

# Young People's Education and Skills Board

## Policy Update

Item: 6(s)

**Date:** 17 October 2019

**Contact:** Peter O'Brien

**Telephone:** 020 7934 9743

**Email:** [peter.obrien@londoncouncils.gov.uk](mailto:peter.obrien@londoncouncils.gov.uk)

---

**Summary** This paper outlines the key changes affecting 14 to 19 policy since the papers for the Young People's Education and Skills Board meeting were despatched.

**Recommendation** Board members are asked to note the information in this paper and decide any actions necessary.

---

## 1 Queen's Speech 14 October 2019

1.1 Following tradition, the Queen's Speech sets out the government's programme in the current Parliament. The detail behind Her Majesty's Speech is contained in a separate background briefing document<sup>1</sup> issued by the government. The following points are of greatest relevance to the Board:

- "We want to bring renewed focus to further and technical education, and will ensure our post-16 education system is well funded and organised in a way that enables young people and adults to gain the skills required for success and to help the economy."
- "This means an extra £400 million for 16-to 19-year-old education next year, an increase of 7 per cent overall in 16-to 19-year-old funding and the biggest injection of new money in a single year since 2010."funding.
- "This will enable further education colleges and school sixth forms to strengthen their provision. It will also include additional investment in T levels, supporting continued preparation for these courses and the initial delivery from September 2020."
- "This means that funding is increasing even faster for 16-to 19-year-old education than for five-to 16-year-old education."

## 2 Budget

2.1 The Chancellor of the Exchequer has announced that he is planning to hold a Budget on 6 November 2019. He said "This will be the first Budget after leaving the EU. I will be setting out our plan to shape the economy for the future and triggering the start of our infrastructure revolution. This is the right and responsible thing to do – we must get on with governing."

## 3 Publications and policies

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/queens-speech-2019-background-briefing-notes>

- 3.1 *London Business 1000 Survey*<sup>2</sup>. With close to nine in ten (86%) of businesses in the capital not currently employing apprentices, the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) and London Councils have called for a fully devolved apprenticeship service for London – something that new research shows business supports. The research comes from the organisations’ ‘London Business 1000 Survey’, based upon ComRes polling of 1,000 London business decision-makers about the skills and recruitment challenges their companies face. Its key findings were:
- Two years on from the introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy, only 13% of businesses in the capital say that they currently employ apprentices, down from 17% in 2018.
  - The survey results show that confusion persists within the business community regarding requirements to pay the Apprenticeship Levy and use of apprenticeship funds.
  - Nearly a fifth (18%) of those surveyed did not know whether their business is required to pay the levy, whilst over half (55%) of those paying the levy don’t employ any apprentices.
  - 69% of businesses surveyed do not expect to use apprenticeship funding this year, whilst amongst those using funding only 16% said they plan to use more than half available to them (down from 28% in 2018) - clear signs of a system in need of reform.
- 3.2 *Unexplained pupil exits from schools*<sup>3</sup> The Education Policy Institute (EPI) published its second detailed report on unexplained pupil exits from English schools. The main points are:
- EPI estimates that around one in ten pupils (10.1 per cent of the total cohort) who reached year 11 in 2017 experienced an unexplained exit at some point during their time at secondary school. This represents an increase of just over one percentage point from 2014, when that figure stood at 9.0 per cent.
  - While the number of pupils experiencing two or more unexplained exits is relatively low, it was nevertheless higher in 2017 than in 2014 (1.2 per cent of all pupils compared to 0.9 per cent respectively).
  - The research found that only 4.4 per cent of all pupils from the 2017 cohort who left a school for an unknown reason returned to their original school by the spring term of year 11.
  - Amongst the 2017 cohort of pupils, it also found that approximately 24,000 children who exit to an unknown destination do not return to a state-funded school by the spring term of year 11. This equates to four in ten pupils who ever experience an unexplained exit – and seven in ten who ever experience an unexplained exit to an unknown destination.
  - They also estimated how many unexplained exits to different schools might be considered “managed moves.” These are, typically, moves that take place from one school to another without an official exclusion taking place and are brokered locally by headteachers and the local authority. While these moves might be in the best interest of the pupil, there is no transparency over the cause or prevalence of these moves either locally or nationally. Processes vary across the country and we cannot observe from the national data whether families are supportive of these moves or not. We therefore classify all managed moves as unexplained. It is also estimated that managed moves account for around 12.8 per cent of the unexplained exits amongst the 2017 cohort and 7.6 per cent of the unexplained

---

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/press-release/10-october-2019/london-chamber-and-london-councils-urge-full-apprenticeship-devolution>

<sup>3</sup> [https://epi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Unexplained-pupil-moves\\_LAs-MATs\\_EPI-2019.pdf](https://epi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Unexplained-pupil-moves_LAs-MATs_EPI-2019.pdf)

moves amongst the 2014 cohort. This means that the vast majority of unexplained exits do not appear to be a managed move.

- A sizeable proportion of vulnerable groups of pupils had experienced an unexplained exit:
  - almost two in five pupils who ever experienced a permanent exclusion;
  - close to a third of current or former looked after children;
  - over a quarter of those ever with identified social, emotional or mental health difficulties;
  - a quarter of pupils with a fixed period exclusion and of those who were persistently absent;
  - a fifth of current or former children in need;
  - one in six children ever identified with SEND and children ever eligible for free school meals; and
  - one in seven of those with low prior attainment and of those from black ethnic backgrounds.

3.3 *London Education Report*<sup>4</sup>. The Greater London Authority has updated the London Education Report. It provides detailed and up-to-date information regarding early years, primary, secondary and 16-19 education.

