

## 7 Education

### **Education in brief:**

*The number of children in the Borough is projected to decline by 2.3% between 2001 and 2026*

*Surplus school places are forecast to decline to some degree throughout most of the Borough at both Primary and Secondary level*

*Pupils attending LEA maintained schools within the Borough performed well at Key Stage 1 (age 6/7) in 2006*

*Pupils attending schools within the Borough have generally exceeded the national and regional results at Key Stage 2 (age 10/11), and in 2006 showed significant improvement in maths relative to the County average*

*At Key Stage 3 (age 13/14), prior to the 2006 English results, pupils attending school in most neighbouring authorities had tended to achieve better results than those within Basingstoke and Deane*

*Percentage of pupils achieving 5 or more grades A\* - C at GCSE within the Borough over the past four years has continued to increase.....*

*.....but attainment levels in the Borough have tended to remain below most neighbouring authorities, as well as national, regional and County averages*

*Percentages of pupils in the Borough achieving 5 or more grades A\* - G and a pass in at least 1 subject are comparable with those of neighbouring areas*

*Levels of pupil absence from mainstream Secondary schools in the Borough have exceeded the County average since 2004 and the national average since 2005*

*Adult residents of Basingstoke and Deane tend to be slightly better qualified than those within Hampshire as a whole, similar to the average for the South East, and well above the national average*

- 7.1 This section examines the pattern of educational provision within the Borough, school capacity in relation to existing and forecast pupil numbers, aggregated pupil performance data at the various Key Stages and attendance levels. It also records levels of qualifications held by the adult population.

## Pattern of Provision

- 7.2 State education up to the age of 16 within the Borough is provided by Hampshire County Council (HCC), in its role as the Local Education Authority (LEA). HCC publishes an annual position statement on policies guiding the provision of school places, which is now referred to as the [‘School Places Plan’](#). This Plan contains a greater level of detail than the statutory Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP), which HCC has a duty to publish under the provisions of the Children Act 2004.
- 7.3 The School Places Plan 2007 shows that within Basingstoke and Deane there were 16 Infant Schools, 16 Junior, 27 Primary (Infant and Junior combined), and 11 Secondary Schools supported by HCC at January 2007. Nine of the Borough’s Secondary Schools have achieved Specialist School status in the fields of the Arts, Mathematics and Computing, Science, Sport, Technology, and Business and Enterprise.
- 7.4 The County Planning Areas into which schools are grouped geographically do not align precisely with the Borough boundaries: at Primary level, most of the mainstream schools in the Borough are grouped into four Planning Areas: Basingstoke Town; Tadley; Kingsclere/Burghclere; and Whitchurch; in addition, Preston Candover Church of England Primary School falls within the Alresford Area, which is centred within Winchester City Council area. At Secondary level, the Kingsclere/Burghclere and Whitchurch areas are combined to form the Kingsclere/Whitchurch Area.
- 7.5 There are also a small number of Special Schools within Basingstoke and Deane, which, together with Special Units in some of the mainstream schools, provide for the needs of pupils with moderate or severe learning difficulties, and those with emotional, behavioural and social difficulties. Due to their specialised nature, these schools tend to cater for the needs of pupils from a wider area of Hampshire than the Borough.
- 7.6 In keeping with most of Hampshire, post-16 education within Basingstoke and Deane is provided in further education colleges. Both colleges in the Borough, Basingstoke College of Technology and Queen Mary’s College, are located within the urban area of Basingstoke, and both serve students from a wider area than the Borough, though predominantly those living within Basingstoke and Deane. It is also acknowledged that students from parts of the Borough ‘cross the border’ to attend sixth forms in schools and colleges in West Berkshire and other parts of Hampshire.

## School Capacity

- 7.7 'The Ageing Population' section of this Profile shows that despite projected overall population growth of 16% within Basingstoke and Deane between 2001 and 2026, the number of children in the Borough is projected to decline by 2.3% over the same period. The pattern of this decline will not, of course, be uniform: changes to the distribution of the child population within the Borough will result mainly from the location of major new housing developments. In general, those parts of the Borough which are expected to experience significant levels of housing growth will see increases in pupil numbers, while the remaining areas are likely to witness varying levels of decline.
- 7.8 HCC's School Places Plan 2007 examines pupil number forecasts and school capacities over the next 5 years. It indicates that, at January 2007, Primary schools in the Basingstoke Town area collectively had 10% surplus capacity; this surplus is expected to decrease slightly to 9% by January 2012 as development continues within the town area. In the rural parts of the Borough, where relatively little development is planned, pupil numbers are generally static or declining: within the Tadley area, for example, there was 16% surplus capacity prior to the amalgamation of Burnham Copse Infant and Junior Schools in January 2007; capacity has been reduced by 200 places, resulting in an expected surplus of no more than 8% at 2012.
- 7.9 In the Secondary phase, levels of surplus are expected to decline within Basingstoke Town area from 16% in 2007 to 11% in 2012. In the Tadley area, an increase is forecast in surplus capacity from 1% to 12%; and in the Kingsclere/Whitchurch area, no surplus capacity is anticipated.

