

MAYOR OF LONDON

London Education Report

16-19 education and training

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1. Introduction

London has a lot to be proud of when it comes to education and pupils in the city are now consistently amongst the highest performers in the country. London's education system is central to it continuing to grow as a global hub of innovation, culture and economic activity. Maintaining this requires great teachers and leaders, outstanding schools and colleges, and a seamless, high quality experience for young people from early years to adulthood. The Mayor supports London's education system through programmes including Schools for Success, Teach London and the London Curriculum. Find out more about the Mayor's work to support high quality early years education here www.london.gov.uk/early-years

This section of the London Education Report provides detailed and up-to-date information regarding 16-19 education and training. Other sections cover early years, primary and secondary education.

This report is based on the latest available data and will be updated as new data is released. The Greater London Authority and London Councils will soon publish new research that aims to better understand the pathways of young people in London from GCSE through to further study and employment. This will include longitudinal analysis of five cohorts of 16-year-olds in the National Pupil Database, plus focus groups and interviews with young people on three year post-16 programmes of study.

For information on updates please see the version log below:

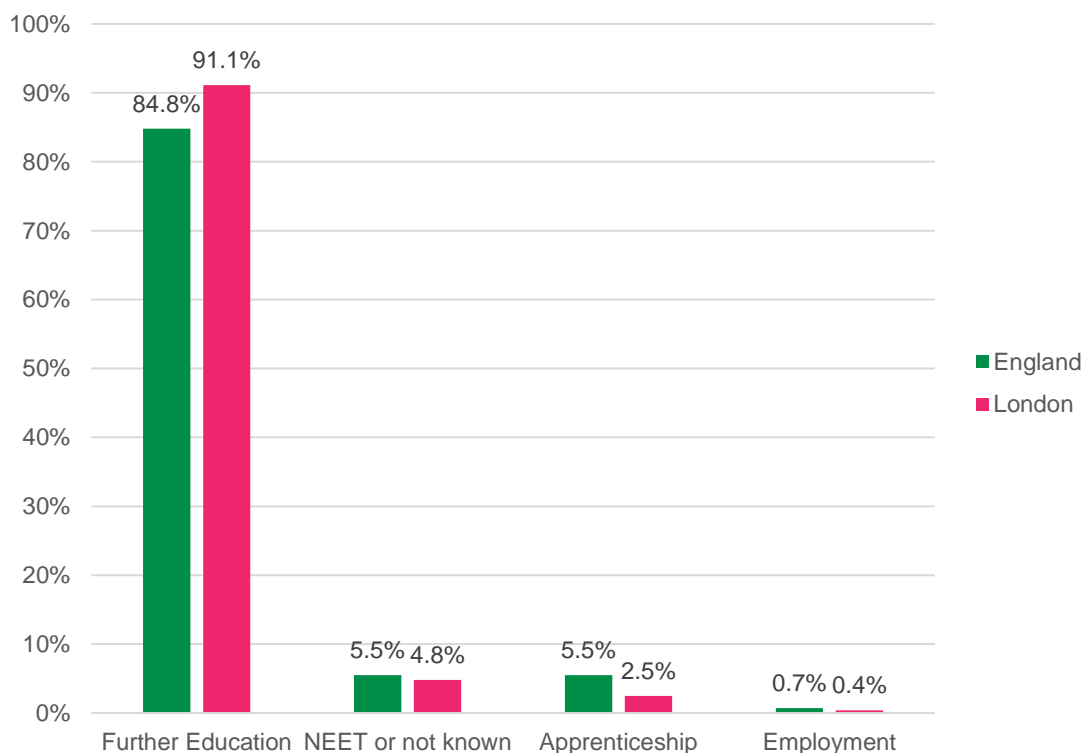
Version number	Date of release	Updates
4.1	5 July 2019	All latest available data

2. Pathways after GCSEs

Participation in education and training

Most students in London remain in education following completion of key stage 4; at 91.1% in 2019 this is slightly up from the previous year (89.7%). This is higher than the national figure of 84.8% which also increased slightly from 2018's figure (83.8%). There are a variety of pathways open to young people after compulsory schooling. Since 2015, young people have been required to be in some form of training or education up to the age of 18.¹ The percentage of students not in further education (including school sixth forms and sixth form colleges) is low and slightly below national figures, most notably for apprenticeships.

