



Department  
for Education

# **16 to 18 accountability measures: interim update for the 2023 to 2024 academic year**

**October 2024**

# INTERIM UPDATE: Performance measures for the 2023 to 2024 academic year

This interim publication provides an update on 16 to 18 performance measures that are being published as part of the set of data for the 2023 to 2024 academic year. This guidance will be taken down when a full update to the 16 to 18 technical guidance is published for the 2023 to 2024 academic year, which will be in or before February 2025.

## 16 to 18 value added (progress) measures

16 to 18 value added measures show how well students did in their qualifications compared to other students with similar prior attainment nationally.

We will publish 16 to 18 value added measures in the 2023 to 2024 performance measures, for the following cohorts:

- Level 3 A Level
- Level 3 Academic
- Level 3 Applied General
- Level 3 Tech Level

This is the first time we have been able to produce these measures since 2018 to 2019, due to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. This is also the first time we will introduce value added measures for the Tech Level cohort.

We will not be introducing value added measures for the Level 2 Technical Certificate cohort in 2023 to 2024 performance measures. We intend to introduce Level 2 Technical Certificate value added measures in the 2024 to 2025 performance measures, and will confirm this in due course.

In line with commitments made previously, outcomes from Key Stage 4 (KS4) qualifications achieved between January 2020 and August 2021 will be excluded when calculating a student's prior attainment for the 16 to 18 value added measures. Students will be included in the 16 to 18 value added measures if they have at least one outcome from KS4 qualifications achieved in the 2021 to 2022 academic year or later.

The methodology we will use to calculate value added measures for the 2023 to 2024 academic year will be very similar to the way that we calculated value added measures in the 2018 to 2019 academic year. The only difference will be that for each student's KS4 prior attainment we will use the list of qualifications approved for reporting in the academic year the student completed KS4 (previously, for all students, we took into account all KS4 qualifications approved from 2014 onwards). Information on how we calculated value added measures for the 2018 to 2019 academic year can be found in Annex C of the [full 16-18 technical guidance for 2022 to 2023](#).

## Prior attainment grades awarded using different grading approaches

In the 2021 to 2022 academic year a different grading approach was used for GCSEs, AS and A levels and most VTQs that are taken alongside A levels, to take account of the impact of the pandemic. In the 2022 to 2023 academic year there was a return to pre-pandemic standards for GCSEs, AS and A levels, with protection built into the grading process to recognise the disruption that students have faced. For VTQs that are taken alongside, or instead, of GCSEs and A levels, there was also a return to pre-pandemic standards in 2022 to 2023.

The way that we calculate our 16 to 18 value added measures is by using the KS4 prior attainment data to put students into prior attainment groups, which allow us to compare 16 to 18 outcomes for a particular student to students with similar prior attainment. This means that we look at a student's relative in-year performance at KS4, compared to their relative in-year performance at 16-18, rather than actually looking at how far they have come from KS4 to 16 to 18. Data included in KS4 prior attainment calculations for the 16 to 18 value added measures in the 2023 to 2024 academic year will also come almost entirely from the 2021 to 2022 academic year. This means that even though the KS4 baseline data and 16 to 18 outcomes data included in value added measures for 2023 to 2024 are based on different grading approaches, it will not have significant impact on the value added measures.

## Attainment and entry measures

We will publish these measures for the 2023 to 2024 academic year.

## Retention measures

We will publish these measures for the 2023 to 2024 academic year.

## Destination measures

The headline provider-level destination measure, which is the 'Percentage of students that progress to a sustained education, training or employment destination after 16 to 18 study' (and associated breakdowns of this information), will be published via the [Explore Education Statistics](#) service in October 2024. The data will be updated on the [Compare School and College Performance \(CSCP\)](#) later in the year. Most students included in this data will be those that left 16 to 18 study at the end of the 2021 to 2022 academic year.

The additional provider-level destination measure, the 'Progression to higher education and training measure' will also be published via the Explore Education Statistics service in October 2024, and updated on [CSCP](#) later in the year. Most students included in this data will be those that left 16 to 18 study at the end of the 2020 to 2021 academic year. When we publish this data, there will be some change to the further breakdowns of this information shown. We will no longer publish:

- The percentage of students that progress to Russell Group universities.
- The percentage of students that progress to Oxford and Cambridge universities.

We will continue to publish the percentage of students that progress to all degrees. We will also continue to publish the percentage of those students that progress to a degree at a top third higher education institution when ranked by average UCAS points of undergraduate acceptances, to show which schools and colleges do well at supporting their students to secure opportunities at the most selective higher education providers.

## **English and maths progress measures**

As previously announced, we will not publish the English and maths progress measures for the 2023 to 2024 cohort of students.

When published previously, these measures showed, for students that did not achieve a grade 4 or above in English or maths GCSE at KS4, how much progress students made between their KS4 GCSE result and any re-takes they did in English or maths GCSE or equivalent at 16 to 18.

We will not produce these progress measures, as for most students we would have to use KS4 prior attainment data from summer 2020 or summer 2021, which we have committed not to use in performance measures. More information can be found in the section on English and maths measures. We will return to producing the English and maths progress measure as soon as possible, which will be for the 2024/25 academic year at the earliest.

We will also not produce or publish the Additional Level 3 Maths measure for the 2023 to 2024 academic year, as previously announced.



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