---

<sup>4</sup> [www.london.gov.uk/london-education-report](http://www.london.gov.uk/london-education-report)

Blank Page

# Young People's Education and Skills Board

## Performance Update: Participation, Achievements and Progression

Item no: 7(s)

**Report by:** Peter O'Brien      **Job title:** Regional Commissioning Manager  
**Date:** 17 October 2019  
**Telephone:** 020 7934 9743      **Email:** [peter.obrien@londoncouncils.gov.uk](mailto:peter.obrien@londoncouncils.gov.uk)

---

<b>Summary</b>	On 17 October 2019, the Department for Education published statistics on achievement at GCSE, GCE, Applied GCE A/AS level and other equivalent qualifications in 2018/19 (provisional data) and on the destinations of young people leaving education and training in 2018. This paper provides a headline summary of London region and borough performance for these measures.
<b>Recommendations</b>	Board members are asked to note the content of this report and submit any comments to the Young People's Education and Skills team at London Councils.

---

## 1 Background

- 1.1 The latest national statistics on GCSE, GCE, Applied GCE A-level and other equivalent results for 2018/19 produced by the Department for Education (DfE) were released on 17 October 2019<sup>1</sup>. This was the same day that the Young People's Education and Skills Board met and it was not possible to provide an analysis and commentary for the Board's consideration. The Board agreed that the report should be prepared and sent for Board members' comments after the meeting.
- 1.2 These figures are provisional data and are subject to change with updated data sets to be published from early 2020. Destination Measures for 2017 were also published on 17 October 2019 (see paragraph 4).
- 1.3 The 2019 headline accountability measures are:
  - For key stage (KS) 4: Attainment 8, Progress 8, attainment in English and maths at grade 5 or above, English Baccalaureate (EBacc) entry and average point score per pupil, and pupil destinations after KS4
  - For KS5: Attainment, progress, English and maths, retention, destinations, level 2 vocational qualifications (from this year, reporting on vocational qualifications is limited to technical certificates).
- 1.4 Although every effort has been made to ensure the validity of comparisons between years, DfE has advised statistics-users to exercise caution when making comparisons

---

<sup>1</sup>

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/840413/2019\\_provisional\\_A\\_level\\_and\\_other16-18\\_results\\_in\\_Englandv2.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/840413/2019_provisional_A_level_and_other16-18_results_in_Englandv2.pdf)

with earlier years. Wherever a comparison to 2018 is made, this has been based on last year's provisional figures.

- 1.5 This paper summarises some of the headline data that has been published. For more detailed analysis of the data please visit [Intelligent London](#).

## 2 KS4 Performance in London

- 2.1 The statistics are based on data collated for the 2019 Secondary School Performance Tables and includes pupils reaching the end of KS4, typically those starting the academic year aged 15.

- 2.2 In this year's release, the official definitions of "Attainment 8" and "Progress 8" have been slightly revised as follows:

- Attainment 8 measures the average achievement of pupils in up to eight qualifications. This includes maths (double weighted), English (double weighted if both language and literature are taken), three further qualifications that count in the EBacc and three further qualifications that can be GCSE qualifications (including EBacc subjects) or any other non-GCSE qualifications on the DfE approved list.
- Progress 8 captures the progress a pupil makes from the end of KS2 to the end of KS4. It compares pupils' achievement – their Attainment 8 score – with the national average Attainment 8 score of all pupils who had a similar starting point ('prior attainment'), calculated using assessment results from the end of primary school. Progress 8 is a relative measure, therefore the national average Progress 8 score for mainstream schools is very close to zero. A Progress 8 score of 1.0 means pupils in the group make on average a grade more progress than the national average; a score of -0.5 mean they make on average approximately half a grade less progress than average.

- 2.3 Figures are now only published at a national level. Regional and local authority figures are available but now have to be derived from underlying data.

***Please note: all figures cover achievements in state-funded schools only.***

- 2.4 2018/19 headline performance for London is as follows:

- **Attainment 8:** The average Attainment 8 score for state-funded schools in London in 2019 is 49.6. This represents an increase of 0.2 point compared to the provisional data for 2018. The national average Attainment 8 score for state-funded school pupils in 2019 is 46.7. This represents a marginal increase of 0.2 point compared with provisional 2017 data (Annex 1).
- **Progress 8:** The average overall Progress 8 score for London for 2018/19 is (+)0.22, the same as in last year's provisional figures (the provisional national average overall Progress 8 score for 2018/19 is -0.03). (Annex 2).
- **Attainment in English and mathematics at grades 5 or above:** The headline attainment measure requires pupils to achieve a grade 5 or above in either English Language or Literature (with no requirement to take both) and to achieve a grade 5 or above in EBacc maths. However, we are again showing attainment in English and maths at both grades 4 and 5, in view of continued commentary relating to achievement of both grades.

In 2018/19 in London, the percentage of pupils who achieved a grade 9 to 4 pass in English and maths GCSEs was 68 per cent (approximately the same as last year).

The (provisional) national percentage of pupils in the state-funded sector who achieved a grade 9 to 4 pass in English and maths GCSEs in 2018/19 is 65 per cent – also unchanged since last year (Annex 3).

In 2018/19 in London, the percentage of pupils who achieved a grade 9 to 5 pass in English and maths GCSEs in state-funded schools was, provisionally, 49 per cent.

The (provisional) national percentage of pupils in the state-funded sector who achieved a grade 9 to 5 pass in English and maths GCSEs in 2018/19 is 43 per cent (Annex 4).

