

THE CITY OF NEWPORT

**REPORT TO: STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION**

DATE: 14 FEBRUARY 2018

SUBJECT: ANALYSIS OF EXAMINATION RESULTS 2017

A PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform members of the attainment at GCSE and A/AS level of Newport pupils in Religious Studies and Religious Education for 2017

B BACKGROUND

The information for 16 year- olds currently relates to those electing to follow a GCSE course in religious studies in Years 10 and 11 or A/ AS level and to those following GCSE short course in Religious Studies as the schools' provision for RE as part of the basic curriculum.

It should be noted that definitive conclusions cannot be drawn because the figures represent raw scores and do not necessarily reflect the selectivity of the entry and in some cases the numbers are too small to be statistically significant.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- That SACRE note and discuss the examinations results 2017
- To consider circulating the findings to secondary schools in the Authority.

PLEASE NOTE:

THE RESULTS RECORDED HERE ARE FOR THOSE PUPILS ENTERED FOR THE EXAMINATIONS. THEY DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE NUMBER OF PUPILS FOLLOWING THE EXAMINATION COURSE NOR DO THEY INDICATE HOW WELL PUPILS ARE PERFORMING RELATIVE TO THEIR ABILITY.

See Appendix showing school by school exam results

GCSE RELIGIOUS STUDIES FULL COURSE 2017 (Year 11)

	Newport 2017	Newport 2016	Newport 2015	Consortia 2017	Wales 2017
A*-A	28.7%	25.9%	37%	23.1%	24.7%
A*-C	75.6%	67.5%	76.5%	66.2%	68.3%
A*-G	95.9%	96.8%	98.5%	95.5%	97.5%
Entry Number	585 8 schools 36.2%	589 8 schools 34.6%	531 8 schools	2,873 47.8%	12,401 39.5%

- There were **585 entries from 8 schools**. Entry numbers and number of schools entering have remained similar to 2016. 6/8 schools have entries in double figures and 2/8 schools have triple figures.
- The average cohort entry for Newport in 2017 **was 36.2% and slightly better than 2016 (34.6%)**. Cohort entry is below Consortia and All Wales figures.
- The overall % of **A*- A grades was 28.7%** which is better than 2016 but below 2015. It is better than the Consortia figures (23.1%) and the All Wales figure of 24.7%.
- The overall % of **A*- C grades was 75.6%** which is better than 2016 and comparable with 2015. It is better than the Consortia figures (66.2%) and the All Wales figure of 68.3%.
- The overall % of **A*-G grades was 95.9%** which is below previous performance. It is comparable with the Consortia figure of 95.5% but below the All-Wales figure of 97.5%

Conclusions

Results at the higher grades of A*-A and A*-C are better than 2016 and at A*-G it is slightly below 2016. They are better than the Consortia figures at all grade boundaries. They are better than All Wales figures at A*-A and A*-C. but below All Wales figures at A*-G.

GCSE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SHORT COURSE 2017 (Year 11)

	Newport 2017	Newport 2016	Newport 2015	Consortia 2017	Wales 2017
A*-A	21.1%	18.0%	14.9%	13.5%	9.8%
A*-C	46.5%	51.0%	55.3%	37.1%	39.6%
A*-G	89.2%	89.6%	92.1%	86.3%	90.2%
Entry Number	750 8 schools +1 46.4%	817 8 schools 48% cohort	882 8 schools	1543 25.7%	9343 29.8%

- Eight schools in the Authority continue to enter pupils for the short course but there was a decrease in entries this year although cohort % figures are only slightly below 2016. 4/8 schools have entry numbers in triple figures and thus enter a significant percentage of the cohort and pupils of all ability levels. Cohort entry is much better than the Consortia and All Wales figures.
- Some schools enter pupils for two short courses and their performance has been reflected in the full course results. However, it is important to bear in mind that those pupils entered for two short courses will be mainly the more able and this will reflect on the A*-A and A*-C results for Short Course.

- The overall % of **A*- A grades of 21.1%** is the best result of the last three years. It is better than the Consortia and All Wales figures.
- The overall % of **A*- C grades was 46.5%** and is below previous performance. It is better than the Consortia and All Wales figures.
- The overall % of **A*-G grades was 89.2%** is comparable to 2016 but below 2015 performance. It is better than the Consortia figure and comparable with the All Wales figure of 90.2%.
- A significant number continue to be entered for RE either through FC or SC and this is very encouraging because it provides pupils with the opportunity for accreditation for their KS4 study. We must also bear in mind that pupils do not usually opt to follow the Short Course but it is delivered as part of the statutory requirements for RE.

Figures for 2017 when combining FC and SC are 1335 entries (82.6%) of cohort

Figures for 2016 when combining FC and SC are 1406 entries (82.6%) of cohort

GCE RELIGIOUS STUDIES A LEVEL 2017 (Year 13)

	Newport 2017	Newport 2016	Newport 2015	Consortia 2017	Wales 2017
A*-A	18.4%	12.2%	27.8%	17.1%	18.2%
A*-C	75.9%	82.1%	84.4%	76.9%	78.1%
A*-E	95.4%	100%	100%	96.8%	99.8%
Entry Number	87 6 schools 12.0%	123 8 schools 14.3%	90 7 schools	251 12.9%	1305 11.4%

- There were 87 entries from 6 schools and entry figures and number of schools entering has decreased. 4/8 schools have entry numbers in double figures. The entry figure is comparable with the Consortia figure and slightly better than the All Wales figure.
- **A*-A** was achieved by **18.4%** of students. This is better than 2016 but still falls far below 2015 performance. It is better than the Consortia and All Wales figures.
- **At A*-C** candidates achieved a pass rate of 75.9%. This is below previous performance and below the Consortia and the All Wales figures.
- The pass rate for grades **A-E of 95.4%** is below the excellent run of 100% for the previous two years. It is below the Consortium and All Wales figures.

GCE RELIGIOUS STUDIES AS LEVEL 2017 (Year 13)

	Newport 2017	Newport 2016	Newport 2015	Consortia 2017	Wales 2017
A	17.6%	9.4%	22.9%	18.6%	19.1%
A-C	76.8%	40.7%	54.3%	71.5%	62.3%
A -E	95.2%	78.3%	80%	95.5%	90.6%
Entry Number	125 6 schools 17.2%	32 6 schools 3.7%	35 6 schools	312 16.0%	1291 11.3%

Please Note:

Data includes only those who have cached in their results. For example if a pupil sat an AS Level during 2017, but have not yet cached the result in, then they should be excluded from this year's data and included next year when the results have been cached in, otherwise this will result in results being double counted.

- There was a huge rise in entry figures in 2017 with 125 entries from 6 schools. This is 17.2% of the cohort and exceeds previous cohort entry figures and the Consortia and All Wales entry figures.
- **17.6% of students** achieved the highest **A** grade and is an improvement on 2016 but does not yet match the 2015 performance of 22.9%. It is below the Consortia and All Wales figures.
- **76.8% of students** achieved **A-C** grades and is the best result of the last three years. It is better than both the Consortia and All Wales figures.
- **95.2%** of students achieved **A-E** and is the best result of the last three years. It is comparable with the Consortia figure and better than the All Wales figures.