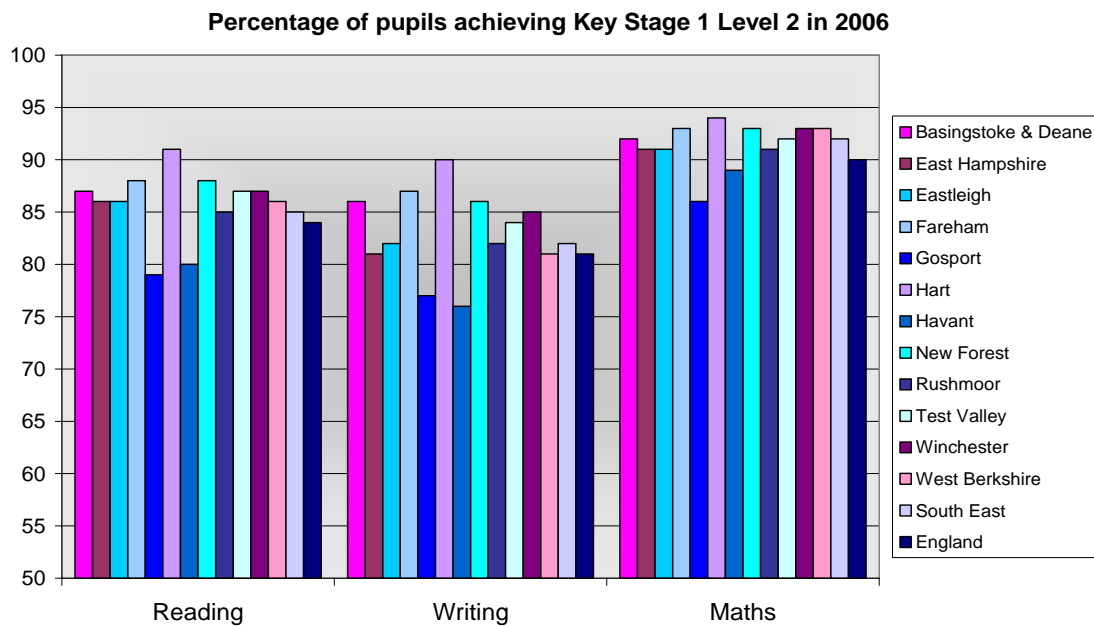
## Pupil Achievement

- 7.10 The availability of educational attainment data has expanded rapidly in recent years, and aggregated data relating to all parts of the country can now be found on the [Neighbourhood Statistics](#) and [Floor Targets Interactive](#) websites, as well as within [School and College Achievement and Attainment Tables](#) published by the Department for Education and Skills. Data from the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) enables attainment data at various stages in pupils' school careers to be produced down to a local level that reflects where pupils live, as well as where they attend school.
- 7.11 This Profile focuses on attainment data for pupils attending LEA maintained schools within Basingstoke and Deane. Whilst this data represents pupils irrespective of where they live, the vast majority of pupils attending schools in the Borough also live in the Borough. Data is

presented for each of the four Key Stages: Key Stage 1 assessments are carried out when pupils are aged 6/7, Key Stage 2 at ages 10/11, Key Stage 3 at ages 13/14, and Key Stage 4 (GCSE and equivalent qualifications) at ages 15/16. The latest available data at Key Stage 4 is also provided for pupils living in the Borough and attending maintained schools (irrespective of where those schools are located).

- 7.12 Further information can be found on the websites referred to above, both by location of educational establishment and by location of pupil residence. This information includes 'value added' measures, which provide an indication of the extent to which a cohort of pupils has met or exceeded expectations based on results at previous stages, and pilot Achievement and Attainment Tables, which were introduced in 2005 to record GCSE attainment which included English and Mathematics.
- 7.13 At each Key Stage, the most recently available attainment data for pupils attending LEA maintained schools in the Borough is compared with that of pupils living in neighbouring local authority areas, as well as the County, regional and national averages.
- 7.14 Figure 7.1 shows how pupils attending LEA maintained schools within the Borough performed at Key Stage 1 in 2006 in relation to neighbouring local authority areas, other local authorities in Hampshire, the South East region and England as a whole.

