

# Educational Attainment Summary (2024/25)

- Pupils in B&NES attained higher grades compared to regional and national figures in all stages of education except Key Stage 2 (KS2), where attainment increased in 2024/25 and was the same as national.
- Girls performed better than boys at all stages of education except KS4, where the percentage of boys achieving grades 9-5 in English and Maths was higher than girls in B&NES in 2024/25. Attainment in girls at KS4 has shown a decreasing trend since 2022/23 in B&NES, a trend not seen nationally. Attainment in girls at KS4 was similar to national levels in 2024/25.
- The attainment gap between Free School Meal (FSM) and non-FSM pupils is consistently larger across all key stages in B&NES than the gap seen nationally and has been for a number of years. In B&NES, the FSM attainment gap is highest at Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) in 2024/25 having increased from 32% to 39%.
- Attainment in the FSM cohort remains ranked in the bottom quartile when compared to all LAs in England at both the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and KS2, with B&NES FSM attainment ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest in the country at EYFS and joint 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest in the country at KS2. At KS4, outcomes in the FSM cohort, while still below the national average, show comparatively stronger attainment: B&NES is positioned in the bottom third of LAs, representing a noticeably higher ranking than at EYFS and KS2.
- Attainment was higher than national in all SEN cohorts in B&NES at EYFS, KS2 and KS4.
- Attainment in the Black ethnic group in B&NES is the lowest or second lowest of all ethnic groups at each stage of education and remains below national levels at all stages. Whilst numbers in this cohort are relatively low, this is a trend seen for a number of years. At KS2, attainment in the Black ethnic group has shown an increasing trend since 2021/22. Attainment in the Asian ethnic group has declined at all stages of education in 2024/25 in B&NES and has been declining since 2018/19 at KS2.

