

Performance Report Education and Lifelong Learning Directorate

This report provides detailed performance information to supplement the data presented in our Directorate Scorecard. Our local systems enable detailed monitoring across a range of measures. At this time we are working to develop new visual tools to evidence our performance and anticipate moving to a dashboard model.

Approximately 15,000 children and young people attend primary and secondary schools in Angus. An additional 1,800 children attend early learning and childcare provision. Our systems allow us to analyse education data against a range of demographic markers, including the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD), free school meal eligibility, care-experienced status and whether a child has additional support needs. We use this information to build a broad picture of how our children achieve and participate in school.

To put our demographic data into context it is important to note that most of our children and young people live in SIMD quintiles 2-4.

	Census 2021 Total	Census 2021* %
Quintile 1	1258	8.3
Quintile 2	3327	22.0
Quintile 3	4105	27.1
Quintile 4	4411	29.1
Quintile 5	2040	13.5

There is variation of levels of poverty within all quintiles. Therefore, it is important to use other measures to give a more complete picture. In terms of care experienced young people, this group represents a very small proportion of our overall school population. In July 2021 249 children and young people of all ages were formally 'looked after.' This represents less than 2% of our overall school population. However, we know that our care-experienced children and young people achieve less positive outcomes overall. A key outcome of The Promise is for closer alignment of the attainment of care-experienced children to their peers.

The data in this report is drawn from a range of sources, and where possible refers to published or nationally produced information.

The following standard Education Scotland terms of quantity are used in this report:

All	100%
Almost all	91%-99%
Most	75%-90%
Majority	50%-74%
Minority/less than half	15%-49%
A few	less than 15%

1 Literacy and Numeracy¹

The following charts show data for the achievement of Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) levels for literacy and numeracy at primary school. This data is gathered annually using teacher judgement and returned to Scottish Government. This data was not gathered in 2020 due to the pandemic. Children are assessed at three points – P1, P4 and P7. These assessments are supplemented by the Scottish National Standardised Assessment (SNSA).

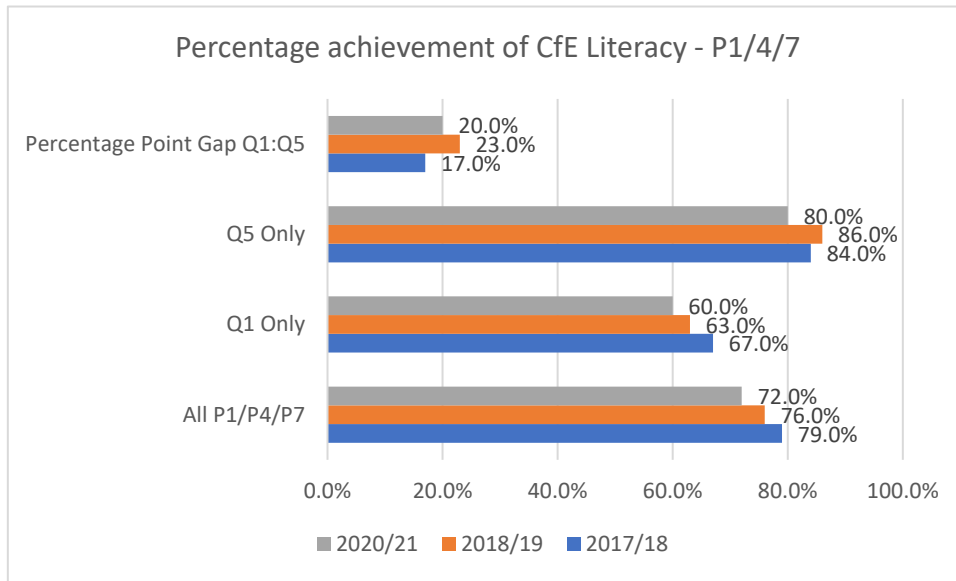
The data presented here is taken from the information published nationally by Scottish Government. Data for 2022 has been gathered and an indication of performance is detailed in our Angus Improves logic model. As the final validated data is not yet available, it has not been included in these charts. The published data does not include cohort numbers. For context, the table below shows the numbers of children in P1/4/7 (combined) in each of the reporting years.

