

Will Primary Academies improve results?



It is often forgotten that we have had primary academies, as part of all-through academies, since 2002, giving plenty of time to assess their performance. As with secondary academies, a look at the results gives enough evidence to doubt the effectiveness of the extra money which has been directed towards the academy programme.

Overall, only 7 of the primary academies achieved better than the national average KS2 results in 2011 (74%). 9 of the 19 schools that have comparable results from 2010 or 2009 saw their results fall – 47%!

Priory Witham Academy was established in 2008 and its 2011 KS2 results put it in the bottom 1% of all schools in the country. From 2010 to 2011 its KS2 results plummeted 26%. Only 11% of its higher level pupils made the expected progress between KS1 and KS2 in English, despite having only 2% English as an Additional Language (EAL) students. Within its own LA it was second from bottom for KS2 results.

Another academy which has failed to live up to its predecessor is **Oasis Shirley Park**. The last recorded results for the primary school it replaced show that 70% of pupils achieved KS2 at Level 4+. This compares with the 39% achieved in 2011 by Oasis Shirley Park, placing it in the bottom 200 on rank ordering and in the bottom 2% of all primaries.

Swindon Academy recorded the lowest KS2 results in its the local authority, with 52% getting level 4+ in 2011, down from 59% in 2010.

Year Open	Name	KS2 Results			2011 to 2010
		2011 National 74%	2010 National 73%	2009 National 72%	
2007	William Hulme's Grammar **	92%	92%	88%	0%
2008	Globe	86%	70%	55%	16%
2007	St Mary Magdalene CofE	86%	83%	57%	3%
2009	Nottingham	84%	n/a		
2009	Birkenhead High **	80%	88%		-8%
2009	Bede Academy	77%	58%		19%
2005	Haberdashers' Aske's Hatcham	76%	56%	66%	20%
2009	Bolton St Catherine's	73%	45%		28%
2008	Academy 360	72%	40%	45%	32%
2009	Appleton Academy	72%	n/a		
2003	West London Academy	71%	58%	78%	13%
2007	Folkestone	65%	77%		-12%
2007	Samworth	64%	38%	53%	26%
2007	St Matthews	61%	62%	60%	-1%
2009	Kettering Science	60%	54%	n/a	6%
2009	Business Academy Bexley	58%	60%	43%	-2%
2005	Haberdashers Askes Crayford	57%	75%	n/a	-18%
2009	Northumberland CofE	56%	n/a	n/a	
2007	Swindon	52%	59%	43%	-7%
2010	Dartmouth	50%	n/a	n/a	
2009	Kettering Buccleuch	46%	54%	n/a	-8%
2009	Oasis Shirley Park	39%	47%	n/a	-8%
2008	Priory Witham	29%	55%	50%	-26%
2008	Steiner, Hereford *	0%	n/a	0%	

* Previously a private school ** previously a selective private school