

REPORT TO: Children and Families Policy and Performance Board
DATE: 5 January 2015
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director Children and Enterprise
PORTFOLIO: Children, Young People and Families
SUBJECT: Closing the attainment gap and child poverty
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To provide an overview of the performance of schools based in the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) and the impact schools are having on improving educational outcomes for disadvantaged pupils.

1.2 To provide an analysis of the 2014 Key Stage 2 results and evaluate the impact in closing the achievement gaps between pupils in receipt of Free School Meals and their peers based on FSM Ever 6 measure.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:

(i) Members take note of the report and advise on any further actions required to close the attainment gaps in schools.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The Pupil Premium was introduced in April 2011. The Pupil Premium is specific, additional funding provided to support the education of pupils known to be eligible for free school meals (FSM), pupils who have been eligible for FSM at any point in the last six years (known as the “Ever6” free school meal measure), children who have been looked after continuously for a period of six months and children whose parents are currently serving in the armed forces.

3.2 The Government believes that the Pupil Premium, which is additional to main school funding, is the best way to address the current underlying inequalities between children eligible for free school meals (FSM) and their peers by ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reaches the pupils who need it most.

3.3 In 2014 - 2015 financial year the allocations for the Pupil Premium Grant are as follows:

Disadvantaged Pupils in Year Group R to 6 recorded as Ever 6 FSM £1300

Pupils in Year Groups 7 to 11 recorded as Ever 6 FSM	£935
Looked After Children	£1,900
Children adopted from care under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 ¹ and care leavers under a Special Guardianship or Residence Order	£1,900
Pupils in Year Groups R to 11 recorded as Ever 4 Service Child or in receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence	£300

3.4 The attainment and progress gaps at Key Stage 2 in 2014

Table 1 Halton against National

2014 Free School Meals (FSM) and non-Free Schools Meals Gaps based on FSM Ever 6:

Measure		Attainment					Progress		
England		MRW	M	R	W	SPG	M	R	W
	FSM	89	93	91	93	90	86	88	90
	Non FSM	95	97	96	97	96	91	91	94
Gap		-6	-4	-5	-4	-6	-5	-4	-4
Halton	FSM	92	95	93	95	93	87	87	92
	Non FSM	96	97	96	97	96	92	93	94
Gap		-4	-2	-3	-2	-3	-5	-6	-2

The above figures mask significant variations across schools in the Borough. Analysis of school level data indicates that in some schools, pupils on Free School Meals are outperforming their peers who are not on Free School Meals. Caution must be exercised in interpreting pupils' performance where small cohorts are involved. In some schools the gaps are wide but the overall performance of the school may be above both Halton and National averages.

A further breakdown of performance at school level shows the following range in attainment gaps for the combined measure of Mathematics, Reading and Writing (MRW). Although Halton's gap is narrower than the national gap for this indicator, the school gaps range from +36 to -92. This is illustrated further in the table below:

Table 2 - The Range of Attainment Gaps for Mathematics, Reading and Writing (MRW) across Key Stage 2

Gap Range	Number of schools within this range
-1 to -6	10
-7 to -12	4
-13 to -17	5
-18 to -22	4
-23 to -27	2
-28 or wider	9

0 to +5	4
+6 to +10	4
+11 to +16	3
+17 to +21	0
+22 to +26	0
27+	4
Total number of schools KS2	49

Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) and attainment gap analysis by school location (See maps in Annex 1 and 2)

In the most deprived areas (colour coded red in Annex 1 and 2), there are 4 schools across the Borough where pupils on Free Schools are out-performing their peers. In the next most deprived areas (colour coded pink) there are 5 schools where FSM non FSM gap is greater than zero. Nine schools in the most deprived areas where pupils on Free School Meals are performing better than their non-Free School Meals peers. There are three schools with an attainment gap of zero.

There are 25 schools out of 49 in Key Stage 2 that are located in the two most deprived areas across the Borough. This represents 55.5% of Key Stage 2 schools.

An analysis of those schools that are located in the least deprived areas, those areas colour coded dark green and green, shows wide variations in the attainment of pupils on Free School Meals. The gaps range from zero to -92. As cited earlier, the size and the composition of the cohorts should be taken into account before drawing conclusions based on headline figures alone. For example the school with the -92 gap had 14 pupils in its cohort of which 2 pupils were on FSM. The two pupils on FSM did not achieve Level 4 or above combined for Mathematics, Reading and Writing which is 0% and the other 12 pupils (92%) achieved Level 4 or above. The analysis shows that in some schools where FSM pupils are in the minority, these pupils are not achieving as well they should.

