

Report for: Information
Item Number:



<b>Contains Confidential or Exempt Information</b>	No
<b>Title</b>	<i>Russell Group – Destination Statistics</i>
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<b>Member reporting</b>	
<b>For Consideration By</b>	<i>Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny</i>
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<b>Affected Wards</b>	<i>All</i>
<b>Keywords/Index</b>	<i>Russell Group</i>

**Report Summary**  
9% students from RBWM sixth forms progressed to Russell Group Universities in 2010/11. This report details the background to this statistic, including reference to pupil groups, A- level results and facilitating subjects.

## REPORT DETAIL

**1. The DfE** have started to publish destinations data annually. It includes, among a number of measures, the percentage of students progressing on to Russell Group Universities (**See Appendix 1: List of the 24 Russell Group Universities**). It also includes a category of “top third of HEIs”; these are the Higher Education Institutions in the top third when grouped by UCAS tariff scores, from the top three A level grades of entrants.

**2. The most recent data**, published by the DfE in July 2013, identifies the destinations of 18 year old sixth form leavers in 2010/11. To be included in the measure young people have to show sustained participation in an education destination in all of the first two terms of the year after they completed A level or other level 3 qualifications. The first two terms are defined as October to March. **9% RBWM students (81 out of 900) went to Russell Group in 2010/11** compared to 8% nationally.

**3. RBWM Target:** RBWM have set a 2013/14 target of 10% students to go to Russell Group universities from RBWM 6<sup>th</sup> form provision.

**3. Gender:** similar proportions of girls/ boys went on to Higher Education, 48% of girls compared to 51% of boys, with similar percentages going to the top third of Higher Education Institutions, 17% girls/ 18% boys, and a Russell Group University 9% of both boys and girls.

**4. Free School Meals (FSM):** half of non-FSM students went on to Higher Education compared to 43% FSM students. This gap of 7% is greater than the national gap of 2%. A higher proportion of non-FSM students went to a top third HEI, 18%, than FSM students (figure too small to report). 9% of non-FSM students went to a Russell Group institution (FSM figure too small to report).

**5. Ethnicity:** 62% Asian students and 62% of mixed ethnic groups went to a Higher Education Institution; this compares to 48% of White students. There was no significant difference between the percentage of Asian and white students progressing to a top third HEI (18%) or Russell Group. 7% Asian students went to a Russell Group institutions compared to 9% white students.

**6. RBWM Sixth forms:** the percentage of students progressing to Russell Group institutions varies across RBWM sixth forms (**See Appendix 2**). In making comparisons the relative size of the sixth form needs to be taken into account.

**8. Facilitating Subjects:** these are the subjects that Russell Group universities may require in order to access degree courses of the same, or related, subjects. (**See Appendix 3: facilitating subjects by school**).

**9. A-level data:** Russell Group Universities typically require three A-levels with AAB grades or higher. 21.4% RBWM pupils gained 3+ A\*- B grades in 2013 (compared to 28.2% nationally). 6.7% RBWM pupils gained 3+A\*- A grades in 2013 (compared to 0.7% nationally). RBWM A- level results, in terms of headline figures, have historically been below national figures for higher grade results. However, they have been improving year on year since 2010 and the gap with national results is closing. This makes it likely that the percentage accessing Russell Group will also be increasing compared to the DfE destination data which has a time lag.

**10. Comparisons with National and Statistical Neighbours:** comparisons with national data and statistical neighbours are not straightforward because of the significant amount of cross border movement influenced by grammar schools. For example one third of the sixth form pupils at Sir William Borlase, Marlow, Bucks, are from RBWM and 31% of the sixth form go to Russell Group. RBWM figures also include Berkshire College of Agriculture (140 students) where the students come from a wide catchment beyond RBWM and typically study qualifications that do not lead to Russell Group entry.

#### **11. Key Issues for increasing the % students progressing to Russell Group:**

- A-level performance is clearly central to progression to Russell Group. There are facilitating subjects that perform well in many RBWM sixth forms, but also a number of weaker subject departments. Officers will support and challenge school leaders and Heads of 6<sup>th</sup> Form to share existing good practice in a more systematic way. Where 6<sup>th</sup> forms are underperforming they will be subject to the support and challenge of RBWM's school improvement processes.
- Schools have a new duty to ensure pupils have access to independent careers guidance. High quality careers education, advice and guidance is central to ensuring students progress to appropriate higher education. Officers

are advising school leaders, and teachers who lead on careers, on the provision of careers education, advice and guidance.

## **Appendix 1: Russell Group Universities**

University of Birmingham

University of Bristol

University of Cambridge

Cardiff University

Durham University

University of Edinburgh

University of Exeter

University of Glasgow

Imperial College London

King's College London

University of Leeds

University of Liverpool

London School of Economics & Political Science

University of Manchester

Newcastle University

University of Nottingham

University of Oxford

Queen Mary, University of London

Queen's University Belfast

University of Sheffield

University of Southampton

University College London

University of Warwick

University of York

## Appendix 2: RBWM post sixth form destinations

KS5 Destinations data 2010/11

		No.	%	%	%
		Pupils	Higher Ed	Top 1/3	Russell Gp
Furze Platt Sr	Boys	60	68%	34%	21%
Furze Platt Sr	Girls	30	67%	27%	x
Charters	Boys	80	61%	14%	8%
Desborough	Boys	80	61%	26%	13%
Cox Green	Girls	40	60%	20%	x
Charters	Girls	100	59%	36%	18%
Cox Green	Boys	40	58%	16%	x
Windsor Girls	Girls	80	54%	17%	9%
Newlands	Girls	110	52%	9%	6%
Windsor Boys	Boys	120	48%	16%	7%
Altwood	Boys	20	30%	x	0%
Altwood	Girls	20	29%	x	x

x Data suppressed by DfE. Small (but non-zero) number of students.

Data sorted by % in Higher Education

## Appendix 3: Facilitating subjects by school (2012 data)

Facilitating subjects: Biology, Chemistry, English Literature, Geography, History, Maths and Further Maths, Languages and Physics.

School	Number of exams										
	A*	A	B	C	D	E	U/Other	A*-A	A*-B	A*-C	A*-E
<b>Altwood</b>	0%	10%	17%	33%	25%	13%	2%	10%	27%	59%	98%
<b>Charters</b>	7%	18%	27%	29%	14%	4%	1%	25%	52%	80%	99%
<b>Cox Green</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Desborough</b>	1%	8%	16%	35%	26%	12%	2%	9%	25%	59%	98%
<b>FPSS</b>	6%	14%	22%	27%	19%	10%	2%	20%	42%	69%	98%
<b>Newlands</b>	6%	13%	32%	35%	12%	2%	1%	19%	51%	85%	99%
<b>Windsor Boys</b>	13%	13%	23%	29%	11%	9%	2%	26%	48%	77%	98%
<b>Windsor Girls</b>	5%	13%	22%	36%	18%	5%	1%	18%	41%	76%	99%
<b>RBWM</b>	6.6%	13.8%	24.2%	30.5%	16.2%	7.1%	1.6%	20%	45%	75%	98%