Figure 4.1: Participation rates of 16 and 17 year olds (2019)²³



¹www.educationandemployers.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Transitions-symposium-final.pdf

² Department for Education, 'NEET and participation: local authority figures', June 2019

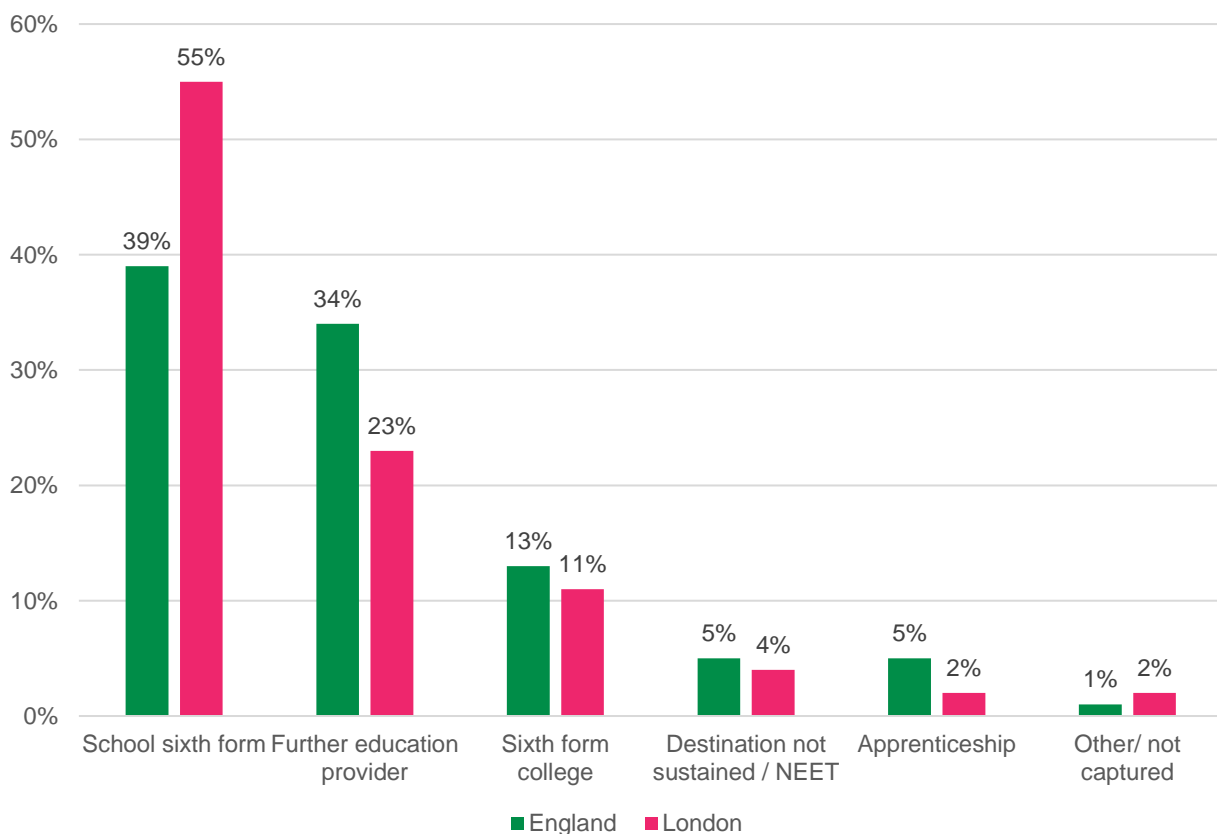
³ Not all possible destinations are shown

Destinations of 2015/16 key stage 4 cohort

A much higher percentage of London's key stage 5 cohort were in school sixth forms (55%) than the national average (39%).

Among the cohort who began key stage 5 in 2016/17, 55% of Londoners were in school sixth forms, the same percentage as the previous year. This is 41,670 students. London has a higher proportion of school sixth forms than elsewhere in the country. The percentage of students in other types of settings is therefore relatively lower in London, most notably for those in further education settings. London has 23% of its post key stage 4 cohort in this type of provision, 11 points below national figures. A relatively small proportion were doing apprenticeships, at only 2% of students.

Figure 4.2: Destinations of 2015/16 cohort in London post key stage 4 (2017)⁴⁵



Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

Around one in 20 young people in London are not in education, employment or training (NEET) or their destination is unknown; this equated to 8,170 young people in 2019.

