

**County Council Meeting – 18 May 2023****Question to Councillor Jonathan Price  
Cabinet Member for Education (and SEND)****By Councillor Charlotte Atkins**

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**Question**

What assessment has the County Council made of the impact of the National Tutoring Programme in Staffordshire to help young people struggling to catch up after the disruption to their schooling caused by Covid lockdowns? How many pupils received tutoring under the scheme last year in Staffordshire and in which schools? What is the predicted take up of such tutoring in 2023 now that the government subsidy has been cut from 60% to 25%? Has the attainment gap for GCSEs in Staffordshire widened for disadvantaged pupils?

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**Reply**

The National Tutoring Programme (NTP) provides primary and secondary schools with funding to support targeted academic support, delivered by trained and experienced tutors and mentors. The overall approach to the NTP in the 2022 to 2023 academic year is to allow schools to design and deliver a tutoring offer that suits the needs of their school and pupils. The DfE has provided schools with a range of information to support them in delivering this programme.

Over 75% of pupils (85% in schools deemed secondary) are now being educated within academies which are no longer under the control of the local authority. It is for schools and academies to evaluate the impact of their tutoring programme, and as part of their evaluation of the quality of education and leadership and management, Ofsted inspectors will consider how schools make effective use of tutoring.

The virtual school has been working with school to use the funding to provide tuition support for the pupils in care, working with relevant schools as necessary. The additional tutoring is reviewed as part of the pupil's personal education plan (PEP).

The local authority has provided funding to independent special schools to enable them to provide tutoring for eligible Staffordshire pupils.

## **Attainment 8**

In 2022, Staffordshire disadvantaged pupils Attainment 8 score increased by 0.9 points from 2019, which was in line with the increase seen nationally.

## **Pupils achieving GCSE Grade 5+ in E+M**

In 2022, Staffordshire disadvantaged pupils achieving GCSE 5+ in E+M increased by 5 percentage points from 2019, this was in line with the increase nationally which also increased by 5 percentage points.

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