Year	Cohort Size (P1/4/7)
2017/18	3659
2018/19	3783
2020/21	3671

Local authority level data for care-experienced children is not published for these measures. The headline national figures indicate that fewer care-experienced children achieve the relevant level in literacy and numeracy for their stage. Further work is required in Angus to enable local analysis of this information.

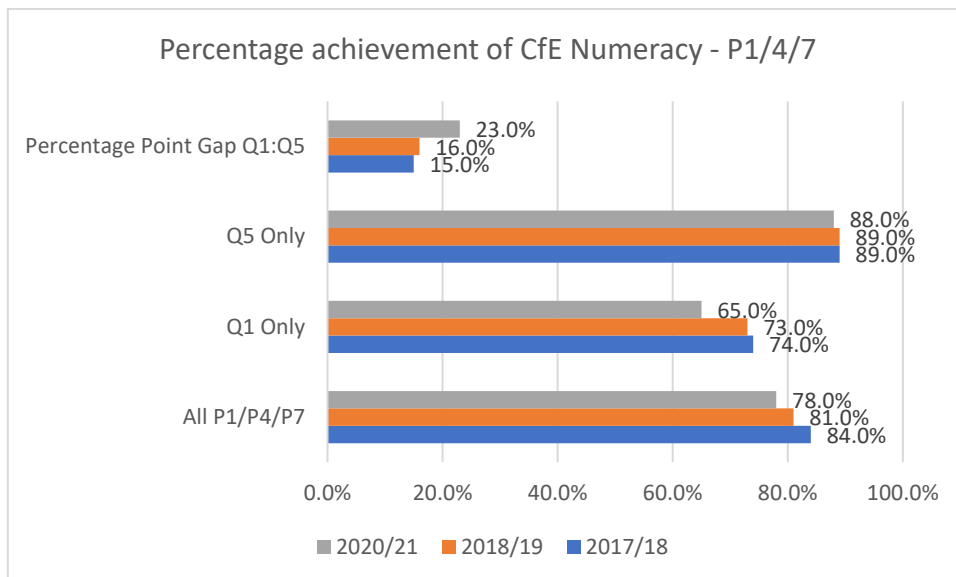
¹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/achievement-curriculum-excellence-cfe-levels-2020-21/documents/>

Chart 1: Percentage achievement of literacy



The percentage of children achieving the relevant level of literacy has reduced each reported year. In the most recent year a majority of all P1/4/7s achieved the literacy level for their stage. Achievement in Q1 has followed a similar trend. Achievement in Q5 is higher than the overall Angus average. Although reducing slightly in the most recent year, most children in Q5 achieve the relevant level of literacy for their stage. The gap between Q1 and Q5 has reduced compared to 2018/19 but remains higher than in 2017/18.

Chart 2: Percentage achievement of numeracy



The percentage of children achieving the relevant level of numeracy has also reduced in each reported year. In the most recent year most P1/4/7s achieved the

numeracy level for their stage. Achievement in Q1 has followed a similar trend. Achievement in Q5 is higher than the overall Angus average. Although reducing slightly in the most recent year, most children in Q5 achieve the relevant level of numeracy for their stage. The gap between Q1 and Q5 has increased each year.

2 Senior Phase Attainment

The following sections set out our performance against:

- The core measures set by the Scottish government as part of the '[Framework for accelerating recovery and progress](#)'
- Complementary measures from INSIGHT, the national senior phase attainment benchmarking tool.

Where possible, comment is provided for comparable data for care-experienced children and young people. Some caution is needed when interpreting data for our care-experienced cohort due to the relatively small number of young people involved.

Caution is required when considering performance across the time period covered by these statistics. Data for 2019/20 and 2020/21 is affected by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. In particular, the **cancellation of exams and external assessment of coursework**

Any changes between the attainment levels of the 2020/21 cohort, the 2019/20 cohort and those of previous years should not be seen as an indication that performance has improved or worsened, without further evidence.

Use School Leaver Attainment figures:

- As an accurate reflection of the attainment with which school leavers in Scotland left school in different years.
- To make factual comparisons of the proportions of school leavers attaining at different SCQF levels over time.
- To compare the attainment of different groups of school leavers within years.

Do not use School Leaver Attainment figures:

- As an indication that performance in 2019/20 or 2020/21 was better or worse than in previous years, without further evidence.
- Without taking full account of the different approaches to certification in 2020 and 2021 compared to previous years.