- **EBacc:** In London, for 2018/19 the percentage of pupils at the end of KS4 entered for the EBacc was 54 per cent (an increase of two percentage points compared with last year. For 2018/19 in England (state-funded), the percentage of pupils at the end of KS4 entered for the EBacc was 40 per cent (a 1.5 percentage point increase compared to 2017/18).
- **EBacc average point score:** The average point score in London in 2019 was 4.5 points compared to the national average point score for state-funded schools in 2019 of 4.1 points.

### 3 A Level and other level 3 results

- 3.1 There were 50,560 level 3 students in London in 2018/19. This includes:
  - Academic students: 45,208 (89.4 per cent – down 3.9 percentage points on 2018)
  - A Level students: 44,348 (87.7 per cent – down 4.3 percentage points)
  - Tech level students: 1,677 (3.3 per cent -up 0.9 percentage point)
  - Applied General students: 9,631 (19.0 per cent – up 4.7 percentage points, approximately 2,400 students)
- 3.2 2018/19 headline performance for the state-funded sector in London for students aged 16 to 18 in schools and colleges entered for approved level 3 qualifications is shown in table 1.
- 3.3 London's APS per entry for all level 3 students of 32.07 is marginally higher than the national figure national of 32.02 (Annex 5).
- 3.4 Nationally, 178 students achieved the TecBacc – 18 of whom were from London
- 3.5 2017/18 headline performance for London for students aged 16 to 18 in schools and colleges entered for approved level 2 technical certificate qualifications is as follows:
  - APS per entry 5.88 (5.72 national)
  - APS per entry expressed as a grade: L2Merit- (L2Merit- national)

<b>Table 1: Level 3 attainment of all state-funded students at the end of 16-18 study</b>		
	<b>London</b>	<b>England</b>
<b>All level 3</b>		
Average Point Score (APS) per entry	32.07	32.02
<b>Academic students</b>		
APS per entry	32.6	32.8
APS per entry expressed as a grade	C+	C+
<b>Tech level students</b>		
APS per entry	29.4	28.4
APS expressed as a grade	Merit+	Merit+
<b>Applied General students</b>		
APS per entry	28.7	28.0
APS expressed as a grade	Merit+	Merit+
<b>A level students</b>		
APS per entry	32.6	32.6
APS per entry expressed as a grade	C+	C+
APS per entry (best 3)	32.7	32.2
Best 3 as a grade	C+	C+
Percentage achieving 3 A* to A grades or better	11.1 per cent (down 0.2 percentage points on 2018)	10.2 per cent (down 0.2 percentage point on 2018)

#### **4 Destination measures**

- 4.1 The statistics for Destination Measures shows the percentage of young people progressing to specified destinations in 2017/18. These are young people who completed KS4 and KS5 in 2016/17.

##### ***Destinations from state-funded mainstream schools in the year after KS4 (2016/17)***

- 4.2 94 per cent of young people were recorded as being in a sustained education or employment/training destination in the year after KS4, which is the same as the national figure (this has remained static both regionally and nationally for the last three years).
- 4.3 90 per cent of young people were recorded as being in a sustained education destination, which compares to 86 per cent nationally (both unchanged from last year's figures).
- 4.4 School Sixth Form remains the most popular destination for young Londoners with 55 per cent moving to this destination, a static position over the last three years. This also remains the joint most popular destination nationally alongside Further Education (FE) college or other FE provider (which attracted 24 per cent of young Londoners).
- 4.5 10 per cent of young people were studying in a sixth form college, compared to 11 per cent nationally, a broadly similar set of figures compared with last year.



- 4.6 Two per cent were taking an Apprenticeship, compared to three per cent nationally (London's figure is the same as last year, the national figure is one percentage point lower than last year).
- 4.7 Two per cent of young people were recorded as being in sustained employment and/or training, compared to three per cent nationally (neither figure has changed for three years).
- 4.8 Four per cent of young people regionally (five per cent nationally) did not remain in education or employment/training for the required two terms and two per cent of young people in London (one per cent nationally), were not captured in the destination data (all broadly the same as last year).
- 4.9 Annexes 6 and 7 provide a borough by borough analysis of the KS4 destinations and a breakdown of the type of destinations.