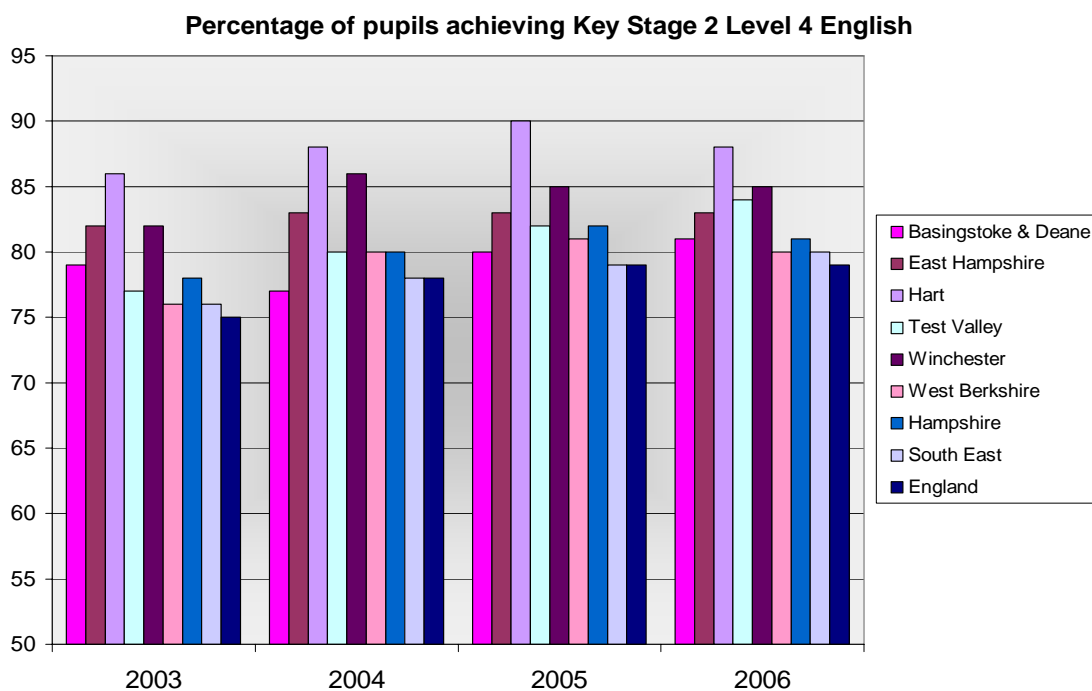
**Figure 7.1: Achievement at Key Stage 1 (age 6/7) by location of Educational Institution 2006:**



Source: DfES data extracted via ONS Neighbourhood Statistics Service

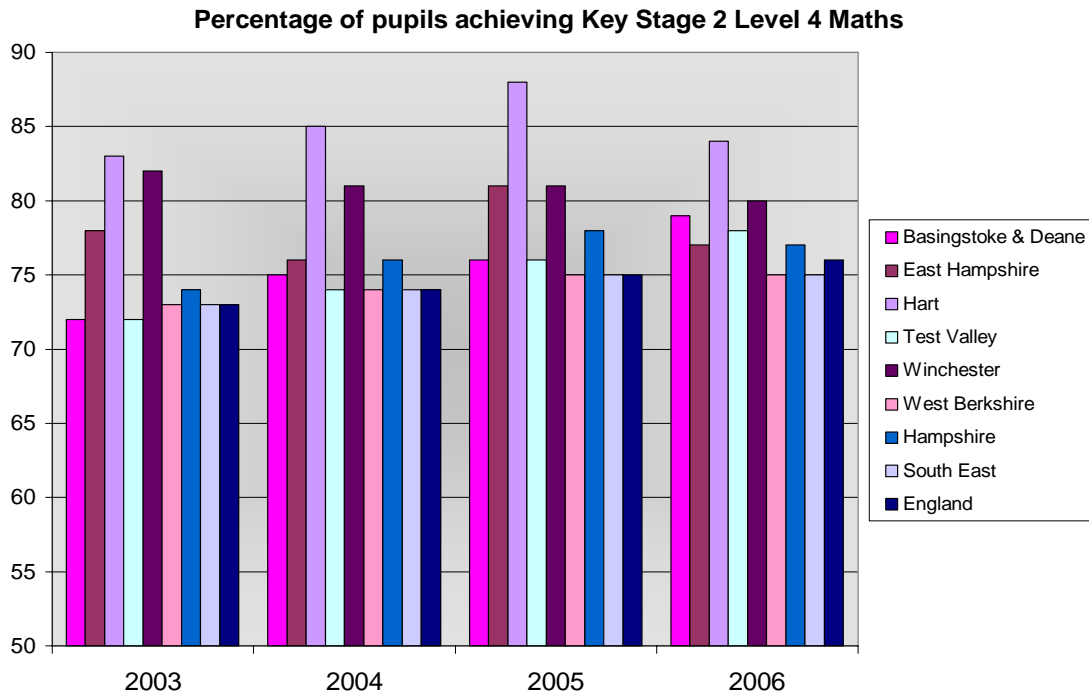
- 7.15 In all three subjects at Key Stage 1 - reading, writing and mathematics - the attainment levels of pupils at schools within Basingstoke and Deane were generally on a par with the higher performing districts in Hampshire, and were exceeded to any significant degree only by pupils at schools within Hart District Council area.
- 7.16 Figures 7.2 and 7.3 show how pupils attending LEA maintained schools within Basingstoke and Deane have performed at Key Stage 2 in English and mathematics respectively over the period 2003-2006. In terms of the percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 or above in both English and mathematics, pupils attending schools within the Borough have generally exceeded the national and regional results, but until 2006 have generally fallen short of the levels of attainment at County level as a whole and in many neighbouring authorities.
- 7.17 The 2006 results, however, demonstrate a greater level of improvement in the Borough results, particularly in mathematics, compared with those of neighbouring authorities and County, regional and national averages.