Summary

Schools in the most deprived areas (colour coded red and pink) tend to have more pupils on FSM in their cohorts but of the 25 schools in this group, 9 have attainment gaps of zero or above, this represents 36% of schools in this group.

Out of the 14 schools in the least deprived areas, colour coded dark green and green, 4 schools have attainment gaps of zero or above. This represents 28.5% of schools in this group.

There are a further 11 schools located in the middle band in terms of deprivation (colour coded light green). 3 schools in this band have attainment gaps of zero or above. This represents 27.2% of schools in this group.

Schools in the most deprived areas appear to be more successful in narrowing the gaps attainment for pupils on FSM. The cohort composition and size also needs to be taken into account.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

5.0 **OTHER/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

N/A

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**

Closing the attainment gap supports one of Halton's Children's Trust priorities; (*Working together to focus services towards the needs of our most vulnerable children, young people and families to 'close the gap' by improving health, education, social and cultural outcomes*) and the work being undertaken to support schools will improve the attainment and progress of pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds. As a result more young people will have increased opportunities of going into higher and further education

6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

Young people in receipt of the Pupil Premium will achieve as well as their peers and will have greater opportunities of engaging in education, employment and training.

6.3 **A Healthy Halton**

N/A

6.4 **A Safer Halton**

N/A

6.5 **Halton's Urban Renewal**

N/A

7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 Failure to close the attainment gap will lead to the under- achievement of our most vulnerable children and young people, and give the Ofsted's sharp focus in this area, it is unlikely that schools will be judged outstanding if their in-school gaps are wide or widening.

7.2 Failure to improve the attainment and progress of pupils in receipt of the Pupil Premium particularly for pupils with Special Educational Needs, Children in Need and Children in Care will have an adverse effect on Halton's examination results at the end of Key Stages 2 and 4. In addition, the proportion of schools judged as good or better is likely to reduce. This in turn might trigger an inspection of local authority school improvement services.

8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

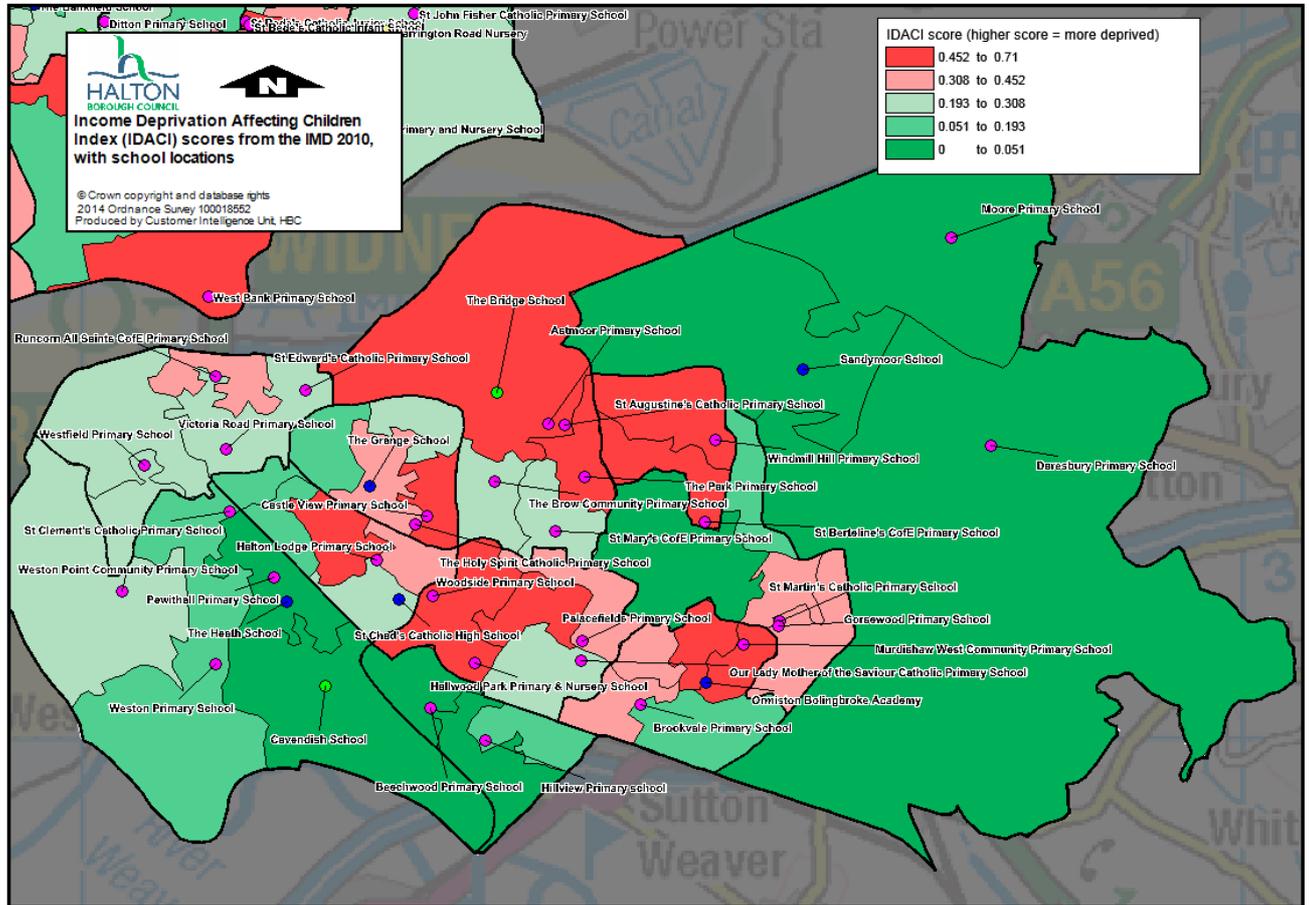
8.1 Closing the attainment gap between vulnerable and their peers makes a significant contribution to removing inequalities between different groups of vulnerable pupils especially Children in Need and Children in Care. The additional funds should improve children and young people's life chances.

