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PORTHCRAWL
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31st January 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

I write to share with you the examination performance of our pupils when compared to local and national data. To provide a brief update, performance data was shared with schools in Wales at the end of the autumn term 2023 with this data being made available publicly via the Welsh Government's 'My Local School' website on 30th January 2024.

The data released presents and compares each school's performance figures from the 2023 examination series against several local, contextual, and national averages.

Context of Data

The examination performance of schools is broken down into a range of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

In order to give a school's GCSE performance some context, the Welsh Government have grouped schools into "families of similar schools" who all have similar profiles and should therefore all have similar KPIs. If a school's performance is above average for their family, the school is adding value to the progress of its students.

Explaining the Different Types of Data

To generate the Key Performance Indicators, grades are often converted into points.

At GCSE, the points value of each grade is as follows:

A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U
58	52	46	40	34	28	22	16	0

The points above determine the following Key Performance Indicators (KPIs):

- **Average points score for core subjects:** Literacy (GCSE English Language and Literature); Numeracy (GCSE Maths and Numeracy); Science; and the Welsh Baccalaureate (Skills Challenge Certificate).
- **Average Capped 9 Score:** This is the average score for the whole year group using each student's best 9 GCSE grades (must include at least one English, Maths and Science as 3 of the 9 grades)

Summary of Performance at GCSE

In 2023, our school's GCSE performance was excellent. We are understandably very proud of our achievements. In all Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) our school performance is above the Family Average (similar schools), above the Local Authority Average and above the National Average. In many KPIs our school performance is significantly higher than the reported averages.

The table below demonstrates our school performance at GCSE.

Key Performance Indicator	Porthcawl GCSE Performance	Family Average (Similar Schools)	National Average	Local Authority Average
Capped 9	411.2	377	356.5	360.8
% of students achieving 5 A*/A grades	35.7%	26.1%	20.3%	20.2%
Literacy Points Score	46.2	42.1	39.7	39.8
Numeracy Points Score	44.4	41.1	37.1	37.5
Science Points Score	45.3	41.2	36.9	37.7
Welsh Baccalaureate (Skills Challenge) Points Score	41.7	38.6	31.6	35.5

Summary of Performance at A Level

In 2023, the school's A Level performance was also excellent with several KPIs above that of previous years and the national average.

Key performance Indicator	Porthcawl A Level Performance	National Average
% of all grades A*-A	41%	34.2%
% of all grades A*-C	86%	80.5%
3 A*/A (%)	27.2%	No data published
3 A*-C (%)	81.6%	No data published

Additional Information

You can find information about Key Stage 4 qualifications outcomes for our school, alongside comparative and other data, on the My Local School (MLS) website. The following link will take you directly to our school's page on MLS [Porthcawl Comprehensive School \(gov.wales\)](#) or you can go to [My Local School \(gov.wales\)](#) and type the name of the school into the search bar in the top right corner of the screen.

Whilst we are understandably proud of our achievements, it should be noted that the different assessment arrangements and grading approaches in place in response to the lasting effects of the pandemic mean it is considered not appropriate to use the data from the 2022/23 academic year to judge or compare schools.

On behalf of myself and the Governing Body, I pass on my sincere thanks to all students, staff and families for their hard work and efforts.

Best wishes,

Mike Stephens

M Stephens
Headteacher