**Figure 7.2: Achievement in English at Key Stage 2 (age 10/11) by location of Educational Institution 2003-2006:**



Source: DfES data extracted via DCLG Floor Targets Interactive

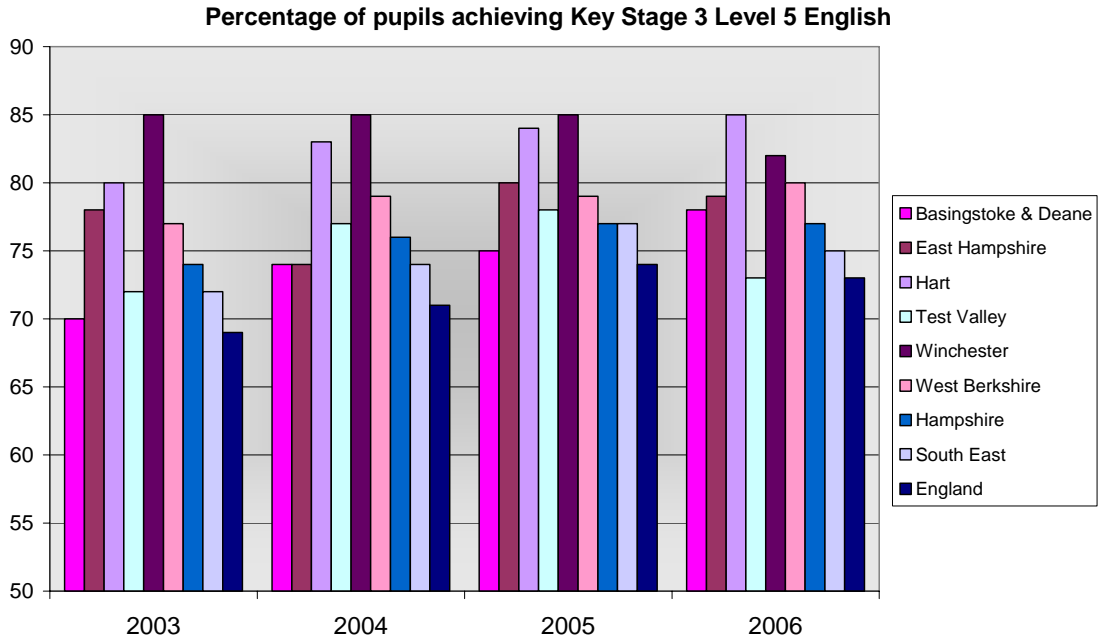
**Figure 7.3: Achievement in Maths at Key Stage 2 (age 10/11) by location of Educational Institution 2003-2006:**



Source: DfES data extracted via DCLG Floor Targets Interactive

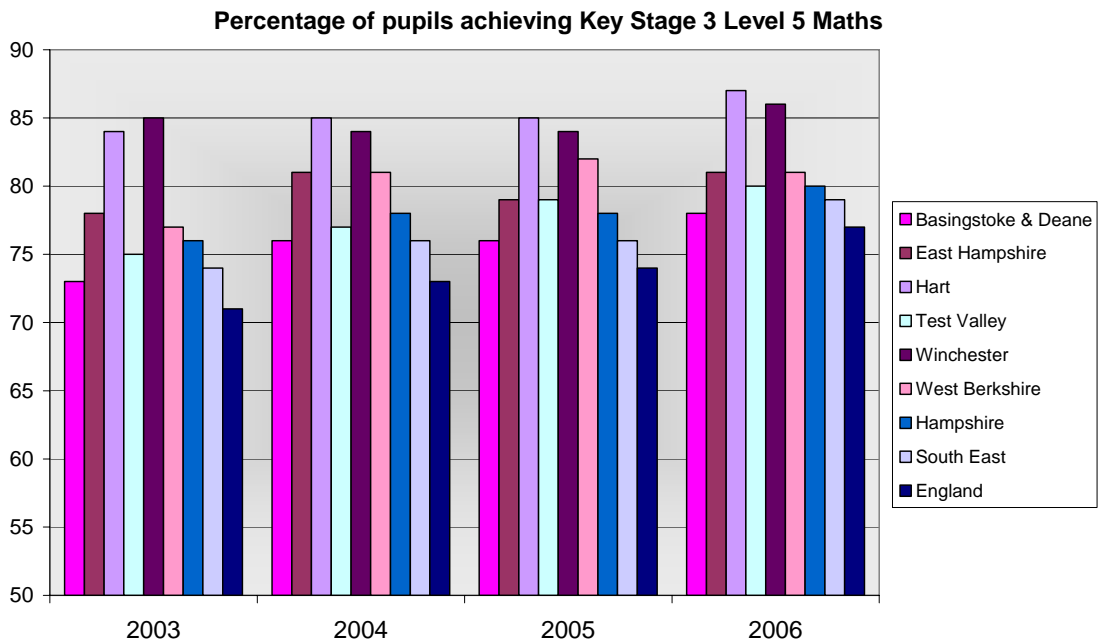
- 7.18 Figures 7.4 – 7.6 show how pupils attending LEA maintained schools within Basingstoke and Deane have performed at Key Stage 3 in English, mathematics and science respectively over the period 2003-2006.
- 7.19 The percentage of pupils in the Borough achieving Level 5 or above in all three subjects at Key Stage 3 has been consistently higher than the national average over the four year period (most notably in science). However, the local results have not compared so favourably with the County average, the 2006 English results being the only example of the Borough exceeding the Hampshire average.