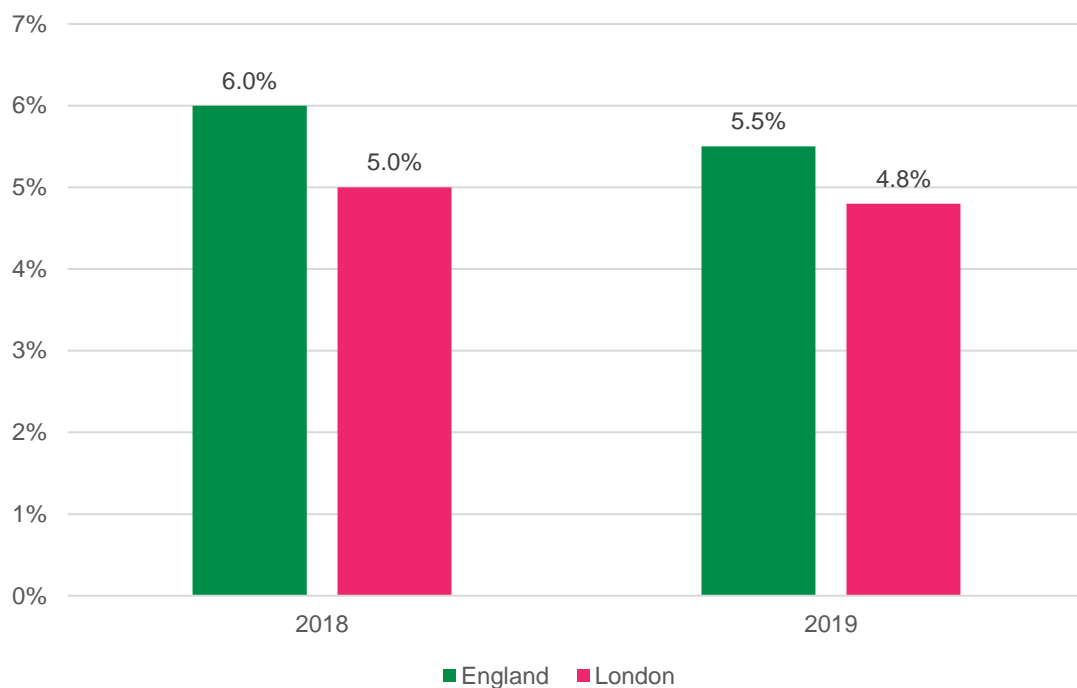
The percentage of 16 and 17 year olds not in education, employment or training has decreased in London from 5.0% in 2018 to 4.8% in 2019, whilst national rates have

⁴ Department for Education, 'Destinations of KS4 and KS5 pupils: 2017', October 2018

⁵ Not all possible destinations are shown

dropped from 6.0% in 2018 to 5.5% in 2019. Although the percentage of Londoners who are NEET is lower than the national average, it still represents a significant number of young people. It should also be noted that there is substantial variation across London; for example, Haringey has an average of 14.9% NEET, whereas Hammersmith and Fulham has only 1.5%.

Figure 4.3: Percentage of 16 and 17 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) or whose destination is unknown⁶ (2018-2019)⁷



⁶ It should be noted that high levels of unknowns can distort NEET statistics. The government now publish NEET and unknowns as a combined statistic which is represented in this chart.

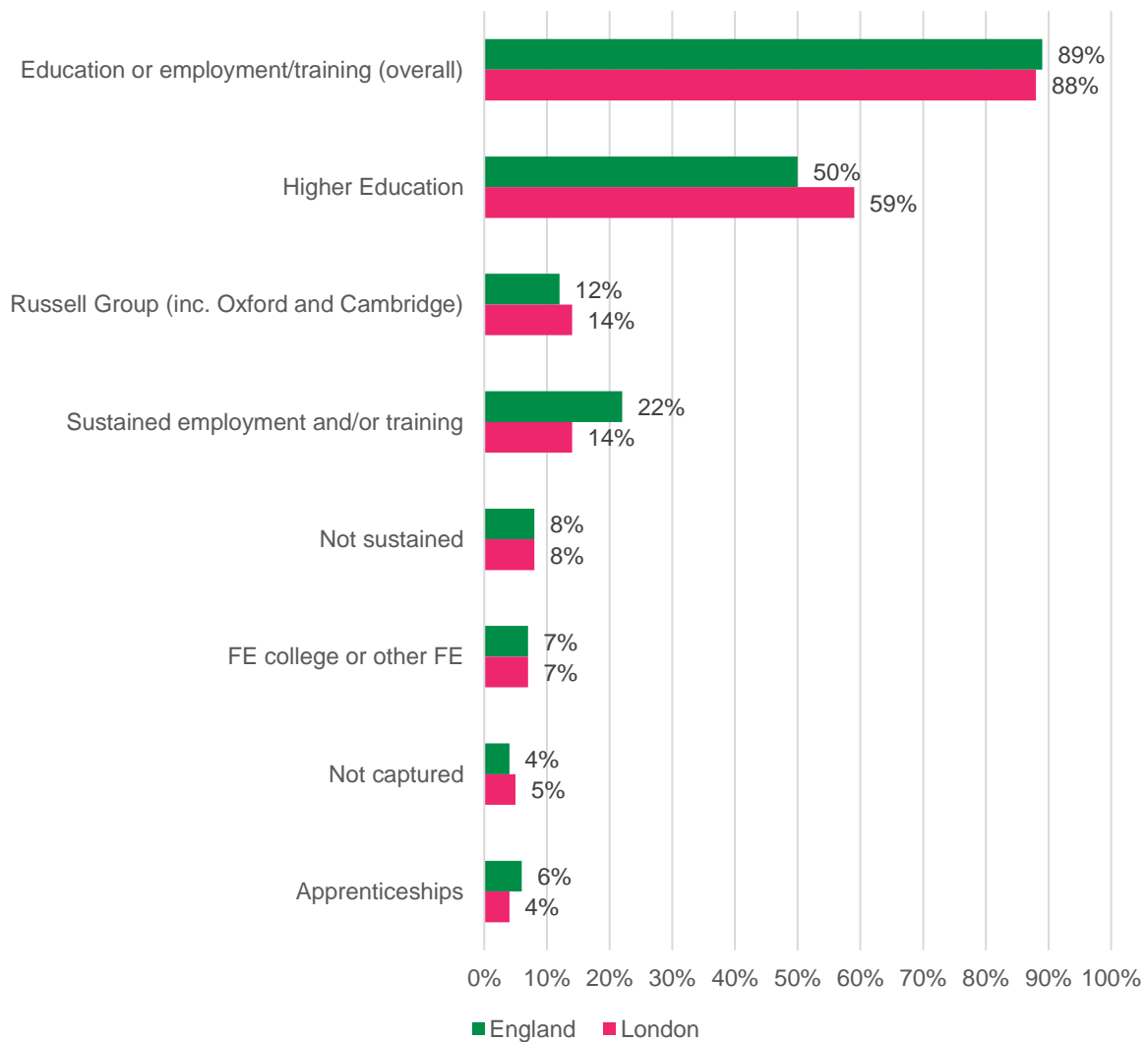
⁷ Department for Education, 'NEET and participation: local authority figures', June 2018 and Department for Education, 'NEET and participation: local authority figures', June 2019