12.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
The use of the Pupil Premium - PPB report Sept 2014	Rutland House	Steve Nyakatawa
The Pupil Premium: an update published by Ofsted July 2014		

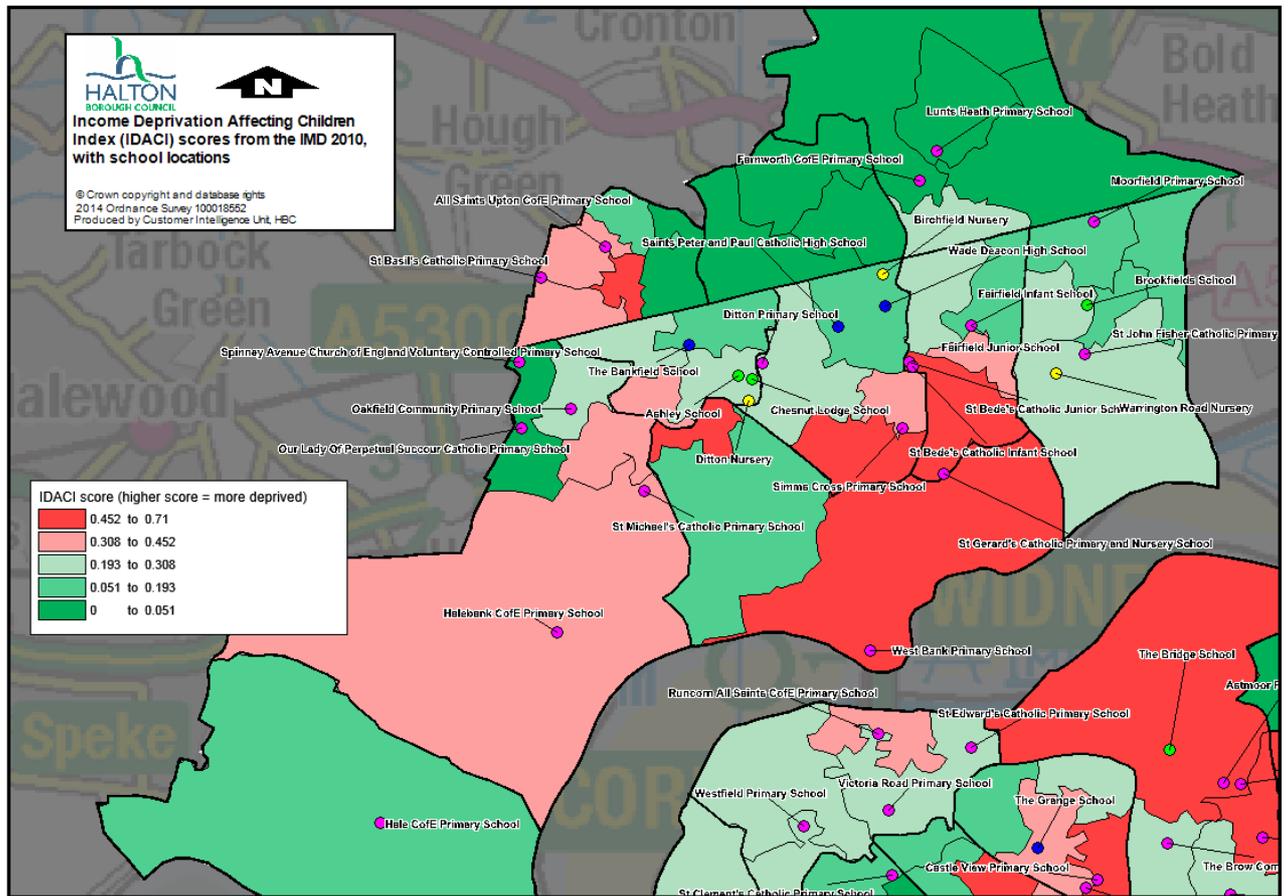
Annex 1

Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) - RUNCORN



Annex 2

Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) – WIDNES



ANNEX 3

Code	RUNCORN MRW			
	Most deprived areas			
	School/cohort size		GAP	Ofsted Grade
RED	Hallwood Park	10	+78	Outstanding
	Woodside	22	-20	Good
	Halton Lodge	28	+3	Good
	Holy Spirit	15	0	Good
	Castle View	11	0	Outstanding
	Bridgewater Park Academy	12	-45	No Ofsted history
	Windmill Hill	15	-25	Outstanding
	St Augustine's	9	-29	Requires Improvement
	Astmoor	15	-20	Good
	Murdishaw West	25	+15	Requires Improvement
	St Bertelines	28	-9	Outstanding
	PINK	The Grange	55	-14
Gorsewood		22	+34	Good
St Martin's		26	+14	Good
Brookvale		31	+9	Outstanding
Palacefields (Academy)		31	-11	Good
Runcorn All Saints		13	+4	Requires Improvement

ANNEX 4

Code	WIDNES MRW			
	Most deprived areas			
	School/cohort size		GAP	Ofsted Grade