**Figure 7.4: Achievement in English at Key Stage 3 (age 13/14) by location of Educational Institution 2003-2006:**



Source: DfES data extracted via DCLG Floor Targets Interactive

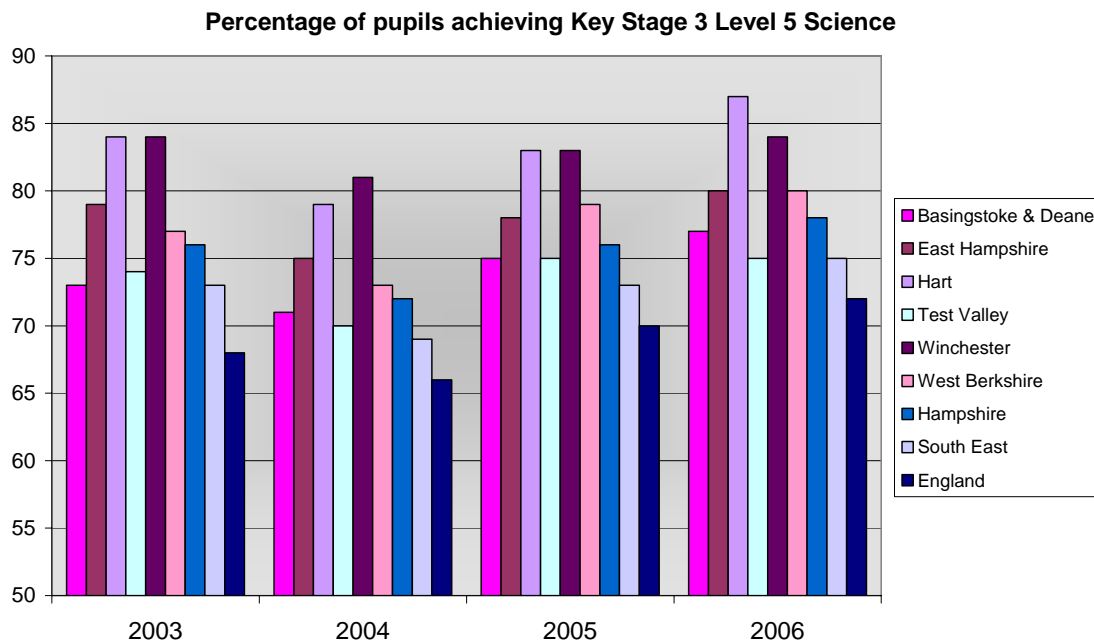
**Figure 7.5: Achievement in Maths at Key Stage 3 (age 13/14) by location of Educational Institution 2003-2006:**



Source: DfES data extracted via DCLG Floor Targets Interactive

7.20 As at Key Stage 2, pupils in Hart and Winchester have achieved a consistently high standard in all subjects. With the exception of the science results for Test Valley (and the 2006 English results), pupils in all neighbouring authorities have tended to achieve better results than those within Basingstoke and Deane. However, the 2006 English results for the Borough demonstrate an improvement in relation to all neighbouring areas, as well as to national, regional and County averages.

