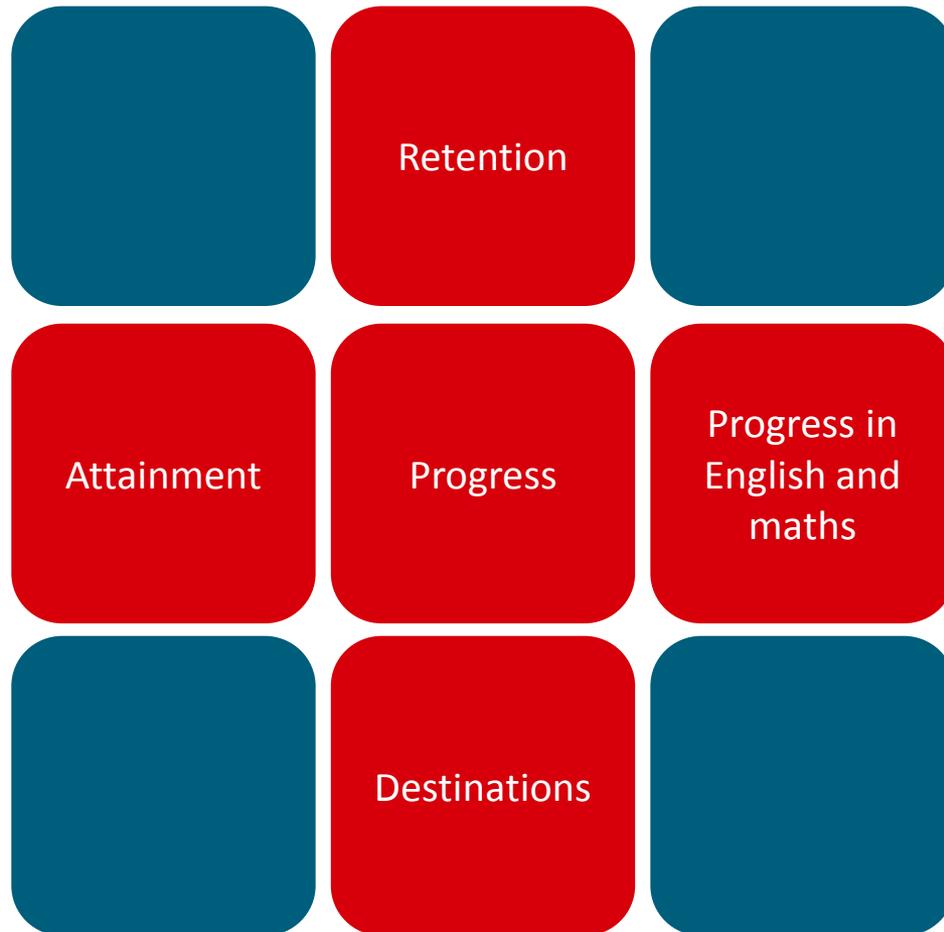


16-19 Accountability Headline Measures: Quick Guide



From September 2016, the Department for Education's new 16-19 accountability system will come into effect, with the first official performance tables being published in January 2017 (pilot results will be shared with schools and colleges over the next two years).

At Learning Plus UK Data Ltd, we are aware that with many changes currently taking place in the education system, there is a lot of information to absorb and many new practices for schools and colleges to implement.

For this reason, we have decided to put together this guide – in order to give a clear, concise explanation of these new measures*, along with examples to aid comprehension.

We hope you find it useful.

*Progress; Attainment; Progress in English and maths; Retention; Destinations

The following pages are based on the '16-19 Accountability Measures: Technical Guide' released by the DfE in October 2014. This guide will be updated in Autumn 2015.

Progress

What is it?

The new progress measures will be at the forefront of the new accountability measures. As well as being one of the headline measures, they will also be an integral part of the minimum standards.

A separate progress measure will be given for:

- Level 3 Academic
- Level 3 Applied General
- Level 3 Tech Level
- Level 2 Technical Certificates

How will it be calculated?

Academic

Each student taking each subject, will be given a value-added score - the number of grades difference between their predicted grade (based on their **GSCE** attainment) and their actual grade. Value-added scores for each student taking that subject are averaged to create a subject-level score and these are then aggregated to school/college-level using weighted averages.

Applied General

Each student taking each subject, will be given a value-added score - the number of grades difference between their predicted grade (based on their **KS4** attainment) and their actual grade. Value-added scores for each student taking that subject are averaged to create a subject-level score and these are then aggregated to school/college-level using weighted averages.

Tech Levels and Technical Certificates

A separate 'completion and attainment' progress measure will be calculated for these qualifications, comparing students' attainment to national outcomes for these qualification types. This measure will not take prior attainment into account. The methodology is subject to further investigation.

Example: Academic

Subject	Student	Predicted Grade	Actual Grade	Value-added	Subject level	School/College Progress Measure
A Level History	Student A	C	C	0	$\frac{0 - 2 + 1}{3}$ = -0.3 of a grade below average	Weighted average = $\frac{(-0.3 \times 3) + (+0.5 \times 4)}{7}$ = +0.2 grades above average
	Student B	A	C	-2		
	Student C	B	A	+1		
A Level Biology	Student D	D	C	+1	$\frac{1 + 2 - 1 + 0}{4}$ = +0.5 of a grade above average	
	Student E	B	A*	+2		
	Student F	A	B	-1		
	Student G	B	B	0		

Attainment

What is it?

The attainment measure will show the average grade attained by each student studying a particular qualification type at the school or college, and will be calculated in the same manner as Average Points per Entry (APE). This measure can be used as a simple point of comparison between different schools and colleges.