RED	St Bede's	64	-4	Outstanding
	St Gerard's	26	-5	Good
	West Bank	18	-30	Good
	Simms Cross	28	+10	Good
PINK	Halebank CE	5	0	Good
	St Michael's Catholic	27	-4	Good
	St Basil's	47	-10	Good
	All Saints Upton	19	+2	Requires Improvement

ANNEX 5

Code	RUNCORN MRW		
	School/cohort size	GAP	Ofsted Grade
LIGHT	Weston Point 18	0	Outstanding
GREEN	Westfield Primary 16	+37	Good
	Victoria Road 16	-8	Good
	St Edward's 12	-46	Good
	The Brow CE Primary 22	-15	Good
	St Mary's CE Primary 35	-19	Good
	OLMOS 30	-6	Good
	WIDNES MRW		
LIGHT	St John Fisher 28	-36	Good
	Oakfield Primary 35	+6	Requires Improvement
	Ditton Primary 32	-3	Good

ANNEX 6

	MRW Gaps		
Code	Least deprived areas		
	RUNCORN		
	School/cohort size	GAP	Ofsted Grade
DARK			
GREEN	Moore Primary 24	-53	Good
	Daresbury 14	-92	Outstanding
	Beechwood 12	+36	Outstanding
	Weston Primary 13	-15	Good
	Pewithall 30	0	Outstanding
	St Clement's 25	-41	Requires Improvement
	Hillview 29	-91	Good
	WIDNES		
DARK	OLOPS 31	-60	Good
GREEN	Spinney Avenue 28	-15	Good
	Farnworth 59	-19	Good
	Lunts Heath 48	-15	Outstanding
	Moorfields Primary 37	+7	Good
	Fairfield Primary 76	-4	Good
	Hale CE Primary 10	+12	Good