**Figure 7.6: Achievement in Science at Key Stage 3 (age 13/14) by location of Educational Institution 2003-2006:**

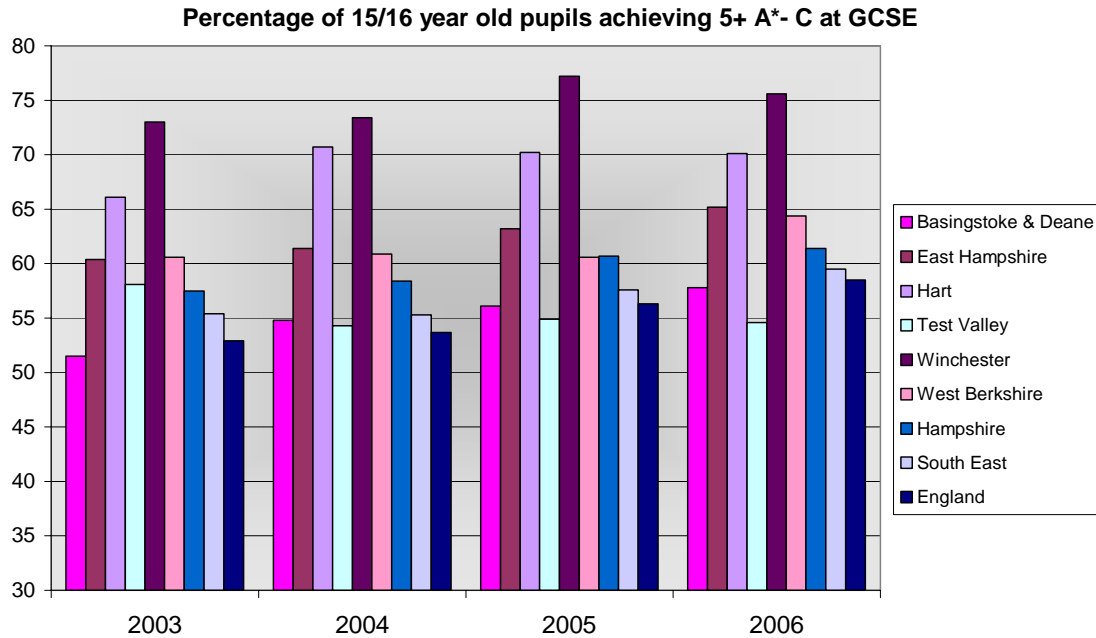


Source: DfES data extracted via DCLG Floor Targets Interactive

7.21 Figure 7.7 shows GCSE and equivalent qualification results for pupils attending LEA maintained schools within Basingstoke and Deane compared with neighbouring authorities and national, regional and LEA averages for the four years 2003-2006.

7.22 It can be seen from Figure 7.7 that the percentage of pupils achieving 5 or more grades A\* - C in the Borough over the past four years has continued to increase more rapidly than in most neighbouring areas. However, attainment levels at GCSE still tend to fall further behind those of neighbouring authorities when compared with results at Key Stage 3, generally remaining below both the national and regional averages.

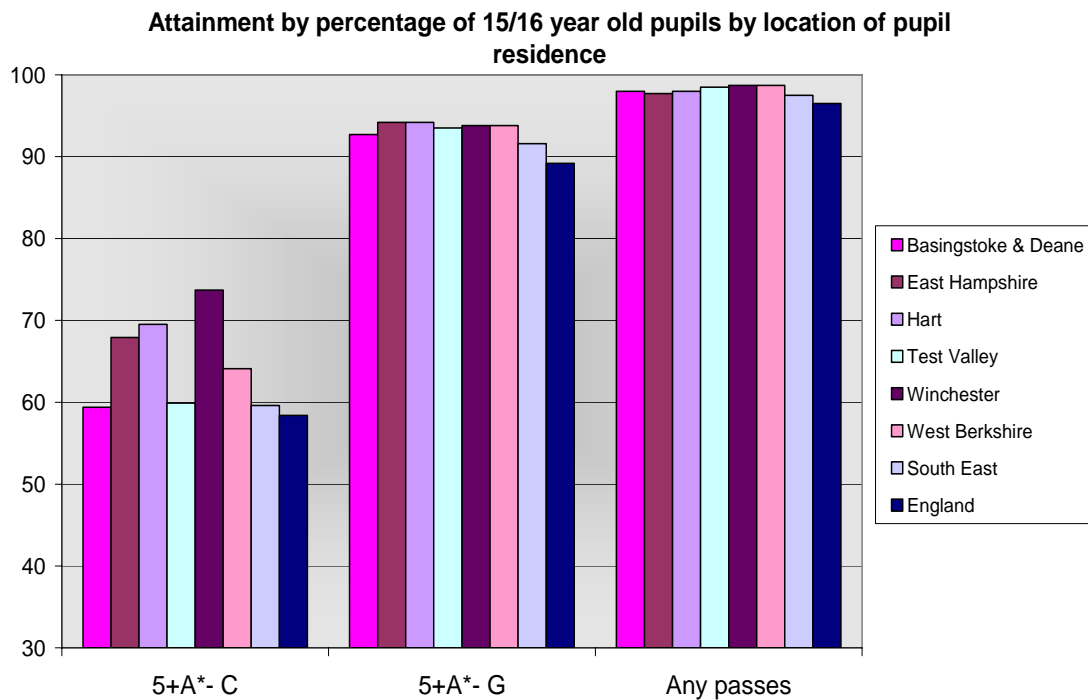
**Figure 7.7: Achievement at GCSE and equivalent qualifications by location of Educational Institution 2003-2006:**