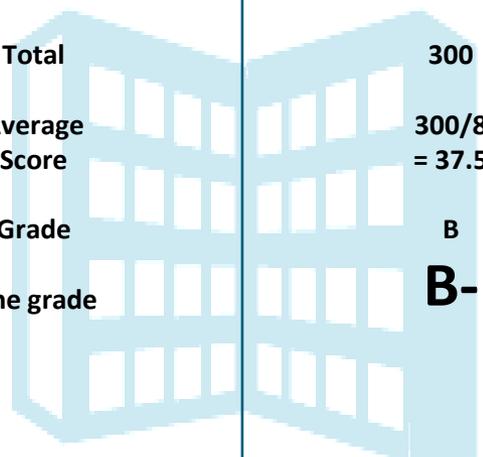
The attainment measure will be given separately for:

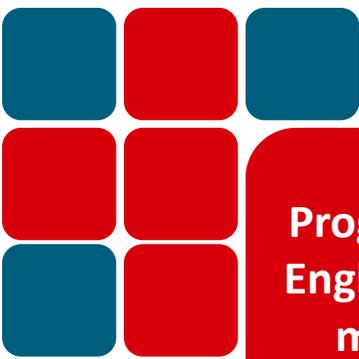
- Level 3 Academic
- Level 3 Applied General
- Level 3 Tech Level
- Level 2 Technical Certificates

How will it be calculated?

The measure will be an average of each grade achieved in all completed (and approved) qualifications. Withdrawals will not be counted as a fail. The number of points given per grade has been changed with each grades now receiving a different weighting. For example, under the previous system, an 'A*' was worth 300 points, but will now be worth 60 points. This will ensure that a student who fails their qualification will not affect the school or college's score too heavily, as all values lie closer to zero.

Example: Academic

Student	Actual Grade	Point score	School/College Attainment Measure	
Student H	D	20		Total 300 Average Score $300/8 = 37.5$ Grade B Fine grade B-
Student I	A*	60		
Student J	B	40		
Student K	C	30		
Student L	C	30		
Student M	WITHDRAWN	-		
Student N	A	50		
Student O	C	30		
Student P	B	40		



Progress in English and maths

What is it?

As students with a grade D or lower in English or maths GCSE will now have to study these subjects until the age of 18 as a GCSE or an approved stepping-stone qualification, this measure will ensure that schools and colleges aim towards students' progression in these areas.

How will it be calculated?

Expected progress will be calculated similarly to the main Academic and Applied General progress measures, although only prior attainment in English and maths will be used as the starting point. As there is an increased likelihood of students having poor motivation in these subjects, a cap will be applied so that a student can drop no more than one grade. For example, if a student starts their Post-16 study with a grade D in GCSE maths, and achieves an F during their resit, they will be treated as just a one grade drop.

An individual's progress will be compared to the progress made nationally by their peers, in order to give them their final progress score. These scores will then be aggregated to reach a school/college-level progress score.

Example

Student	Prior Attainment – GCSE English	Highest Grade Achieved at School/College	Grade Progress	National Average Progress	Value-Added Score	School/College Progress Measure
Student Q	E	D	+1	1	0	$\frac{0 - 1.75 + 0.75}{3}$ = -0.3 grade below average
Student R	D	F	-1	0.75	-1.75	
Student S	F	D	+2	1.25	+0.75	

Retention

What is it?

The retention measure will show the proportion of students who reach the end of their core aim (this is classed as the 'substantive' qualification taken by each student, as designated by the school/college). This measure is particularly important given the raise in participation age to 18.

How will it be calculated?

No overall retention measure will be presented. The calculation will be done at student level rather than qualification level and separate values will be given for:

- Level 3 Academic
- Level 3 Applied General
- Level 3 Tech Level
- Level 2 Technical Certificates

A student can withdraw from their programme of study up to six weeks after its start, without this counting towards the measure (in order to ensure that students study courses that match their ability and ambition and are not encouraged to remain on an unsuitable course, unnecessarily). After this time, the student must complete the learning activities for all relevant years of study to be counted as retained in this core aim. The definitions of the retention measures will be aligned with the funding methodology.

Supporting data will also be provided alongside the measure, including:

- Level 3 students returning in year 13
- Students who are retained but not assessed
- Students transferring onto lower level aims

Example: Applied General

Students starting courses at School/College	Complete core aim:	340	School/College Retention Measure
400	Fail to complete core aim:	45	= 340/385 = 88% retention
	Withdraw from core aim within first 6 weeks:	15	



Destinations

What is it?

This measure is intended to give schools and colleges the opportunity to demonstrate the support they give their students in preparing for future education, training and employment. So far, only experimental statistics have been released for this measure, with several destination categories that can be grouped into:

- **Overall going to a sustained education or employment/training destination**
 - Sustained education destination
 - Sustained employment and/or training destination
 - Sustained education/employment/training combination destination
- **Not recorded in the measure**
 - Destination not sustained
 - Destination not sustained/recorded NEET
 - Activity not captured in data

How will it be calculated?

The measure gives an overall figure showing the percentage of key stage 5 students who go on to a sustained education or employment/training destination. Sustained participation refers to the 6 months from October to March, following completion of level 3 qualifications. Due to limited employment/unemployment data from some local authorities, there is still a large proportion of activity not captured. Hence, the measure remains experimental for the time being with publication in the headline measures only happening once the statistics are deemed robust enough.

Example

Student	Destination	School/College Destinations Measure		
Student T	Apprenticeship	Overall sustained education, employment or training destination	5	=5/7 = 71%
Student U	Employment with training			
Student V	Unknown			
Student W	Higher Education Institution			
Student X	Employment			
Student Y	NEET			
Student Z	Further Education College			





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