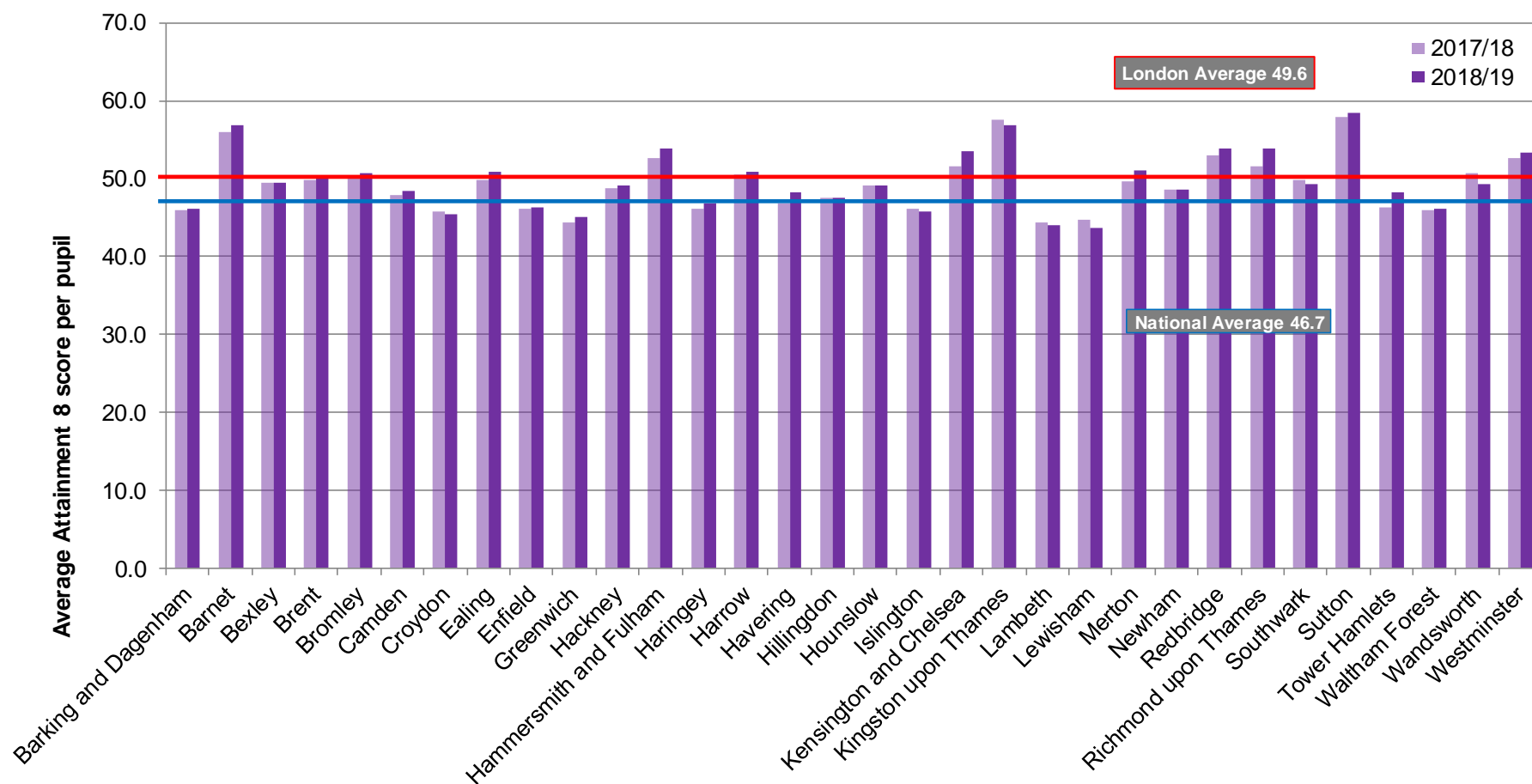
***Destinations from state-funded mainstream schools and colleges in the year after KS5 (2015/16)***

- 4.10 There has been a significant change in the methodology of gathering and reporting destinations after KS5. Previously, the statistics only covered the destinations of young people who took A levels or other level 3 qualifications. From this year, the destinations of those young people who also took levels 1 and 2, entry level and other qualifications have also been reported. This report comments on the overall position as a fresh performance baseline (that is, without comparisons with previous years).
- 4.11 80 per cent of young people were recorded as being in a sustained education or employment/training destination in the year after KS5, which compares to 81 per cent nationally.
- 4.12 58 per cent of young people were recorded as being in a sustained education destination, which is above the national figure of 47 per cent.
- 4.13 11 per cent were studying in a further education college (10 per cent nationally).
- 4.14 Five per cent were taking an Apprenticeship, compared to 10 per cent nationally.
- 4.15 44 per cent went to a Higher Education (HE) Institution, considerably above the national figure of 35 per cent.
  - Of those students who studied at level 3, 73 per cent in London (62 per cent nationally) progressed to Higher Education.
  - 26 per cent studied at the top third of HE Institutions, compared to 20 per cent nationally.
  - Included within this top third, the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge attracted one per cent regionally and nationally.
  - The Russell Group of Universities (including Oxford and Cambridge) accounted for 18 per cent regionally and 14 per cent nationally.
- 4.16 17 per cent of young people were recorded as being in sustained employment, compared to 25 per cent nationally.
- 4.17 12 per cent of young people in London and 13 per cent nationally did not remain in education or employment/training for the required two terms.
- 4.18 Eight per cent of young people were not captured in London's destination data, compared to six per cent nationally.
- 4.19 Annexes 8 and 9 provide a borough by borough analysis of the KS5 destinations and a breakdown of the type of destinations young people pursued.

