)	10.1	17.3
	England		30.44 (C)	NA		33.79 (C+)	10.5	18.5

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2017	Oxon	3598	30.93 (C)	76.2	2643	33.60 (C+)	11.0	18.6
	England		31.13 (C)	75.4		34.09 (C+)	11.1	19.3
2018	Oxon	3317	30.93 (C)	78.9	2626	31.77 (C+)	10.7	18.2
	England		32.12 (C+)	76.9		32.49 (C+)	9.2	16.1

Comparison is all state funded schools and colleges

¹Covers students at the end of advanced level study who were entered for at least one A/AS level, applied single A/AS level, applied double A/AS level or combined A/AS level during 16-18 study.

2. Covers students at the end of advanced level study who were entered for at least one A level, applied single A level, applied double A level or combined A/AS level during 16-18 study, excluding critical thinking and general studies. This measure only includes A level students who have entered less than a total of size 1 in other academic, applied general and tech level qualifications.

3. The overall number of A level students in Oxfordshire fell by 8% to 3317 in 2018. Nationally the decrease was 5%. This cohort includes students who only took AS levels, and this cohort has decreased since the introduction of A level reforms in September 2015.
4. The average point score (APS) per entry for A levels in Oxfordshire remained the same as in 2017 (30.93 – grade C), whereas the national APS per entry increased to 32.12, grade C+.
5. The proportion of students who achieved 3 A*-A or AAB or better in Oxfordshire fell slightly in 2018 (10.7% and 18.2% respectively) but remain above the national averages.
6. Overall female students in Oxfordshire achieved a higher APS per entry in A levels (31.87) compared to male students (29.74). A higher proportion of male students achieved A*-A grades (12.4% compared to 9.9%). This reflects the national picture.

Individual subject results are provided in Appendix A.

7. The subjects with the greatest number of entries in 2018 in Oxfordshire were:
 - Maths 906
 - English 972
 - Psychology 706
 - Biological Sciences 695
 - Chemistry 518
 - History 505
8. The number of entries for both biological sciences and chemistry increased from 2017, whereas the number of entries for maths, English and history decreased.

9. Over 97% of all entries in Oxfordshire achieved at least an E grade. For individual subjects this ranges from 100% (French, Spanish, German, Music and Media) to 92.1% in Design & Technology and 93.6% in Physics.
10. The proportion of Oxfordshire pupils achieving A*-A in most subjects is slightly lower than the national averages. The exceptions being Geography and PE (above the national average) and English and History (broadly in line with the national averages).
11. The greatest proportion of pupils achieving A*-A is in further maths (52.8%), though this is still below the national figure of 55.6%.

Applied general and tech level students

12. The number of applied general students and tech level students dropped by 81% and 79% respectively compared to 2017. This mirrors the national pattern. This drop is due to the substantial change in the list of tech level and applied general qualifications that are eligible for reporting in the performance tables following Professor Alison Wolf's Review of Vocational Education.

Figure 2: Applied general and tech level attainment 2016-2018

		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
		Number students	APS per entry	Number students	APS per entry	Number students	APS per entry
Applied General	Oxon	1565	32.54	1783	32.97	336	26.97
	England		34.66		35.69		28.43
Tech Level	Oxon	851	28.29	668	33.10	142	25.68
	England		30.76		32.25		28.11

13. The average point score (APS) per entry for both Applied General and Tech Level qualifications fell nationally between 2017 and 2018. This was also seen in Oxfordshire where the average point score for both qualification types is below the national averages.

Appendix B: Key stage 5 performance by school/ college

National achievement rates summary for young people aged 16-18 in Oxfordshire 2017/18

14. The Skills Funding Agency publishes the national achievement rates for FE institutions annually. School sixth forms are not included.
15. There are two sets of data; one for Apprenticeships and one for Education and Training (all other non-Apprenticeship qualifications taken at FE institutions from entry level to level 5). In both sets of data an achievement rate (formerly known as the success rate) considers whether a student is retained on programme and achieves their learning aim. In the education and training data set there is additional information on retention and pass rates. The pass rate is

