



PRIME work experience: school eligibility criteria

Background

One of the additional eligibility criteria for PRIME work experience relates to applicants' schools and is as follows:

You are attending a school or college with

- a. below average A-Level or Higher points score (or GCSE for 11-16 schools) and/or
- b. low rate of progression to higher education.

This document details where you can check whether a specific school meets these criteria and see school-level data on progression to higher education.

When you are looking up the name of a school, it is important to check the address to make sure it is the correct school. The names of some monarchs and saints are used by more than one school, while numerous schools include (for example) 'Our Lady' or 'All Saints' in their name.



Below average attainment

The tables below present definitions of low attainment, a link to where to find this information and instructions for locating the relevant figures. The table presents this information for each nation within the United Kingdom. The first table presents information about GCSE and equivalent, while the second presents information about A-level and equivalent. You can use this information to check average attainment.

GCSE and equivalent

England	<43% of pupils achieve Grade 5 or above in English & maths GCSEs See https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/ Enter the name of the school. (Alternatively select the local authority, then the school.) Select 'Secondary performance'.
Northern Ireland	<73% of pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs grades A*-C (inc. GCSE English and GCSE maths) ¹ See https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/services/schools-plus Click on Schools+, then select school by clicking on the reference number. Select Statistical information / Examination achievements. Scroll down to locate the relevant line.
Scotland	<64% of school leavers with 5+ awards at SCQF level 5 or better See School Information Dashboard Select the tab just to the left of 'FAQ' which presents tables for 'Percentage of school leavers gaining SCQF credited awards'. Select the local authority, then the school. Scroll down to locate the relevant line.
Wales	<354.4 Capped 9 points score (interim measures version) ² See http://mylocalschool.gov.wales/School/6744106?lang=en Enter the name of the school top right. Scroll down to select the Attainment / Key stage 4 (Year 11) indicators. Select 'Capped 9 points score (interim measures version)'. Select the table view to see the school vs Wales figures.

¹ On the page this displays as 'Secondary average proportion achieving 5+ GCSEs grades A*-C (inc. GCSE English and GCSE maths)'

² The Capped 9 points score (interim) is the average of scores for the best awards for all individual learners in a cohort; capped at a total volume of nine GCSEs or equivalent. Three of the nine are subject-specific GCSEs only – literacy, numeracy and science. The remaining reflects the points attached to each learner's best six qualifications.



A-levels, Highers and equivalent

England	<p><32.89 points for a student's best 3 A-levels (school average)</p> <p>See https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/ Enter the name of the school. (Alternatively select the local authority, then the school.) Select '16-18 performance'.</p>
Northern Ireland	<p><57% of pupils achieving achieving 3+ A-Levels or equivalent A-C (A*-C from 2009/10)</p> <p>See https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/services/schools-plus Click on Schools+, then select the school by clicking on the reference number. Select Statistical information / Examination achievements. Scroll down to locate the relevant line.</p>
Scotland	<p><66% of school leavers with 1+ awards at SCQF level 6 or better</p> <p>See School Information Dashboard Click on the arrow at the right-hand end of the menu of tabs labelled 'Senior Phase School Leavers ...' (near the top of the page), so you can see the tabs further to the right. Select the tab just to the left of 'Frequently Asked Question' which presents tables for 'Percentage of school leavers gaining SCQF credited awards'. Select the local authority, then the school. Find the 'SQLF Level 6 or better' score on the first line of the first table.</p>
Wales	<p><741.3 average points score</p> <p>See http://mylocalschool.gov.wales/School/6744106?lang=en Enter the name of the school top right. Scroll down to select the Attainment / Key stage 5 (Year 13) indicators. Select 'Average points score'. Select the table view to see the school vs Wales figures.</p>



Progression to higher education

School-level data on progression to higher education is published only for English schools.

England	<p><62% progressing to higher education or training OR <58% progressing to degree-level study</p> <p>See https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/ Enter the name of the school. (Alternatively select the local authority, then the school.) Scroll down and select '16-18', then 'Student destinations', then 'Progression into higher education or training'.</p> <p>Refer to the bar chart for the school score for progression to higher education or training.</p> <p>To obtain the proportion progressing to degree-level study, select 'Breakdown of destinations'.</p>
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