2a Core Measures

The following charts provide trend information for Angus Council performance compared to the core measures set out by Scottish Government. These measures look at the achievement of Grades A-C at SQA National.

Table 1: Number of young people in each cohort

	All Leavers	Quintile 1	Quintile 5	Care-experienced
2018/19	1196	110	239	25
2019/20	1067	75	226	28
2020/21	1197	103	164	26

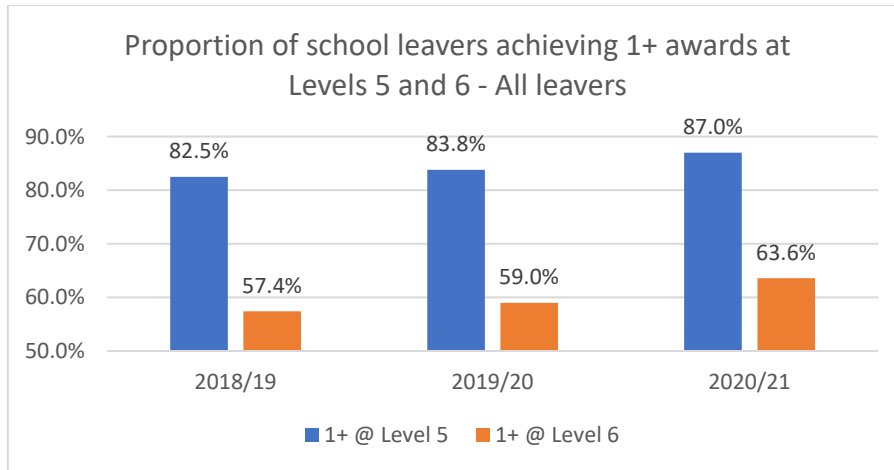
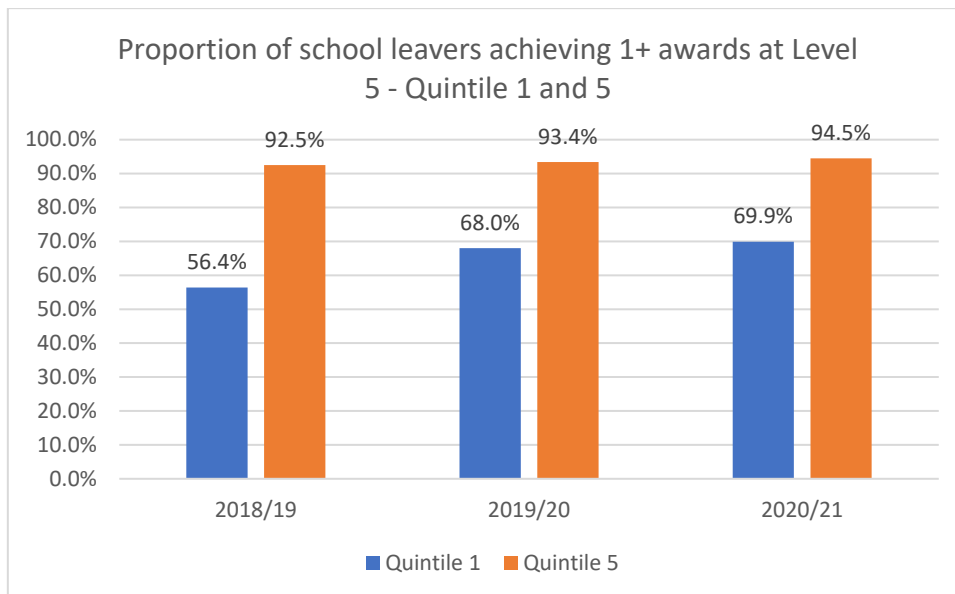
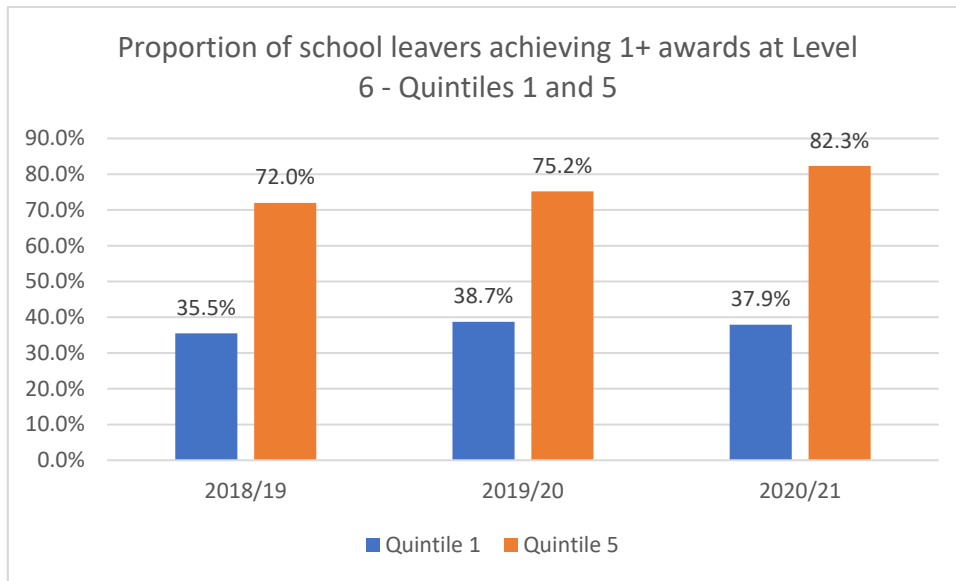
Chart 3: Percentage of school leavers achieving 1 or more awards at Levels 5 and 6.²