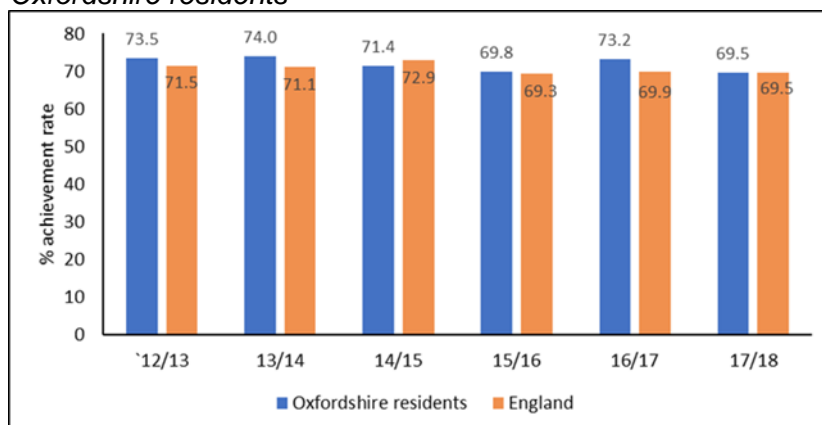
the percentage who achieved the qualification out of those who completed the programme.

16. The analysis is based on Oxfordshire residents meaning the data will include achievements from students studying at providers based outside the county.
17. The FE institutions are classified into the following types;
 - General FE and Tertiary Colleges
 - Private sector public funded institutions
 - Sixth Form Colleges
 - Specialist Colleges – this includes agriculture and horticulture colleges and art, design and performing arts colleges
 - Other publicly funded institution – this category includes County Councils, Ministry of Defence, the RAF and Navy etc.

Apprenticeship Achievement Rates

18. This analysis is based on a cohort of 16-18 year olds that completed or were expected to complete their Apprenticeship programme in the academic year stated. The cohort size had been steadily increasing year on year from 890 to 1,120 (25.8%) between 2012/13 and 2016/17. In 2017/18 the cohort size fell to 1080.
19. Apprenticeship overall achievement rates in Oxfordshire have fluctuated since 2012/13. After a notable increase in achievement rates in Oxfordshire in 2016/17 (73.2% compared with 69.9% nationally), achievement rates have fallen to 69.5% in 2017/18. This resulted in Oxfordshire now being in line with the England rate. See figure 1 below.

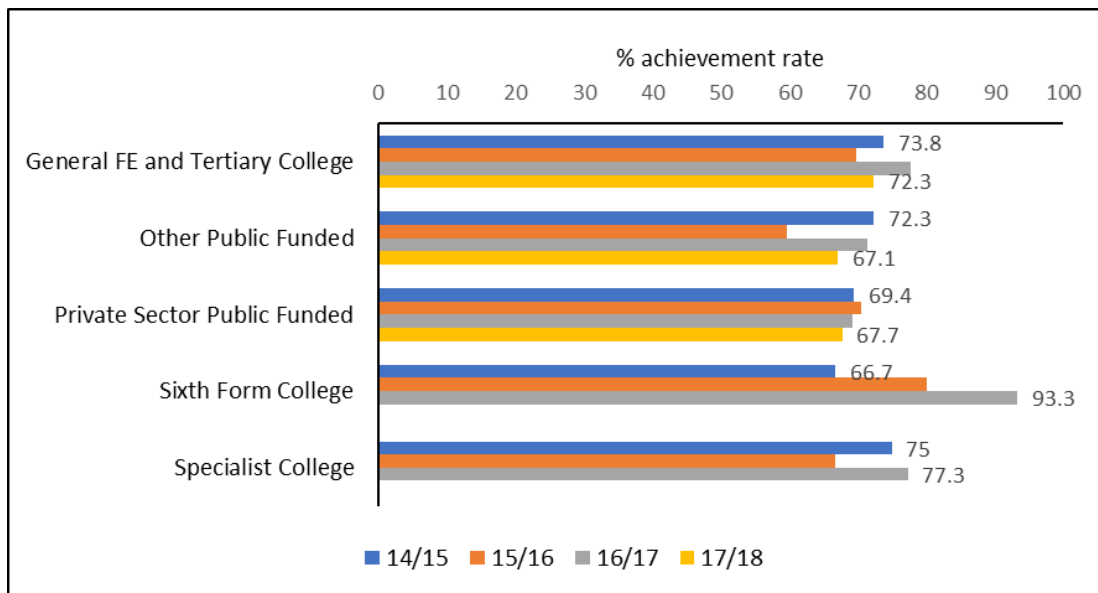
Figure 3 – Apprenticeships 16-18 achievement rate
Oxfordshire residents



20. The rates by institution type (figure 4) show that all types of institutions showed fluctuating achievement rates since 2014/15 with a decrease in the most recent 2017/18 data.