Source: DfES data extracted via DCLG Floor Targets Interactive

- 7.23 When the results are categorised by where pupils live as opposed to where they attend school, the achievements of pupils living within Basingstoke and Deane compare more favourably, exceeding the national average. This can be seen in Figure 7.8, implying that the relatively small number of pupils who travel out of the Borough to attend school achieve better results than those who travel in.
- 7.24 Figure 7.8 also shows that whilst the percentage of pupils living in the Borough achieving 5 or more grades A\* - C still lags some way behind the results for three of the neighbouring authorities, the percentages achieving 5 or more A\* - G and a pass in at least 1 subject are comparable with those of neighbouring areas.

**Figure 7.8: Achievement at GCSE and equivalent qualifications by location of pupil residence 2006:**

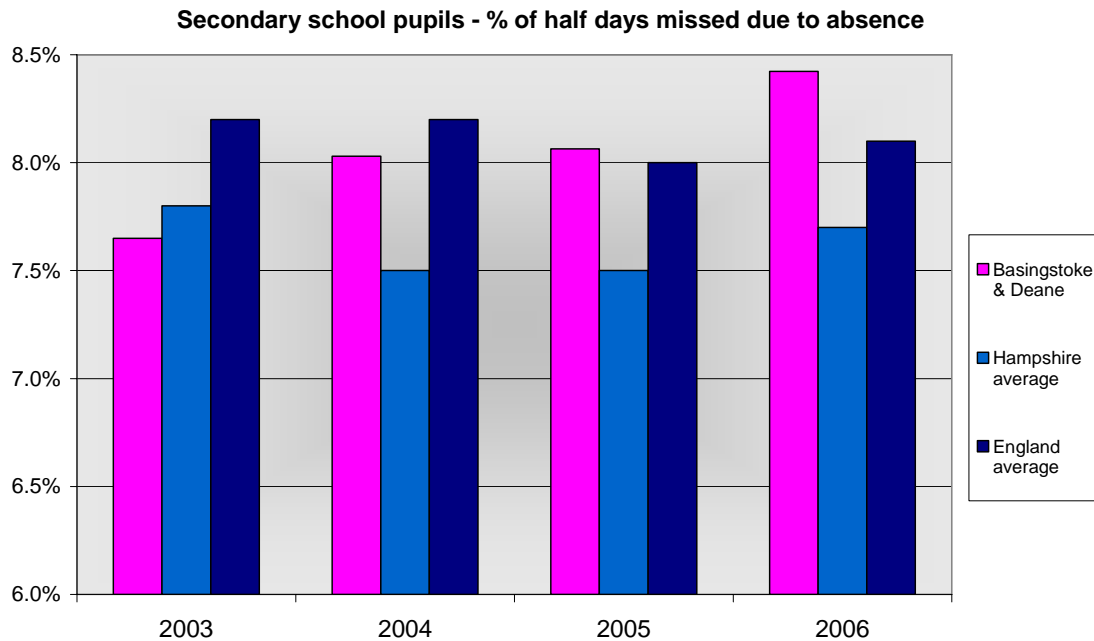


Source: DfES data extracted via ONS Neighbourhood Statistics Service

## Pupil Absence

- 7.25 Pupil absence is measured in terms of the percentage of half-days in the school year that the average pupil did not attend school. The figures quoted include both authorised and unauthorised absence.
- 7.26 At Primary level, the pupil absence rate for mainstream schools in Basingstoke and Deane for 2005 was 4.9%, below the England average of 5.4% and in line with the County average (also 4.9%).
- 7.27 At Secondary level, the pupil absence rates for mainstream schools for each of the past four years are set out in Figure 7.9. While the County figures have remained consistently below the England average, figures for schools within the Borough have been increasing, exceeding the County average since 2004 and the national average in both 2005 and 2006.
- 7.28 Over the 4 year period 2003-2006, authorised Secondary school absence rates within the Borough varied between 6.6% and 7.0%, while unauthorised absence rates increased from just below 1.0% to over 1.4%.

**Figure 7.9: Secondary school pupil absence rates 2003-2006**



Source: DfES data

## Highest Levels of Qualification

7.29 The latest data available on levels of qualification held by the working age population within the Borough is collected by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in the Annual Population Survey (APS). Table 7.1 shows the 2006 data for Basingstoke and Deane compared with the regional and national averages. The variables show the total number of people in the working age population who are qualified at a particular level and above.