Chart 4: Percentage of school leavers in SIMD Quintiles 1 and 5 achieving 1 or more award at SCQF Level 5.



² <https://www.gov.scot/collections/school-education-statistics/#schoolleaverinitialdestinationsandattainment>

Chart 5: Percentage of school leavers in SIMD Quintiles 1 and 5 achieving 1 or more award at SCQF Level 6.



Most school leavers achieve at least one award at level 5, and a majority achieve at least one award at level 6. The attainment gap between quintiles 1 and 5 has decreased at level 5 and increased at level 6 over the three reporting years. In the most recent reporting year most leavers in Q5 achieved at least one award at level 6, and a minority of those in Q1 achieved the same. Comparable data for care-experienced young people is not available for these measures.

2b INSIGHT Breadth and Depth

The following charts provide some detailed information about 'breadth and depth' achievement of 1 and 5 or more awards at SCQF Levels 5, and 1 and 3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6. Data for these charts is drawn from INSIGHT, the national benchmarking dashboard available to all local authorities. This information supplements the data provided in our scorecard for the national core measures. The data from INSIGHT used in this report includes accreditation for all courses on the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework.

Chart 6: Percentage of leavers achieving 1 or more award at SCQF Level 5

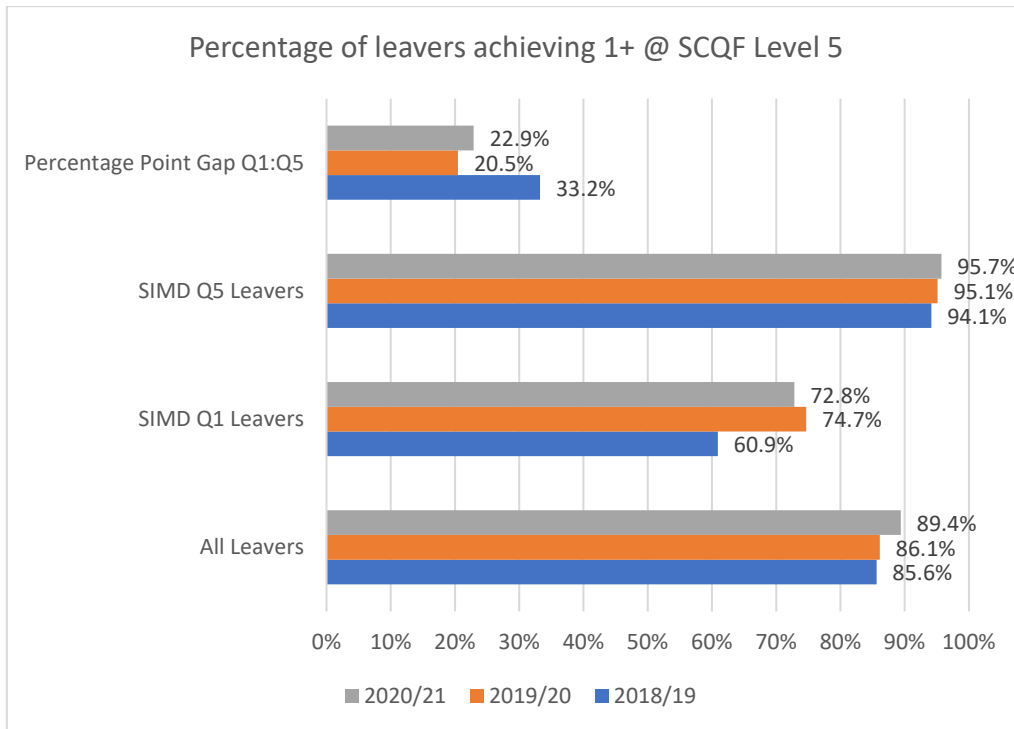
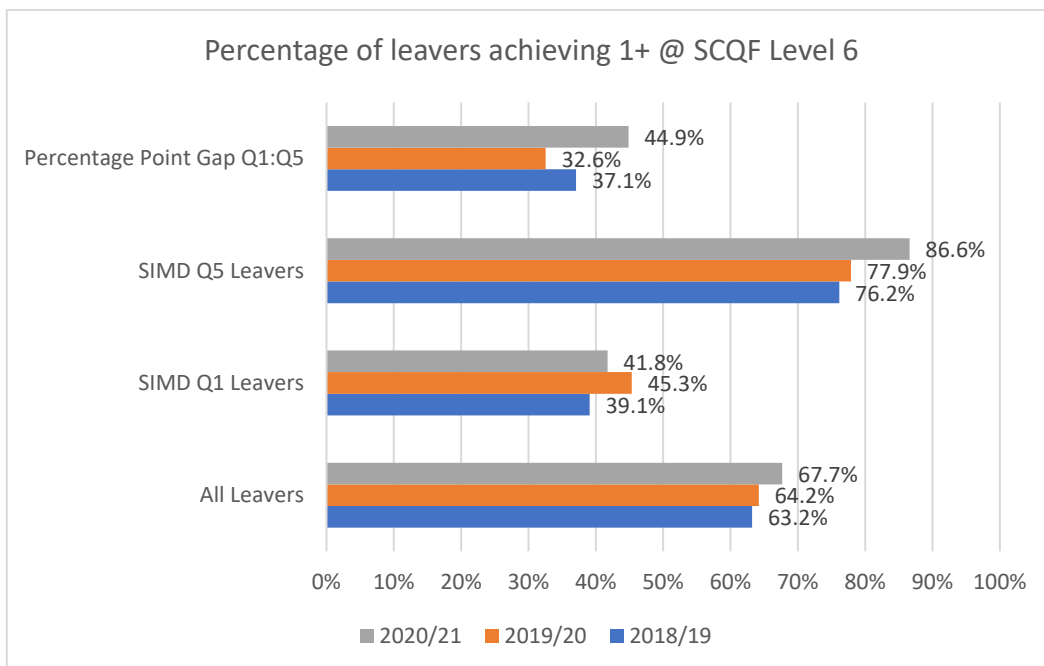


Chart 7: Percentage of leavers achieving 1 or more award at SCQF Level 6



Most leavers achieve at least one award at level 5, and a majority achieve at least one award at level 6. Attainment for leavers in Q1 fell slightly in 2021, and the overall percentage point gap between Q1 and Q5 has increased. The percentage of care-experienced leavers achieving at least one award at level 5 has decreased in each

reporting year. The percentage achieving at least one award at level 6 has increased.