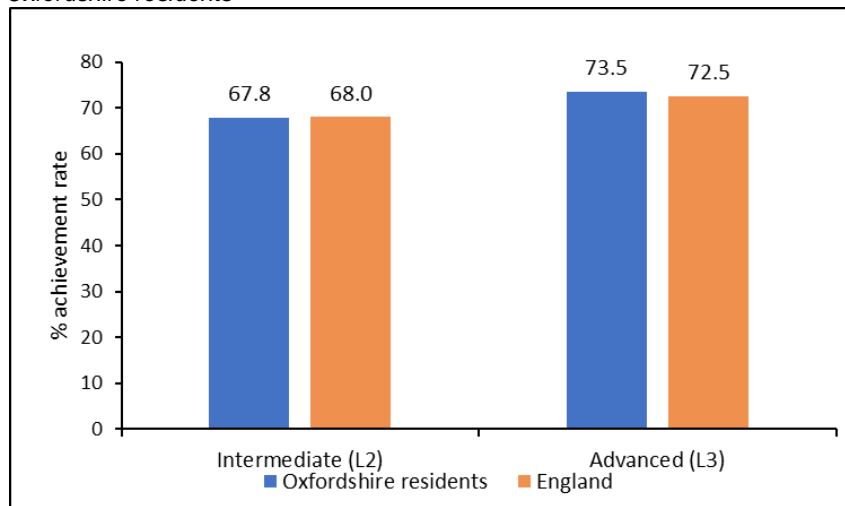
21. In 2017/18, achievement rates for The General FE and Tertiary Colleges (72.3%) was above the national average (69.1%). However, achievement rates for Private Sector Public Funded (67.7%) and Other Public Funded (67.1%) were below the national averages (69.5% and 70.9% respectively).
22. It is worth noting that the Sixth Form Colleges and Specialist Colleges have small numbers of Apprentices (less than 30). In 2017/18 the achievement rates for these institutions have been suppressed due to small numbers.

Figure 4 – Apprenticeships 16-18 achievement rates by institution type
Oxfordshire residents



23. If the rates are looked at by level (figure 5), the achievement rate for level 2 (Intermediate) apprenticeships is slightly below the England average (67.8% compared with 68.0%). The achievement rate for level 3 (Advanced) apprenticeships is above the overall England achievement rate by 1.0 %point.

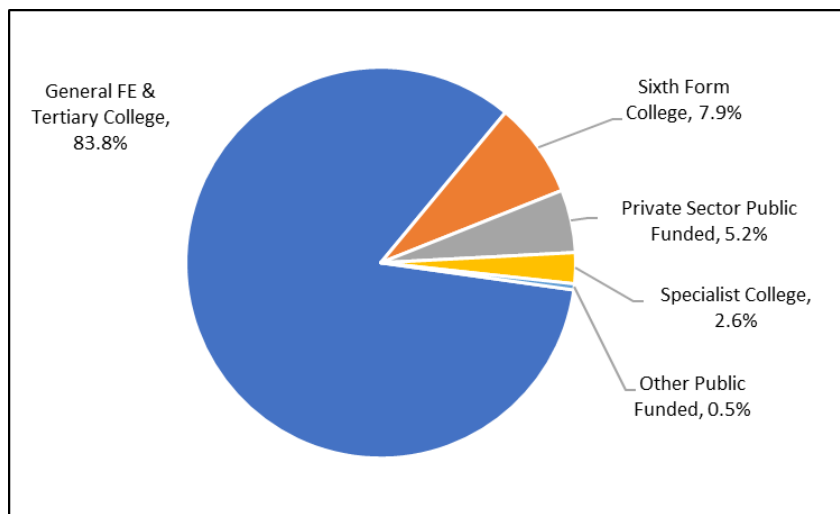
Figure 5 – Apprenticeships 16-18 achievement rates by level 2017/18
Oxfordshire residents



Education and Training Achievement Rates

24. This analysis is based on a cohort of 16-18 year olds that completed or were expected to complete their learning aim(s) in the academic year stated. The cohort size increased from 13,650 to 14,460 (5.9%) between 2013/14 and 2014/15. In 2017/18 the cohort of 16-18 year olds was 12,11. The greatest proportion of these (83.8%) are in General FE & Tertiary Colleges followed by 7.8% in Sixth Form Colleges.

