



Key stage 2 congratulatory letters

Information for local authorities, maintained schools, academies and free schools

Schools receiving congratulatory letters

This guide details the criteria agreed by the Department for Education for congratulatory letters sent to primary schools based on 2016 key stage 2 results.

Expiry or review date

This information will next be reviewed in December 2017.

Who is this advice for?

This guidance is for:

- local authorities
- school leaders, school staff and governing bodies in all maintained schools, academies and free schools

Criteria for congratulatory letters

Congratulatory letters were sent by the Minister of State for Schools, Nick Gibb MP to primary schools¹ based on 2016 key stage 2 results², meeting one or more of the following criteria:

Progress measure in the top 10% for all of reading, writing and mathematics

Schools meeting this criteria were in the top 10% of average progress scores in reading, in writing and in mathematics.

The new progress measure introduced in 2016 show the progress of each child compared with all others nationally who joined key stage 2 at the same level of attainment. In schools with the highest progress scores, children are generally making more progress than similar ability children nationally.

¹ Includes schools with results published in the primary school performance tables on 15 December 2016. Excludes schools with fewer than 11 pupils, closed schools (not re-opening as a converter academy) and schools with missing or suppressed data for the relevant criteria.

² Based on data published in the performance tables on 15 December 2016.

100% of pupils reaching the expected standard in all of reading, writing and mathematics

Schools where 100% of pupils at age 11 (ie at the end of key stage 2) reached the expected standard in the reading and mathematics national curriculum tests and in writing teacher assessment. Nationally, 53% of pupils achieved this standard in 2016.

100% of pupils reaching expected standard in one or more of reading, writing and mathematics

Schools where 100% of pupils at age 11 (ie at the end of key stage 2) reached the expected standard in the reading and/or mathematics national curriculum test and/or in writing teacher assessment, but not in all three subjects (as above).

Nationally, 66% of pupils achieved the expected standard in reading in 2016, 74% achieved the expected standard in writing and 70% achieved the expected standard in mathematics.

Number of schools meeting each criteria

A total of 682 schools received congratulatory letters. If a school met the criteria for receiving both a progress and attainment letter, they only received a letter for the progress criteria. 47 schools met both the progress and attainment criteria.

The table below shows a breakdown the number of schools receiving letters in each scenario:

	Number of schools
Schools which have a progress measure in the top 10% for all of reading, writing and mathematics	307
Schools with 100% of pupils reaching the expected standard in reading	69
Schools with 100% of pupils reaching the expected standard in writing	83
Schools with 100% of pupils reaching the expected standard in mathematics	139
Schools with 100% of pupils reaching the expected standard in reading and writing	12
Schools with 100% of pupils reaching the expected standard in reading and mathematics	34
Schools with 100% of pupils reaching the expected standard in writing and mathematics	22
Schools with 100% of pupils reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics	16