Chart 8: Percentage of leavers achieving five or more awards at SCQF Level 5

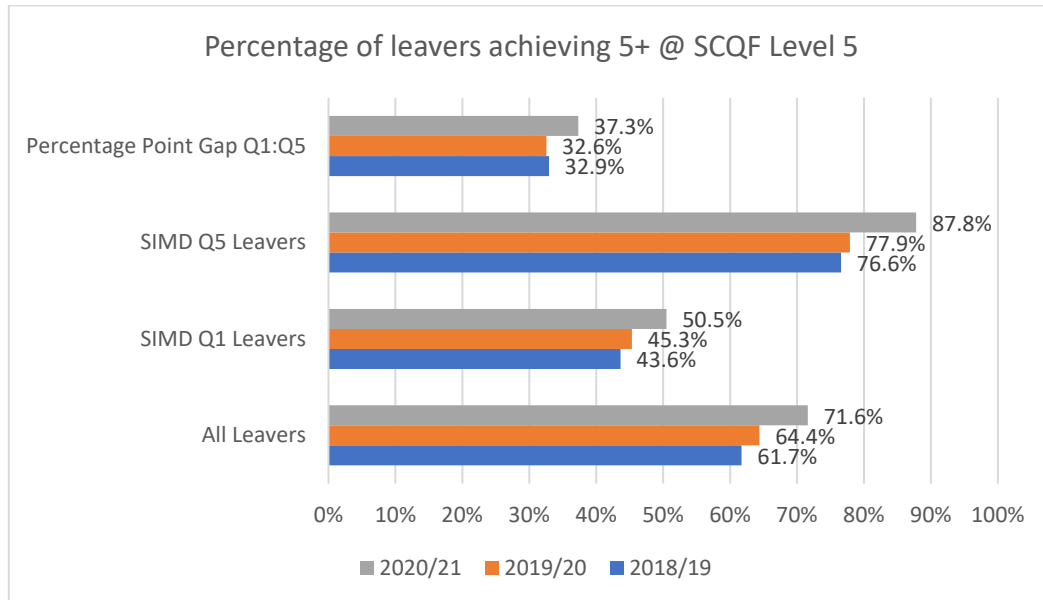
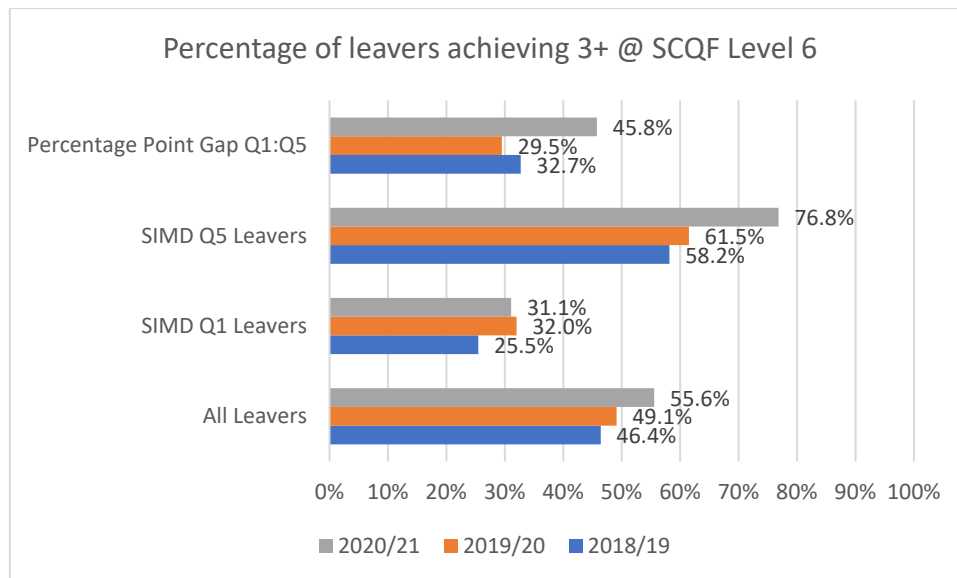