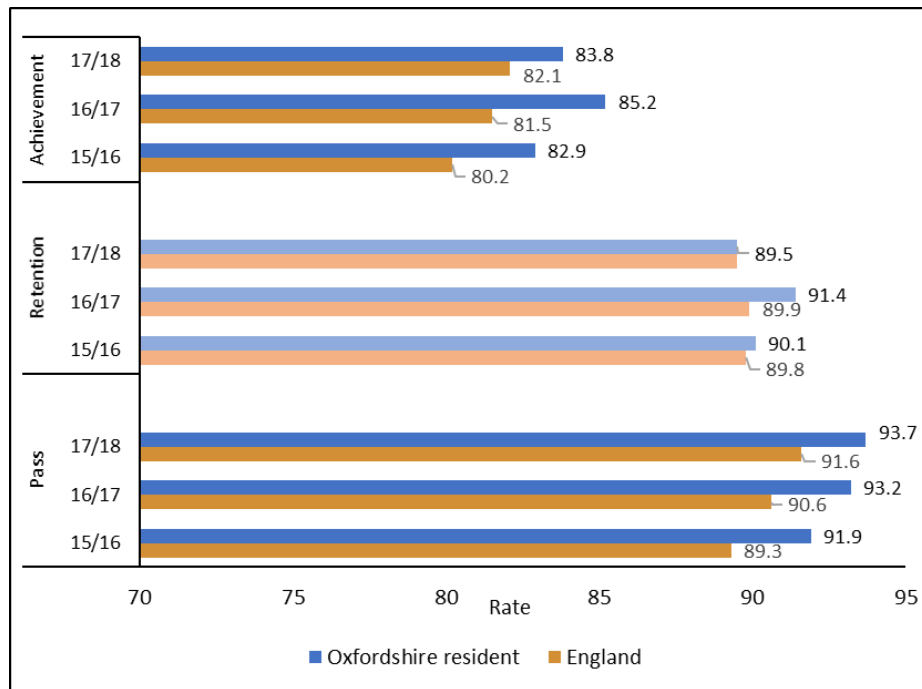
Figure 6 – Education and Training 16-18 achievement, retention and pass rates
Oxfordshire residents



25. The overall achievement rate for education and training qualifications in Oxfordshire has been above the England rate for several years, however 2017/18 saw a decrease by 1.4 percentage points to 83.8%.

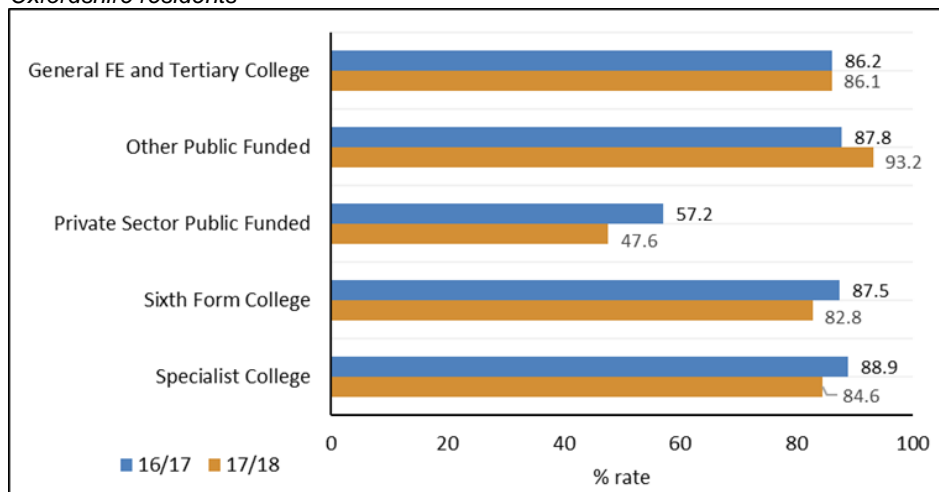
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Figure 7 – Education and Training 16-18 achievement, retention and pass rates
Oxfordshire residents



26. Looking at the different types of institution (figure 8) in Oxfordshire the Private Sector Public Funded providers have the lowest achievement rates, however these increased this year. These providers do tend to aim their programmes at the most disadvantaged and vulnerable young people which may have a bearing on their results.