Destinations of 2015/16 key stage 5 cohort

Nearly nine out of ten (88%) Londoners moved into some form of education, employment or training after completing key stage 5, slightly below national levels.

A larger proportion of students in London moved into higher education than the national average. Fifty-nine percent of London students did this compared to 50% of students nationally. This gap is also present in relation to the percentage of Londoners getting into Russell Group universities (14%), which is 2% points above the national average. In contrast, the percentage of Londoners in apprenticeships is 2% points below the national average at 4% mirroring the low apprenticeship rate uptake post key stage 4.

Figure 4.4: Destinations post key stage 5 (2017)⁸⁹



⁸ Department for Education, 'Destinations of KS4 and KS5 pupils: 2017', October 2018

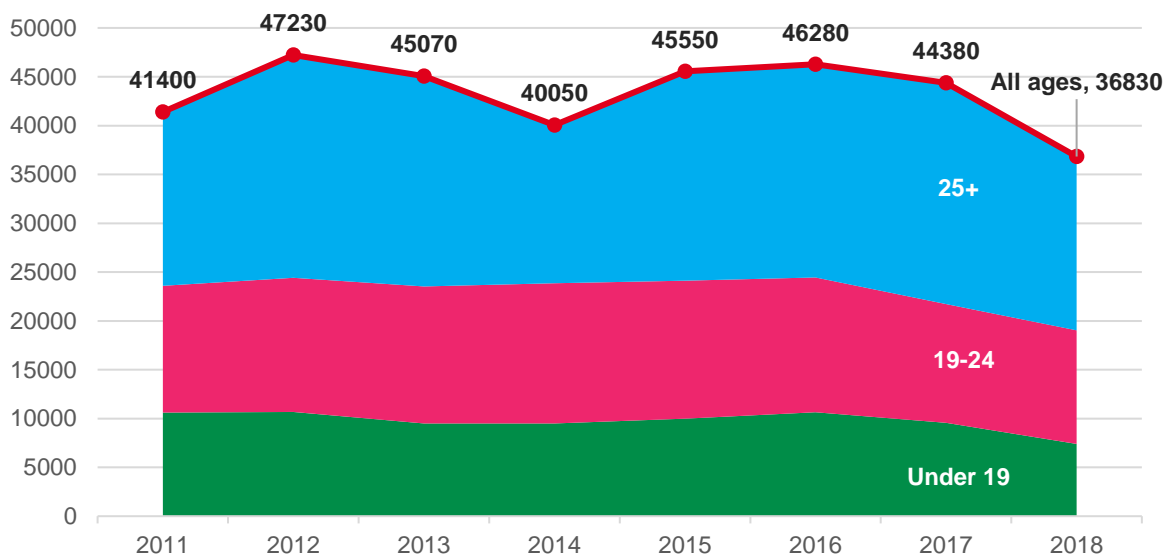
⁹ Not all possible destinations are shown

3. Apprenticeships

Apprenticeship starts

Of the small proportion of Londoners who take up apprenticeships post 16, the number has decreased for the second year in a row, and the drop was noticeably more in 2018 than in the previous year. The figure went from 44,380 to 36,830, a 17% decrease, and the decrease was seen across all age bands.