Chart 9: Percentage of leavers achieving three or more awards at SCQF Level 6



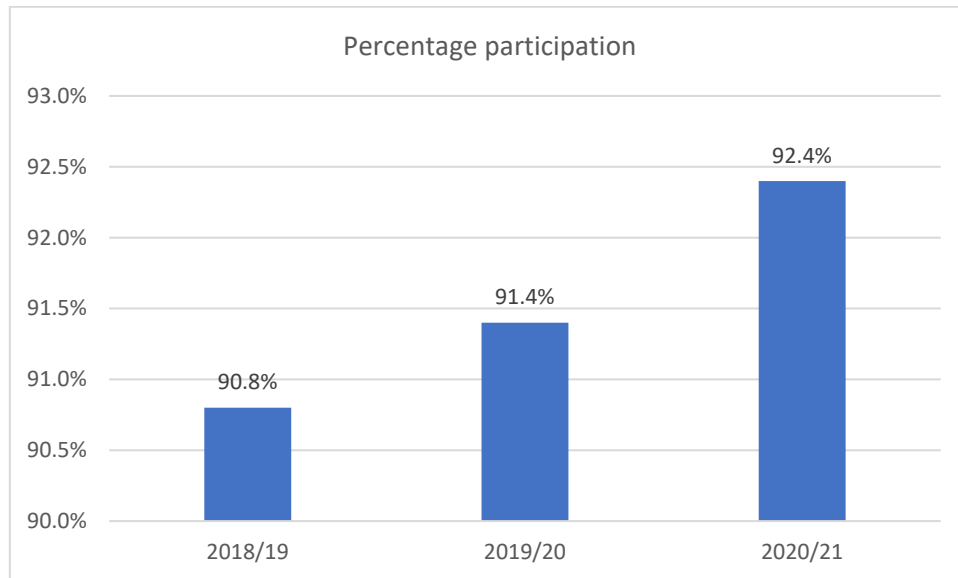
The majority of leavers achieve five or more awards at level 5, and a majority achieve at least three awards at level 6. In 2021 attainment for leavers in Q1 increased at level 5 and decreased slightly at level 6. Attainment increased against both measures for leavers in Q5. The overall percentage point gap between Q1 and Q5 has increased. Fewer care-experienced leavers achieved five or more awards at level 5 than the previous year. There was an increase in the percentage of care-experienced leavers achieving three or more awards at level 6.

3 Leaver Destinations

3a Core Measure – Annual Participation³

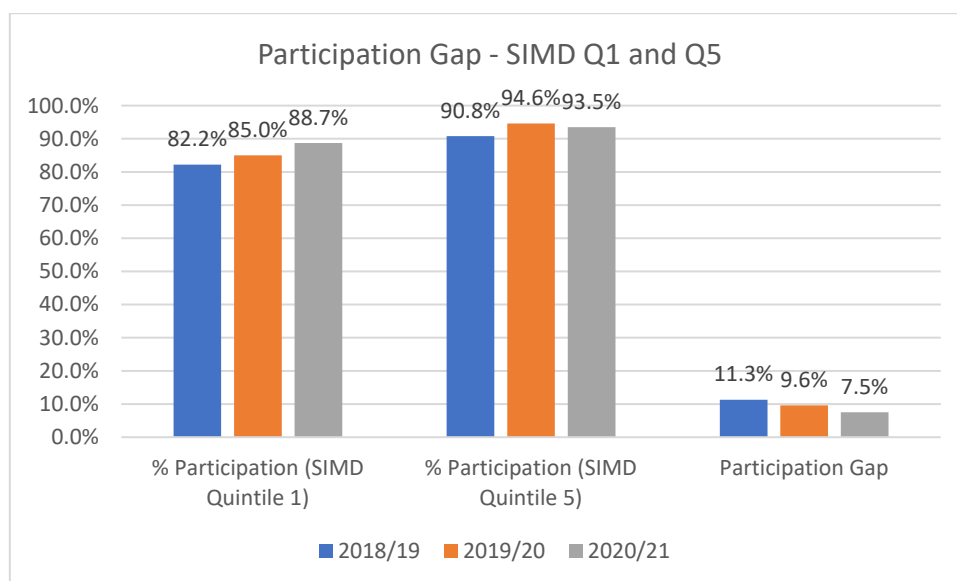
The available data shows an improving trend for the participation of school leavers. However, similar to the attainment measures above, caution is needed when looking at data in years affected by the pandemic. The choices available to young people have been subject to significant change or delay. However, the overall trend is one of improvement and almost all young people reported in the measure are participating in education, training or employment. The participation gap between SIMD quintiles 1 and 5 has reduced year on year since 2018/19. Most young people in Q1 and almost all in Q5 are actively participating.