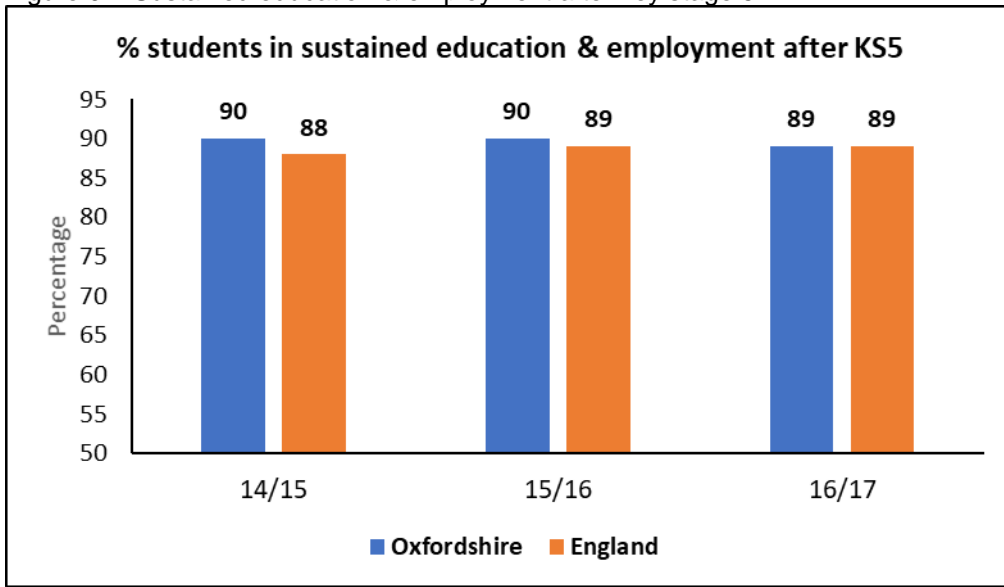
Figure 8 - Education and Training 16-18 achievement rates by institution type
Oxfordshire residents



Destinations of key stage 5 pupils

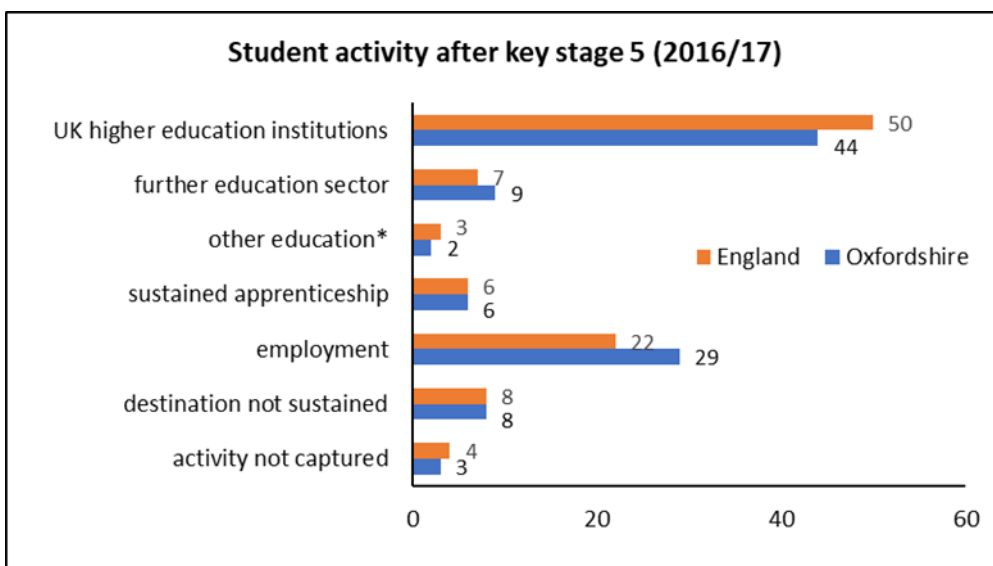
27. Key stage 5 destinations follow students who had entered A levels or other level 3 qualifications at the end of their 16 to 18 study. In the destination year, 2016/17, these students are mostly aged 18 or 19 and entering higher or further education as adults or entering full time employment.
28. For the 2016/17 statistics this relates to 2,775 students in Oxfordshire.

Figure 9 – Sustained education & employment after key stage 5



29. Overall, 89% of Oxfordshire students were in sustained education, employment or apprenticeship destinations after key stage 5, a 1 percentage point decrease from 2015/16.
30. This is in line with the national average and the lowest of the statistical neighbour group (the highest proportion being Buckinghamshire with 92%).