Figure 4.5: Number of apprenticeships starts in London 2011-2018 by age groups¹⁰

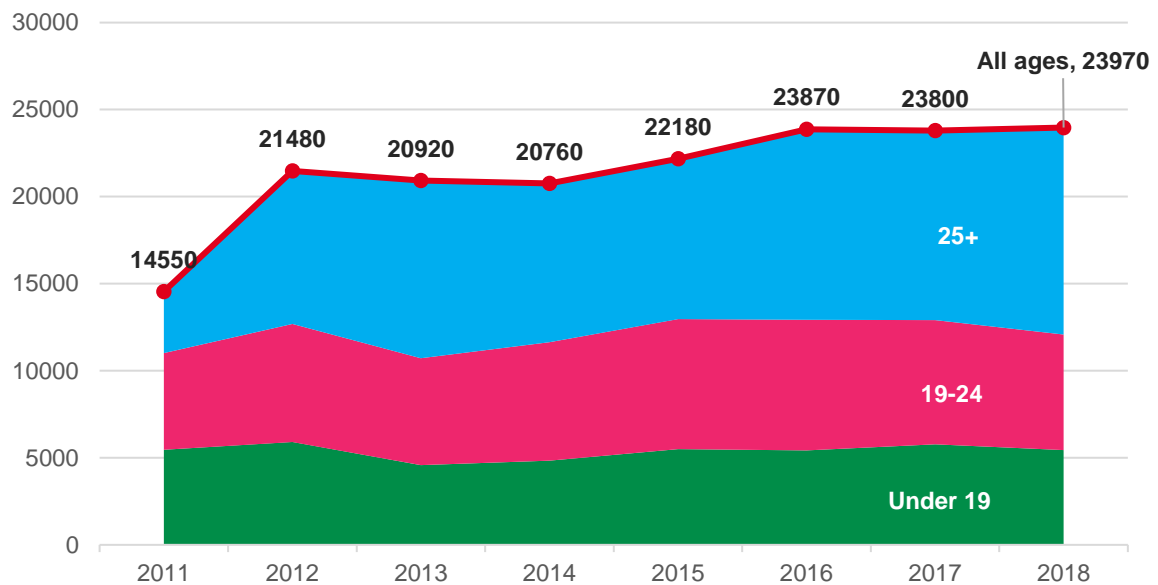


¹⁰ Department for Education, 'Apprenticeships and traineeships data'

Apprenticeship successes

The number of Londoners succeeding with their apprenticeships has increased slightly from 23,800 in 2017 to 23,970 in 2018. The increase in successes has mainly been due to improvement among the 25+ age cohort.

Figure 4.6: Number of apprenticeships successes in London 2011-2018, by age groups¹¹

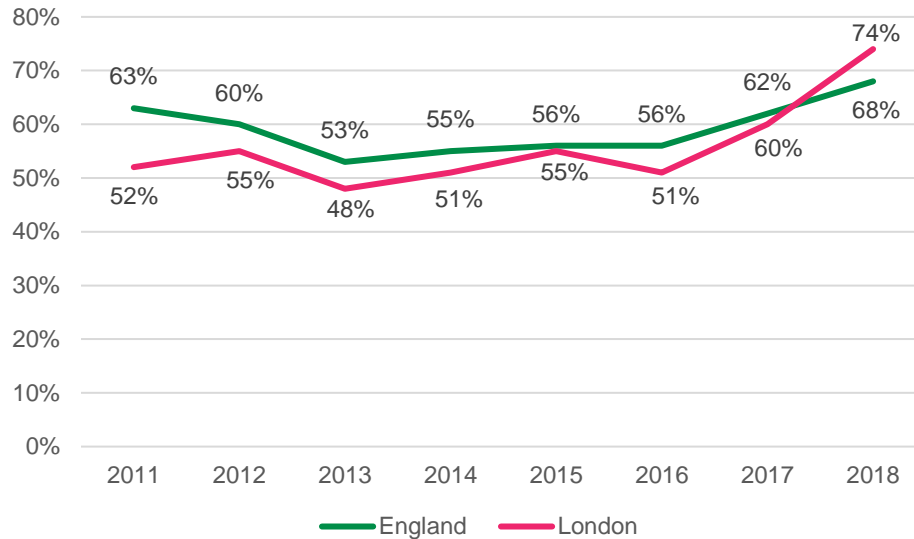


Apprenticeship achievement rate

Since 2011, the apprenticeship achievement rate for London students under 19 has broadly followed the national pattern while remaining slightly below, until 2018 where it overtook national figures by 6%. In 2018, nearly three quarters (74%) of Londoners under 19 achieved the apprenticeships they started, compared to 68% nationally.