**Table 7.1: Highest levels of qualification (Jan 2006-Dec 2006)**



	Basingstoke and Deane (numbers)	Basingstoke and Deane (%)	South East (%)	Great Britain (%)
NVQ4 and above	30,800	31.6	30.5	27.4
NVQ3 and above	49,700	51.0	49.4	45.3
NVQ2 and above	68,400	70.2	68.0	63.8
NVQ1 and above	85,100	87.3	82.7	77.8
Other qualifications	4,800	4.9	7.7	8.5
No qualifications	7,600	7.8	9.6	13.8

Note: For each area, the trade apprenticeships are split 50/50 between NVQ level 2 and 3.

Source: ONS annual population survey: extracted from Basingstoke & Deane Labour Market Profile: Nomis Official Labour Market Statistics: Crown Copyright

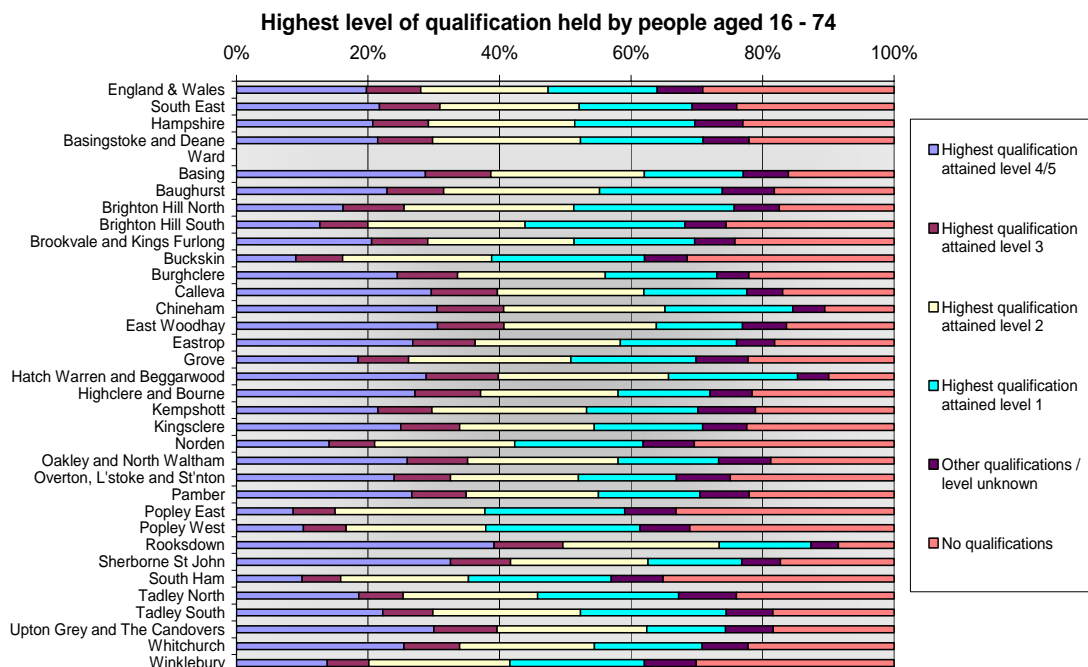
7.30 Table 7.1 shows that the Borough has a higher percentage of its population qualified at each of the NVQ levels (see paragraph 7.29 below) compared with the regional and national averages. To some extent, this could reflect the number of well-qualified people being attracted to live in the area, combined with the younger than average age structure within the Borough, with greater opportunities for gaining qualifications having been available in more recent decades.

7.31 Whilst the APS is the largest regular household survey in the United Kingdom, it is a sample survey, and therefore subject to sampling variability. The sample size is too small to produce data below Borough level, so it is necessary to refer to Census data to provide an indication of the level of qualifications held by the local adult population at ward level.

7.32 The data in Figure 7.10 has been extracted from output from the 2001 Census. It shows the percentages of people aged 16 – 74 who had achieved the following levels of qualification:

- Level 1 of the National Qualifications Network (at least 1 pass at GCSE or NVQ level 1);
- Level 2 (at least 5 passes at GCSE Grade A\*-C or NVQ level 2);
- Level 3 (at least 2 'A' levels or NVQ level 3);
- Level 4/5 (Degree, HNC, HND, Professional qualification or NVQ levels 4 or 5).

**Figure 7.10: Highest levels of qualification – 2001 Census:**



Source: 2001 Census - Crown copyright 2003

7.33 Overall, 2001 Census data indicated that residents of Basingstoke and Deane tended to be better qualified than the national average, at a similar level to the averages for the South East and Hampshire as a whole.

7.34 At ward level, however, there is significant variation in the level of qualifications achieved, with more than 4 times the percentage of Rooksdown residents holding Level 4/5 qualifications compared with Buckskin or Popley East. Rural and semi-rural wards also tend to show higher proportions of graduates and equivalent. The data relating to this table can be found at:

<http://www.basingstoke.gov.uk/community/facts/wards/>.