Figure 10 – Student activity after key stage 5



**other education destinations include school sixth forms, sixth-form colleges, independent schools, specialist post-16 institutions, special schools and education combination destinations*

31. Oxfordshire shows a different profile to the national data (see table 10), with a higher percentage of Oxfordshire pupils in sustained employment (29% compared with 22%) than that nationally. Hence there is a lower proportion of Oxfordshire pupils in higher education (44%) than that nationally (50%).
32. 44% of young people who completed key stage 5 went on to sustained higher education (study at level 4 and above), this is an increase from 40% the previous year. Nationally there has been a slight decrease from a peak of 51% in 2015/16 to 50% in 2016/17.
33. The proportion of Oxfordshire students going into the top third most selective higher education institutions increased by 1 percentage point this year to 16%. Nationally this figure dropped slightly to 17%.
34. 6% of Oxfordshire students started and stayed in an apprenticeship for six months, in line with the figure nationally.

Student destinations after key stage 5 by student characteristics

35. The gap between female and male sustained destinations is identical to the national average. In 2016/17, 91% of female students stayed in education, apprenticeships or employment for at least two terms after 16 to 18 study. The corresponding figure for male students is 87%.
36. Higher education was the most common destination for both female (46%) and male (41%) students. In both cases this proportion was lower than the national averages (53% and 48% respectively).
37. Male students were more likely to stay in an apprenticeship for at least 6 months (8% compared to 4% for females) but less likely to go into employment (31% females compared to 28% for males). This pattern is similar to the national one.
38. Of the Oxfordshire students who finished 16 to 18 study in 2015/16, 11% were eligible for pupil premium in year 11, this is below the 18% figure nationally.
39. Destination data for disadvantaged students is published at district level rather than local authority level, rounded to the nearest 5. Numbers of disadvantaged students in some districts are small and so should be treated with caution. See figure 11.
40. Nationally, disadvantaged students were less likely to have a sustained destination after key stage 5 than all other students. However, in Oxfordshire this is only true in Oxford City and Vale of White Horse.

41. In Cherwell disadvantaged students are more likely (98%) to have a sustained destination than other students (93%) – this is due to higher proportions in both apprenticeships and employment.

Figure 11 – Sustained education and employment for disadvantaged pupils (2016/17)

District	Pupil group	Cohort	% cohort					
			Sustained Education/ Employment	Education	Apprenticeships	Employment	Not sustained	Not captured
Cherwell	Disadv	45	98	59	9	30	X	0
	Other	410	93	63	5	26	5	2
Oxford	Disadv	315	84	47	5	31	12	4
	Other	1615	87	49	7	31	9	4
South Oxon	Disadv	80	91	60	5	26	8	X
	Other	1060	91	55	5	30	7	2
Vale of WH	Disadv	80	87	49	X	35	9	4
	Other	760	93	57	6	30	5	X
West Oxon	Disadv	35	88	42	9	36	12	0
	Other	520	88	62	6	20	8	4
England	Disadv		85	60	6	20	11	4
	Other		90	61	7	22	7	4

Destinations of pupils with special educational needs (SEND)

Figure 12. State funded mainstream schools (16/17 destinations for 15/16 cohort) by SEND

	Pupil group	Cohort	% cohort					
			Sustained Education/ Employment	Education	Apprenticeships	Employment	Not sustained	Not captured
Oxfordshire	SEND	65	89	60	X	27	6	5
	No SEND	2715	88	59	5	25	8	3
England	SEND		86	64	6	17	9	4
	No SEND		91	67	6	18	6	3

42. The SEND cohort leaving Oxfordshire schools in 2015/16 is small, just 65 pupils (2% of the cohort).
43. The Oxfordshire SEND cohort is slightly more likely (89%) to be in a sustained education or employment destination than other pupils (88%). This cohort is also more likely to be in employment (27%) than the non SEND cohort (25%).

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Figure 13. State funded colleges (16/17 destinations for 15/16 cohort) by SEND

	Pupil group	Cohort	% cohort					
			Sustained Education/ Employment	Education	Apprenticeships	Employment	Not sustained	Not captured
Oxfordshire	SEND	545	90	50	7	32	7	3
	No SEND	1595	91	48	7	36	7	3
England	SEND		85	55	7	24	11	4
	No SEND		88	55	7	25	8	4

44. A greater number of pupils with SEND are in state funded colleges (545 in Oxfordshire).
45. 90% of SEND pupils in Oxfordshire are in sustained education or employment after leaving key stage 5 college. This is above the national figure of 85%. This is due to a greater proportion being in sustained employment in Oxfordshire (32% compared to 24% nationally).