¹¹ Department for Education, 'Apprenticeships and traineeships data'

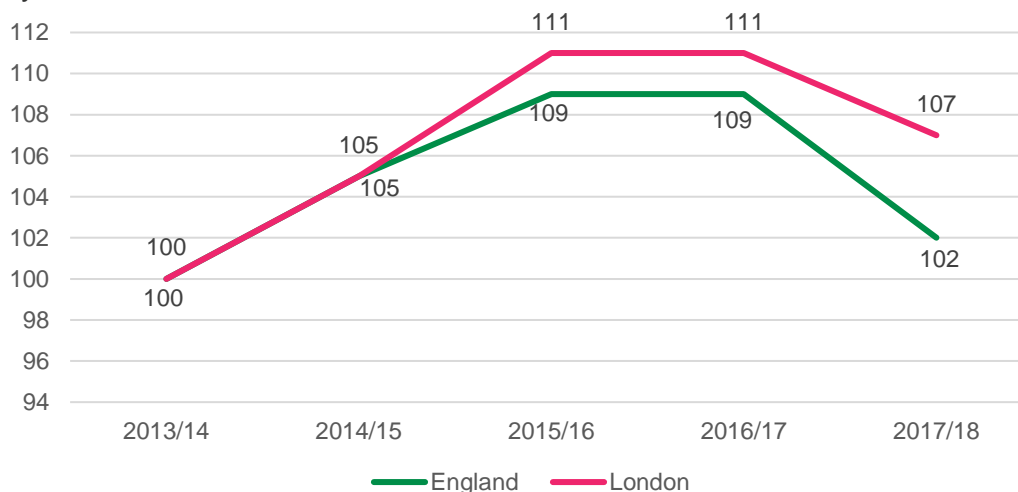
Figure 4.7: Apprenticeship achievement rates for the under 19 cohort in London versus England from 2011-2018¹²



Number of workplaces offering apprenticeships over time

The chart below uses 2013/14 as a baseline of 100, and any number above 100 represents an increase in workplaces offering apprenticeships compared with 2013/14 levels.

Figure 4.8: Change in the number of workplaces offering apprenticeships, using 2013/14 as a base year¹³



Since 2015/16, fewer workplaces in London and across the country have been offering apprenticeships. The drop from 2016/17 to 2017/18 represents 17,700 fewer workplaces offering apprenticeships across the country and 900 fewer in London.

¹² Department for Education, ‘Apprenticeships and traineeships data’

¹³ Ibid

4. Key stage 5 outcomes

Level 2 and 3 achievement by 19

The percentage of London students achieving level 3 by 19 is higher than the national level.

By age 19, nearly two thirds of Londoners have achieved level 3 – equivalent to two or more A levels at grade E or above - and over 85% have achieved level 2 – equivalent to five A*-C/9-4¹⁴ grades in GCSEs or equivalent. Both of these figures are above national levels. 65% of London students achieve level 3 by 19 compared to 57% of students nationally. London performs markedly better for this indicator than all other regions in the UK. The second-best performing region in 2018 was the East of England, where 58% of its cohort achieved this measure, 7% points below London.

Figure 4.9: Percentage of students who achieve level 3 by age 19 (2015-2018)¹⁵



¹⁴ In the 2016/17 academic year the Government introduced reformed GCSEs with a revised numeric grading scheme

¹⁵ Department for Education, 'Statistics: 16 to 19 attainment'

Between 2006 and 2015 there was consistent improvement in the percentage of London students achieving level 2. The average in London in 2006 was 66% and this increased to 88% in 2015 before seeing a steady but small decrease.¹⁶

Figure 4.10: Percentage of students who achieve level 2 by age 19 (2015-2018)¹⁷



Average Point Scores for academic, applied general and tech level qualifications

London's ranking for Average Point Scores (APS) in level 3 qualifications is slightly higher than the average of 31.8 in the state funded sector. London is third out of all regions nationally with a score of 31.9.

APS for academic qualifications have gone from being the lowest out of the three qualification types in 2016 to the highest in 2018 with both London and national averages at 32.3. However, APS for the other qualification types saw a drop in 2018¹⁸. Applied general APS for London was previously below national levels but in 2018, though there was a drop, it is now slightly above national averages at 28.6. London tech level APS remains firmly above national averages with 29.3 in 2018 compared to 28.1 nationally.

¹⁶ Note that generally BTEC's and other vocational qualifications introduced external assessments this year which potentially made the courses harder. This may explain the slight drop in achievement of level 2 and 3 by 19 both in London and nationally.