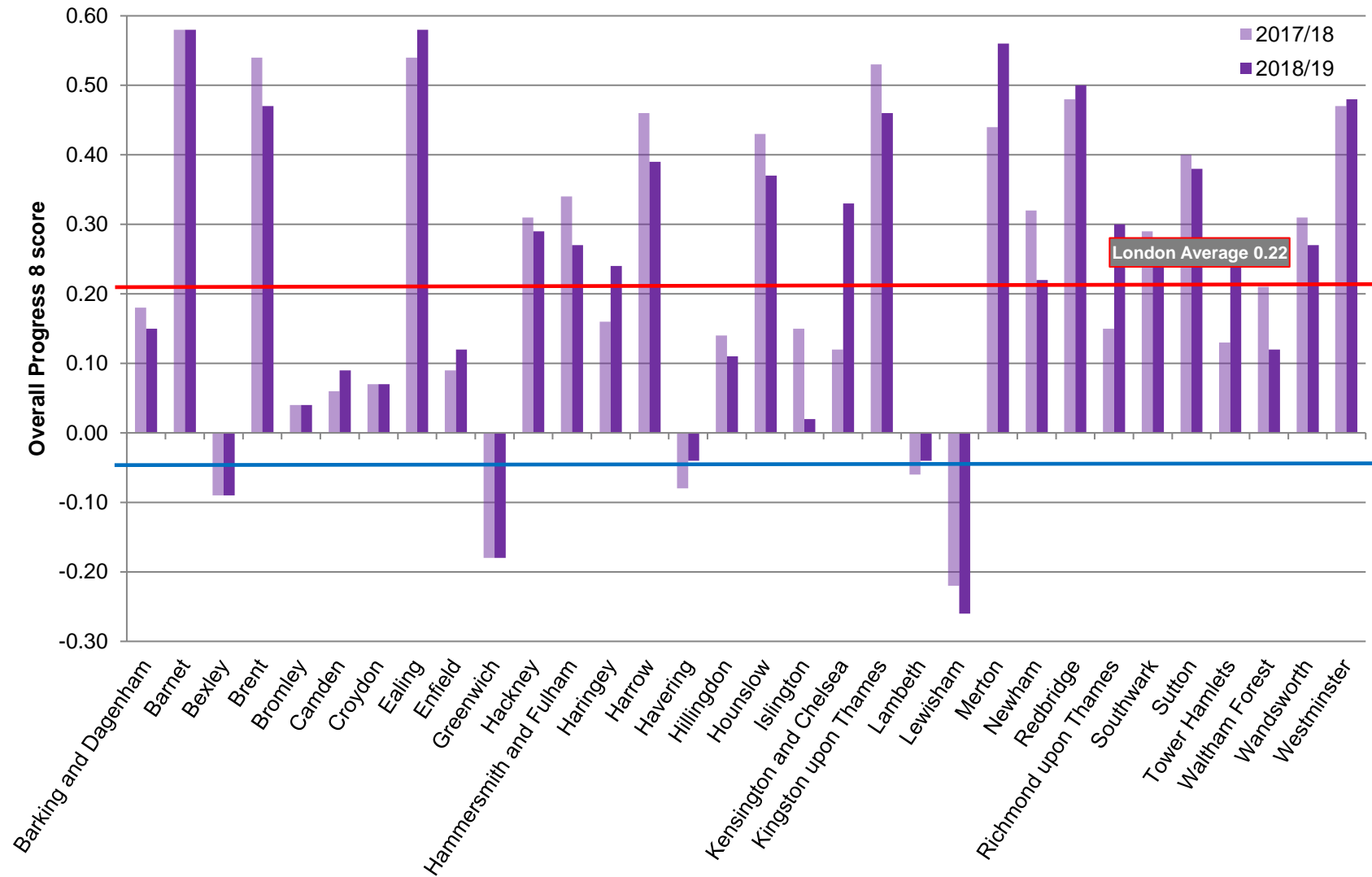
## **5 Recommendations**

- 5.1 Board members are asked to note the content of this report and submit any comments to the Young People's Education and Skills team at London Councils ([peter.obrien@londoncouncils.gov.uk](mailto:peter.obrien@londoncouncils.gov.uk)) .

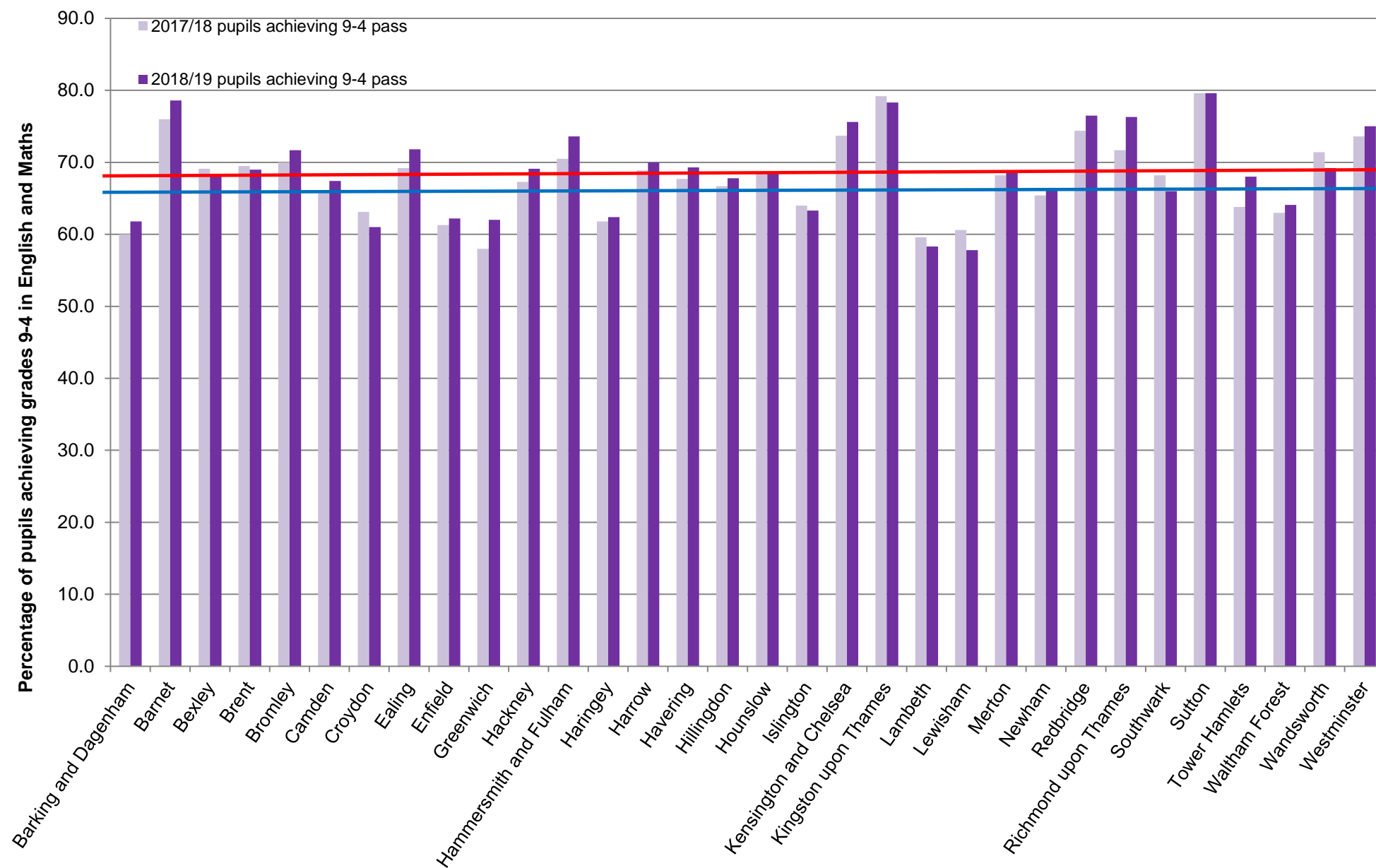
# Annex 1: Provisional average Attainment 8 score per pupil (2018/19) (state funded only)



