



Wakefield State of the District: Education and Skills

Selection: Wakefield

Profile containing trends in schools education, higher education, apprenticeships and skills.

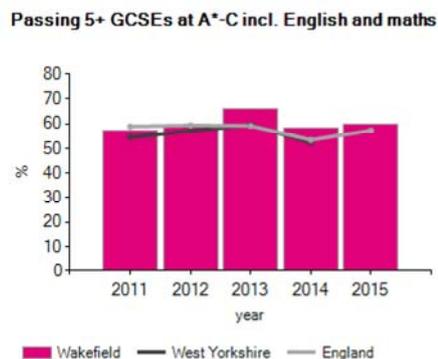
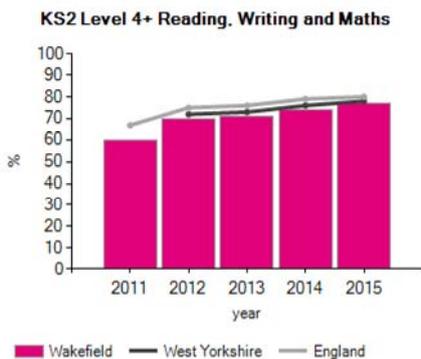
School Education

Results for **2015** show **77.0%** of Key Stage 2 pupils achieved Level 4 or higher for reading, writing and maths compared to **80.0%** across England. Level 4 or higher achievement was more common among girls (80%) than boys (73%); similar to the pattern seen across England as a whole.

In 2015, 14% of primary schools had fewer than 65% of their pupils achieving KS2 level 4in reading, writing and maths. Only 5% of primary schools failed to meet this threshold across England as a whole. Data source: Department for Education.

There have been significant improvements in attainment levels of young people in recent years and results for **2015** show **59.8%** of pupils taking GCSEs achieved five or more passes at grades A*-C including GCSE English and maths, compared to **57.3%** across England. The change in the attainment rate between 2013 and 2014 reflects changes to the way in which GCSE passes are counted.

Girls in the district did better at GCSEs than boys, 65% to 52%, much as they tend to do at earlier key stages. The gender gap across England is smaller. Data source: Department for Education.



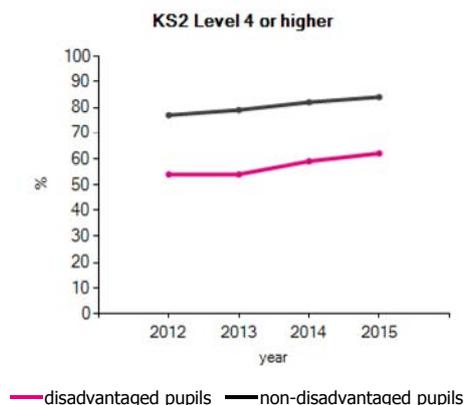
Key Stage Attainment for Disadvantaged and Non-disadvantaged Pupils

	Wakefield	West Yorkshire	England
Key Stage 2 achieving Level 4+ in reading, writing and maths			
Disadvantaged pupils (%) (2015)	62.0	64.8	70.0
Non-disadvantaged pupils (%) (2015)	84.0	84.2	85.0
Key Stage 4 achieving 5 or more GCSE passes at A*-C including English and maths			
Disadvantaged pupils (%) (2015)	32.5	35.9	36.8
Non-disadvantaged pupils (%) (2015)	69.8	64.7	65.1

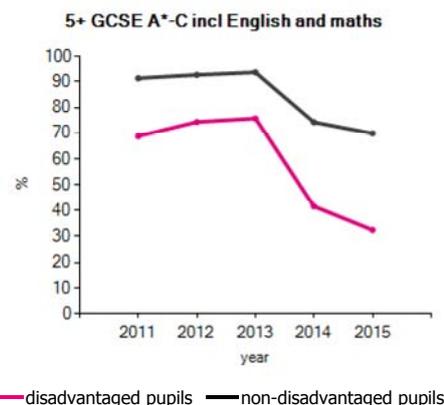
The levels of attainment for pupils from disadvantaged households are lower than for other pupils. The gaps in Wakefield are greater than the gaps across England as a whole. At Key Stage 2, the gap in headline attainment in **2015** between disadvantaged and other pupils in **Wakefield** was **22 percentage-points**, compared to **15 percentage-points** across **England**.

At Key Stage 4, the gap in headline attainment in **2015** between disadvantaged and other pupils in **Wakefield** was **37.3 percentage-points**, compared to **28.3 percentage-points** across **England**.