¹⁷ Department for Education, 'Statistics: 16 to 19 attainment'

¹⁸ Vocational courses now include a requirement to include some external assessment

Figure 4.11: Average Point Score for academic students¹⁹ in London versus England (2016-2018)²⁰

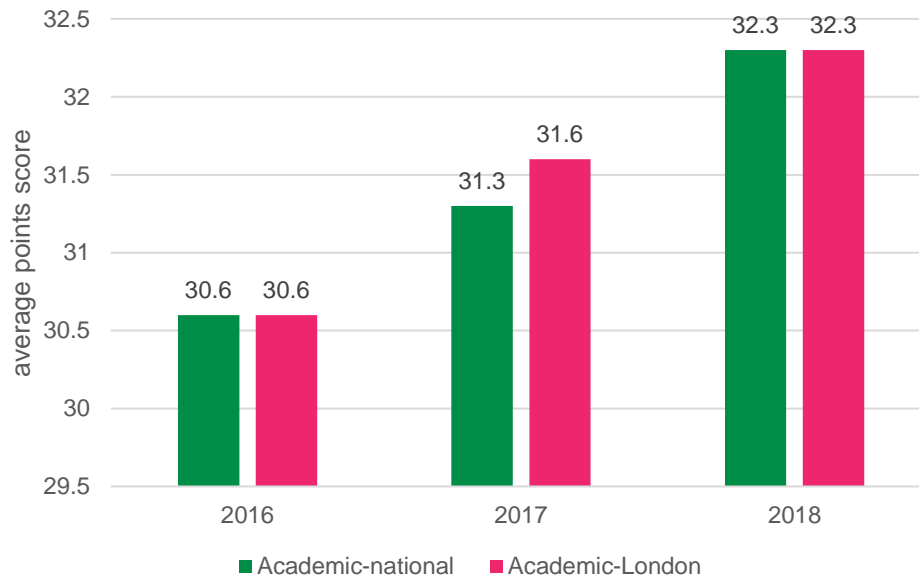


Figure 4.12: Average Point Score for applied general²¹ students²² in London versus England (2016-2018)²³



¹⁹ Covers students at the end of advanced level study who were entered for at least one academic qualification at least half (0.5) the size of an A level (180 Guided Learning Hours) or an Extended Project Qualification (size 0.3) during 16-18 study.

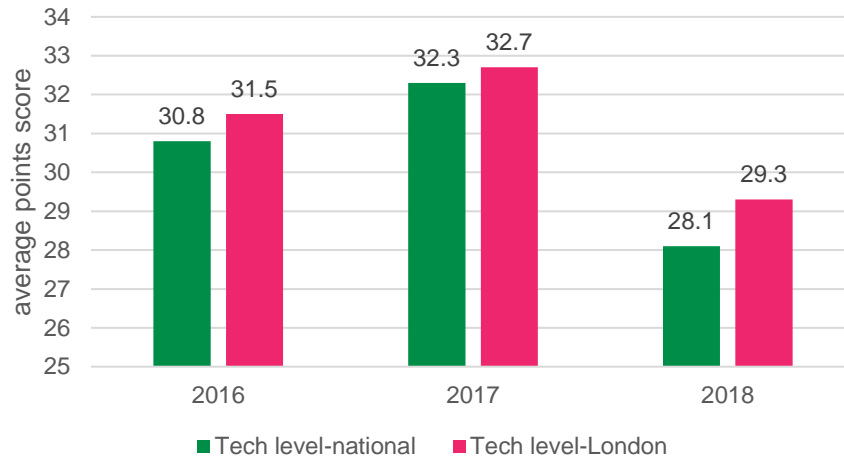
²⁰ Department for Education, 'Statistics: 16 to 19 attainment'

²¹ Applied general qualifications are level 3 qualifications for post-16 students who want to continue their education through applied learning

²² Covers students at the end of advanced level study who were entered for at least one applied general qualification during 16-18 study.

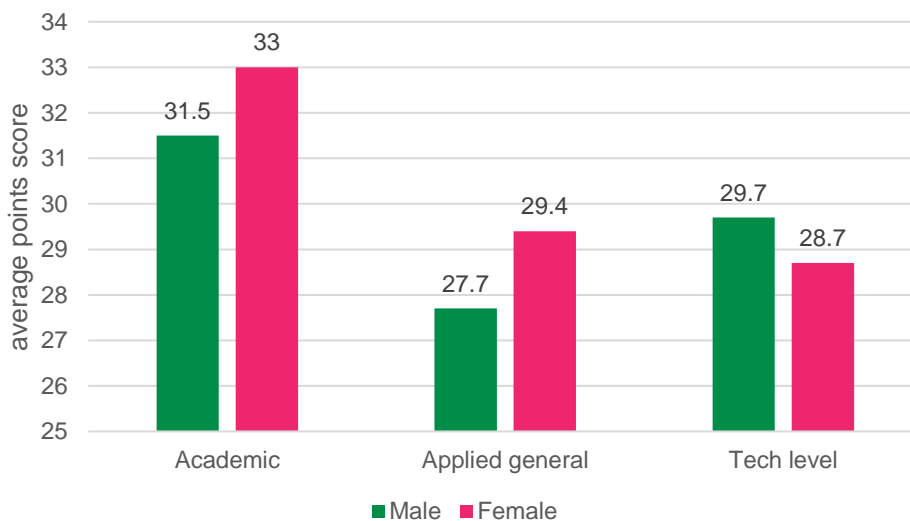
²³ Department for Education, 'Statistics: 16 to 19 attainment'