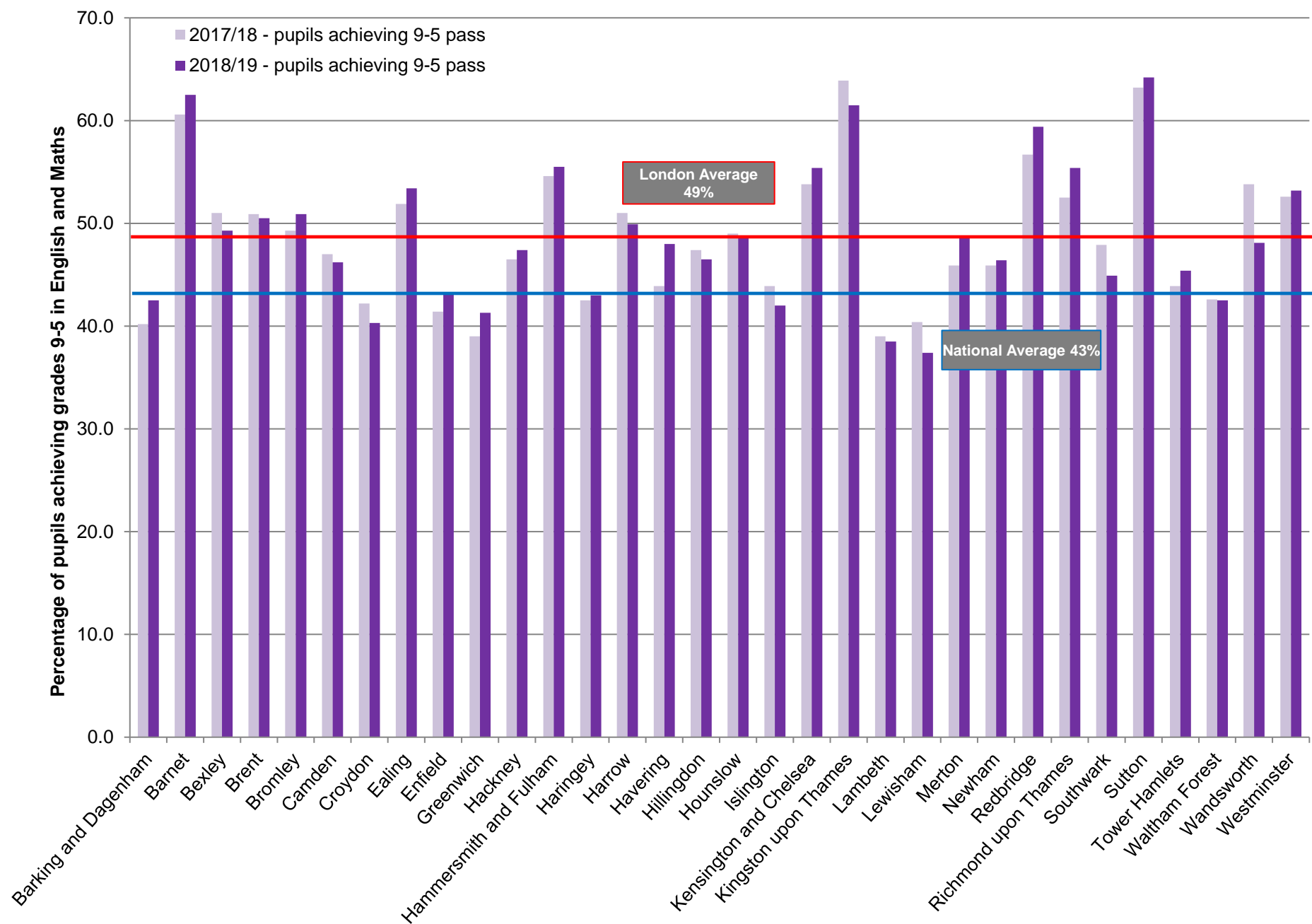
## Annex 2: Provisional overall Progress 8 score (2018/19) (state funded only)