The gap at Key Stage 2 is closing slowly. At Key Stage 4 the gap had been closing up until the changes in the way GCSE attainment rates are calculated. The gap in Wakefield widened between 2014 and 2015, while it stayed constant across England as a whole.



Source: Department for Education.



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Ofsted School Inspections

As of **September 2016**, **11** of the 18 secondary schools (**61%**) were judged overall to be good or outstanding at their last Ofsted inspection. At the same time, **94** of the 113 primary schools (**83%**) were judged good or outstanding. (These figures include Ofsted scores for schools that may not have been inspected under their new Academy status).

NEET



Wakefield has lower than average numbers of 16-19 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET). Within the district, there are some areas where NEET numbers are considerably higher than other areas. The table below shows numbers of known NEETs. No adjustment has been made here to estimate the number of young people whose status is unknown. As such, these numbers may differ slightly from statistics published elsewhere.

The highest NEET rate is currently in **Castleford (6.4%)** and the lowest rate is in **Wakefield Rural (3.2%)**.

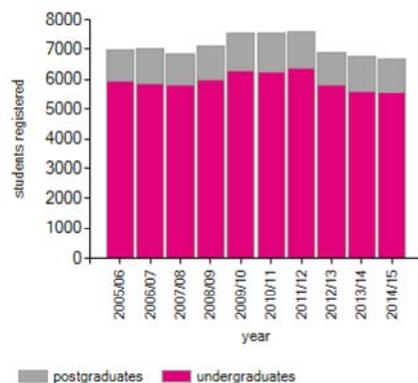
% of 16-19 year olds Not in Education, Employment or Training (unadjusted)	
	Apr 2016 ↓
Castleford	6.4 (89 people)
Wakefield Central	5.4 (95 people)
Normanton and Featherstone	4.1 (57 people)
Wakefield North West	3.6 (72 people)
Pontefract and Knottingley	6.3 (90 people)
Wakefield Rural	3.2 (42 people)
South East	4.7 (81 people)
Wakefield District	4.8 (526 people)

Higher Education

The number of local people studying in higher education (HE) institutions in the UK had been increasing gradually but has fallen over the last few years. This dip has been due to fewer first-year registrations (down to 3,355 people in 2011/12 to 2,745 people in 2013/14) - most probably as a result of the increase in tuition fees in 2012 to c.£9,000 per year. In **2014/15** there were **5,555 undergraduates** and **1,105 postgraduates** from the Wakefield district registered at various UK higher education institutions. Although the number of Wakefield students in HE has dropped, the decline has been greater for UK students as a whole. As a consequence, the participation gap is narrowing slightly, although Wakefield still lags behind the national average.

As of **2015**, **23%** of working age people were qualified to NVQ4+ (HNC/HND level and higher), compared to **37%** across England as a whole. This academic skills rate has improved over recent years, but the gap between Wakefield and England has widened. In 2014/15, 1,260 Wakefield people were awarded a first degree, and 440 were awarded a postgraduate degree.

Students registered in higher education

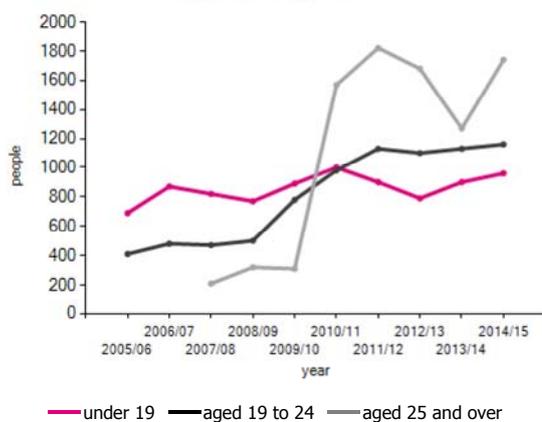


Apprenticeships

The 2013 Wakefield Employer Survey showed a high degree of interest in taking on an apprentice, with 52% willing to consider recruiting apprentices or new graduates. There were **3860** apprenticeship starts in **2014/15**, up from **3310** in **2013/14**.

Apprenticeships span a wide range of subjects, with one third of starts being in the business, administration and law sector.

Apprenticeship Starts



Source: FE Data Library

Apprenticeship Starts by Sector

	Wakefield
Business, administration and law (2014/15)	1190
Health, public services and care (2014/15)	910
Retail and commercial enterprise (2014/15)	670
Engineering and manufacturing technologies (2014/15)	530
Construction, planning and the built environment (2014/15)	150
Leisure, travel and tourism (2014/15)	80
Information and communication technology (2014/15)	100
Agriculture, horticulture and animal care (2014/15)	40
Education and training (2014/15)	70
Arts, media and publishing (2014/15)	10