Figure 4.13: Average Point Score for tech level²⁴ students²⁵ in London versus England (2016-2018)²⁶



Female students in London have consistently higher APS in academic qualifications than male students. For both boys and girls, there has been steady improvement since 2016 with girls achieving an average score of 33.0 in 2018. These are very similar to national scores. Female academic students across England achieved an APS of 33.1 in 2018, slightly higher than the average in London, whilst male academic students across England achieved 31.3 which is slightly below the London average.

Figure 4.14: Average Point Score in London for academic, applied general and tech level qualifications by gender (2018)²⁷



²⁴ Tech levels are level 3 qualifications that provide post-16 students with the knowledge and skills they need for skilled employment or for further technical study.

²⁵ Covers students at the end of advanced level study who were entered for at least one tech level qualification during 16-18 study.

²⁶ Department for Education, 'Statistics: 16 to 19 attainment'

²⁷ Department for Education, 'A level and other 16 to 18 results: 2017 to 2018 (revised)', April 2019

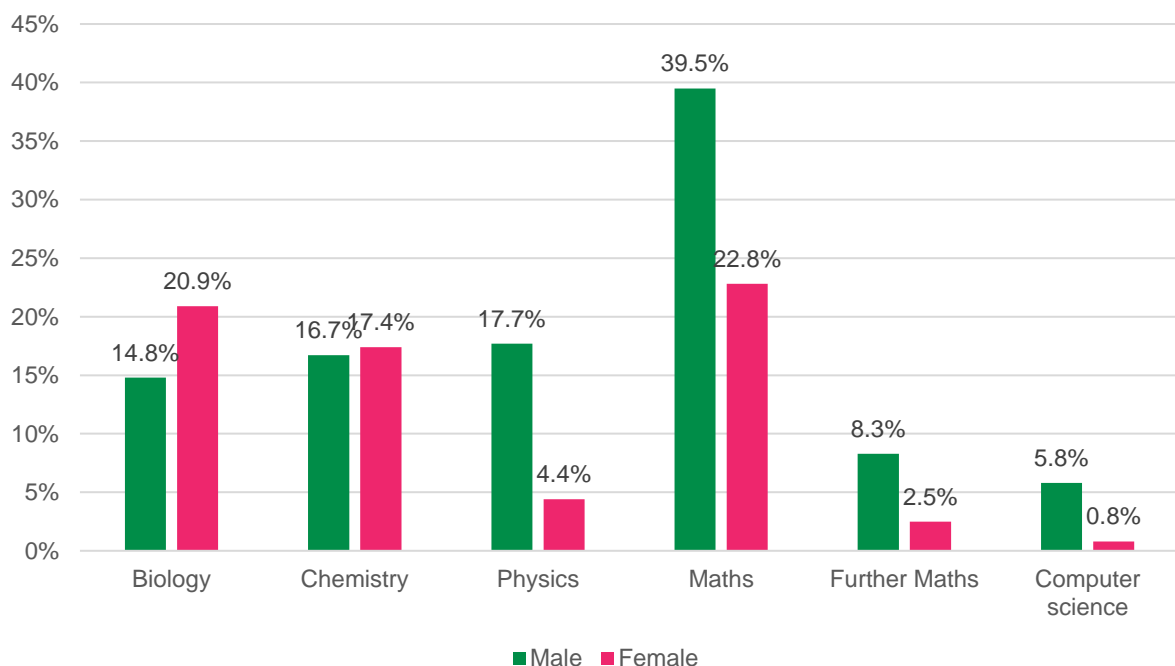
5. STEM Key Stage 5 subject analysis

STEM entries

In 2018, the percentage of students overall taking STEM subjects increased across the board. The subject with the largest gender gap²⁸ is physics, with 17.7% of male students entering this compared to only 4.4% of female students. There is a higher percentage of male students in maths and computer science. The difference in maths is significant at 16.7% points.

The exception to this pattern across STEM subjects is in the female student uptake of biology. In 2018, 20.9% of female students took biology at key stage 5 compared to 14.8% of male students. There is relatively little uptake of computer science at key stage 5 generally.

Figure 4.17: Percentage entered for STEM subjects in London²⁹



²⁸ In absolute terms

²⁹ Department for education, 'Statistics: 16 to 19 attainment'

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