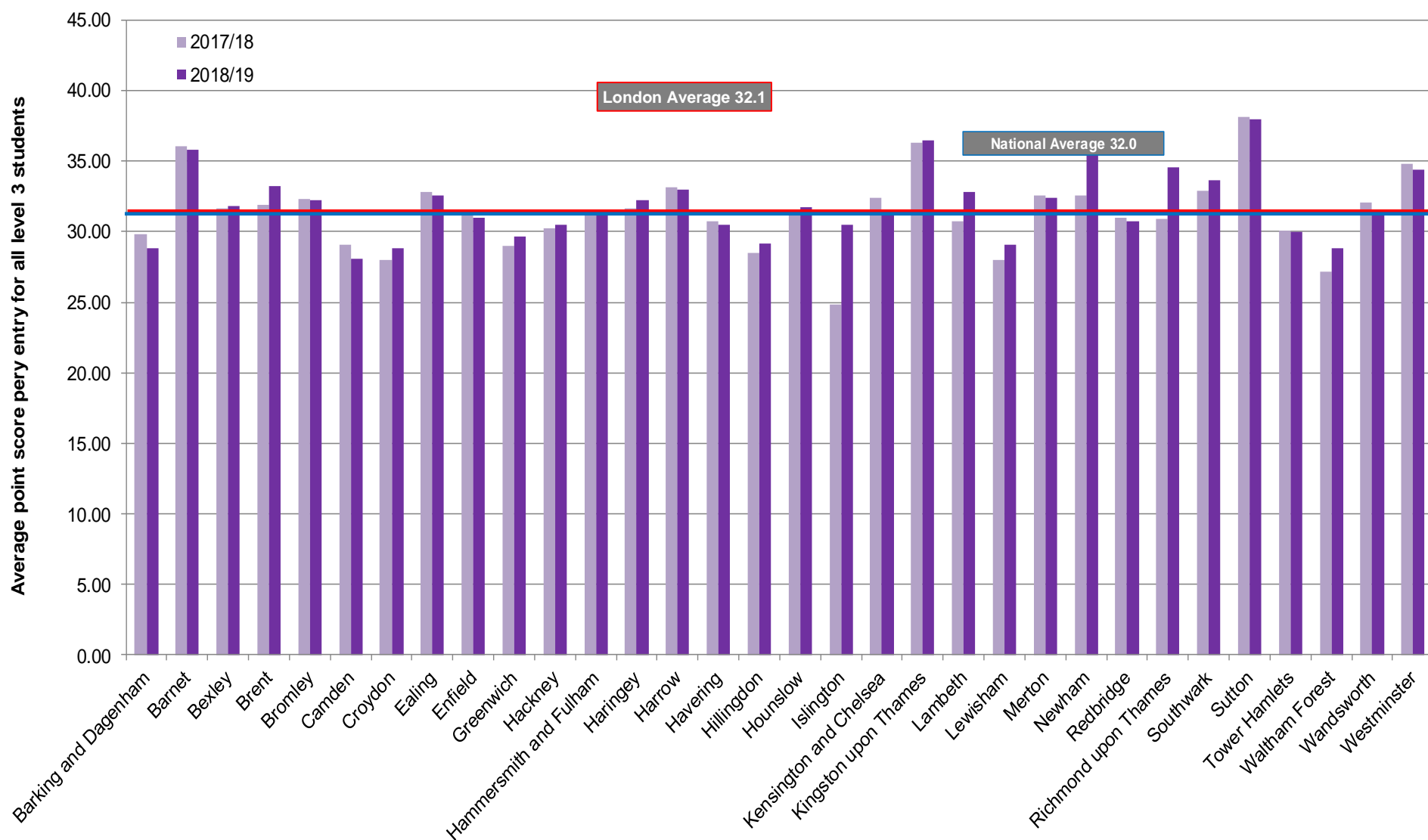
**Annex 3: Percentage of pupils achieving grades 9 to 4 in English and Maths – provisional figures (2018/19) (state funded only)**

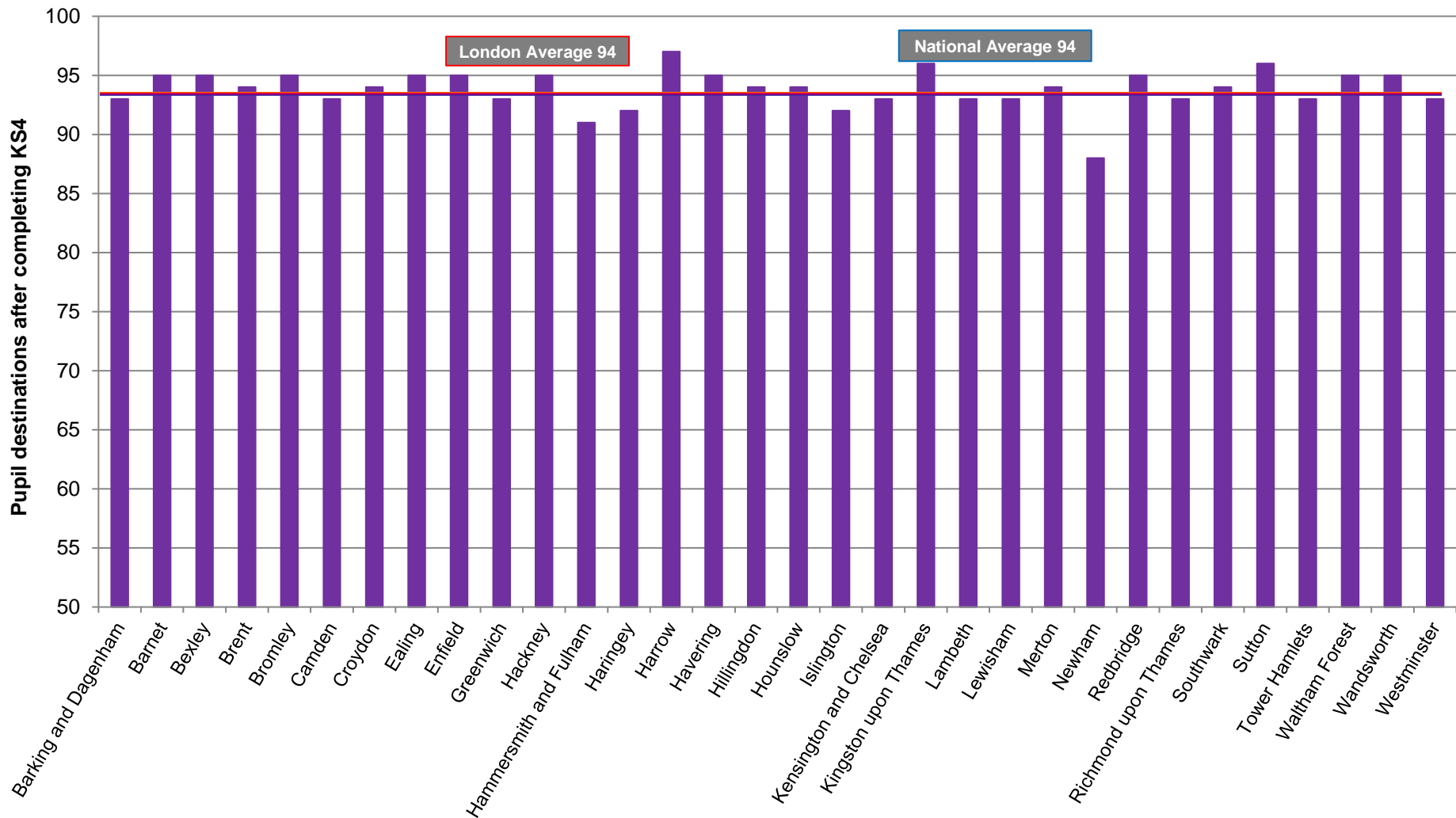


**Annex 4: Percentage of pupils achieving grades 9-5 in English and maths- provisional figures (2018/19) (State-funded only)**

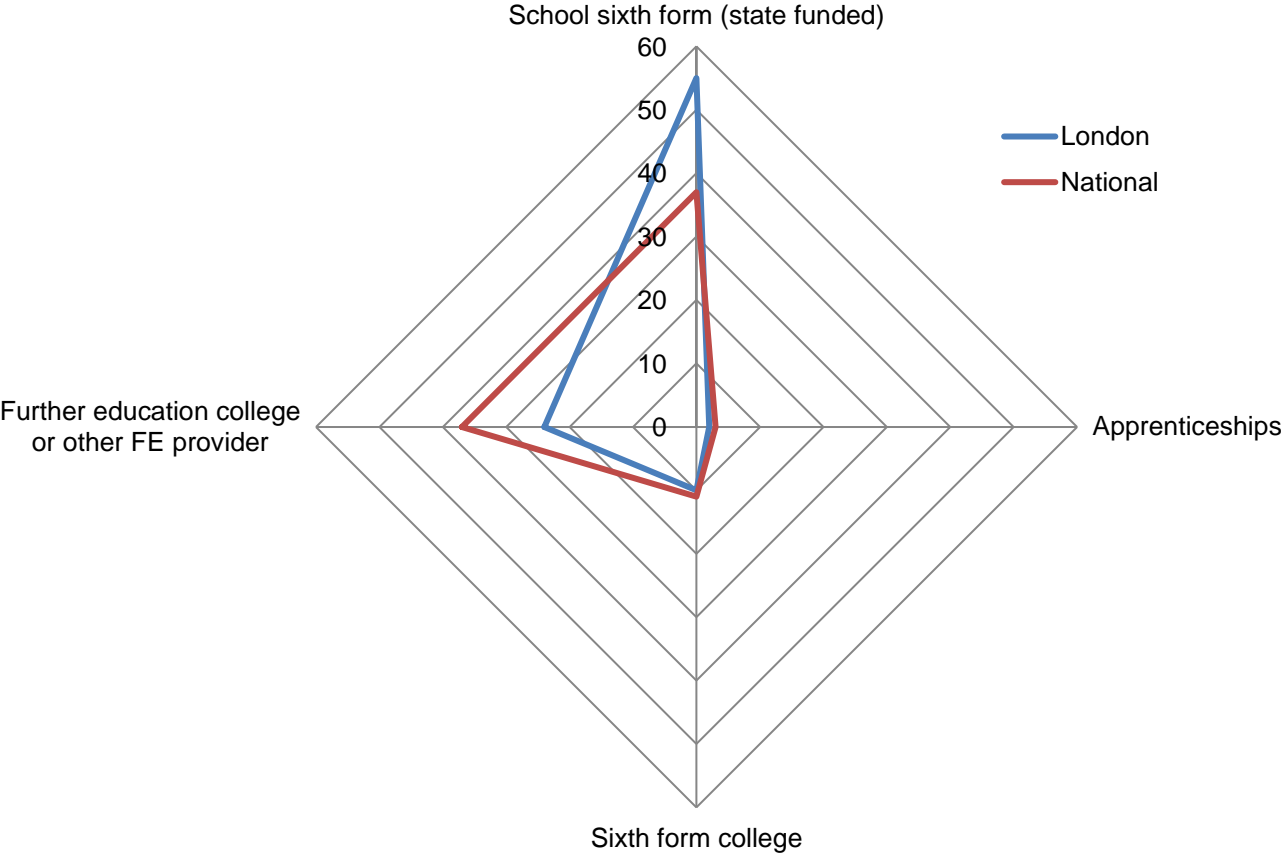


# Annex 5: Provisional Average Point Score per entry for all level 3 students (2018/19) (State-funded only)









## Annex 8 Student destinations after completing KS5 (2017/18)