Chart 10: Percentage of young adults (16-19 year olds) participating in education, training or employment

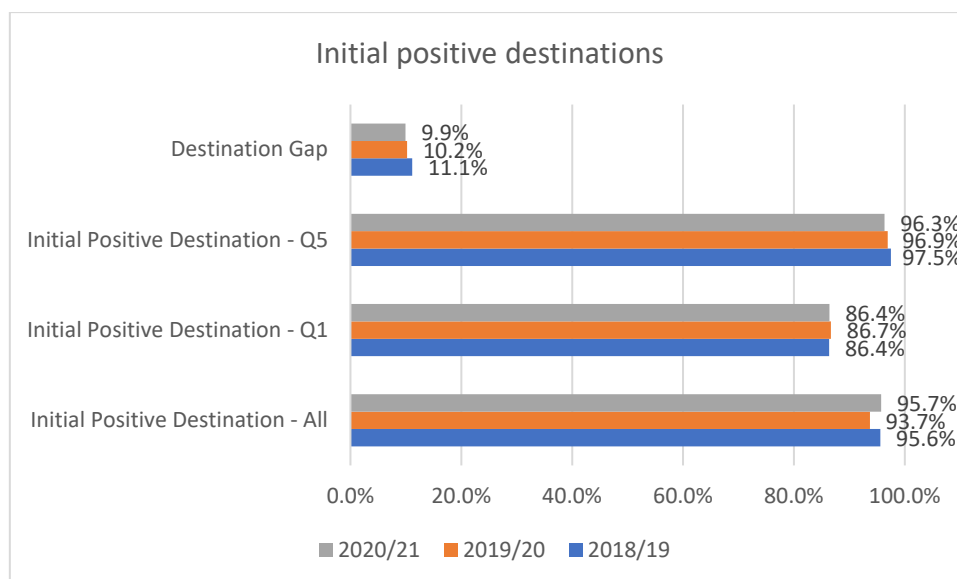


³ Source: [SDS Data Matrix](#)

Chart 11: Participation gap between SIMD Quintiles 1 and 5



3b INSIGHT Initial Positive Destinations



INSIGHT provides analysis of initial leaver destinations immediately after leaving school. Almost all young people are in a positive destination when they leave school, including almost all of those who live in Q5. Most young people living in Q1 also achieve a positive destination. Performance against all measures has varied little over the reported years. Positive destinations have improved for care-experience leavers. In the most recent reporting year, most (81%)⁴ were in an initial positive destination. At the follow-up survey this had reduced to 67%. This is a larger reduction compared to

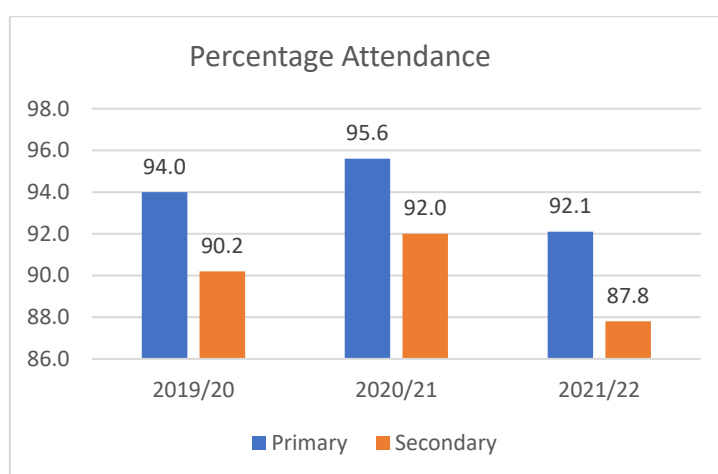
⁴ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/education-outcomes-looked-children-2020-21/documents/>

the overall school leaver population where almost all (92.8%) remained in a positive destination at the follow-up survey⁵.

4 Core Wellbeing Measure - Attendance At School⁶

We have chosen to prioritise the monitoring of attendance data as our core wellbeing measure as part of the national stretch aims. Our local systems allow us to closely monitor school attendance for different cohorts of children and young people.

Chart 12: Percentage attendance at school for primary and secondary



⁵ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/summary-statistics-follow-up-leaver-destinations-no-4-2022-edition/documents/>

⁶ Some data is published [by Scottish Government](#). For other years analysis is drawn from local systems.

Chart 13: Percentage attendance for SIMD Q1 and 5, primary and secondary

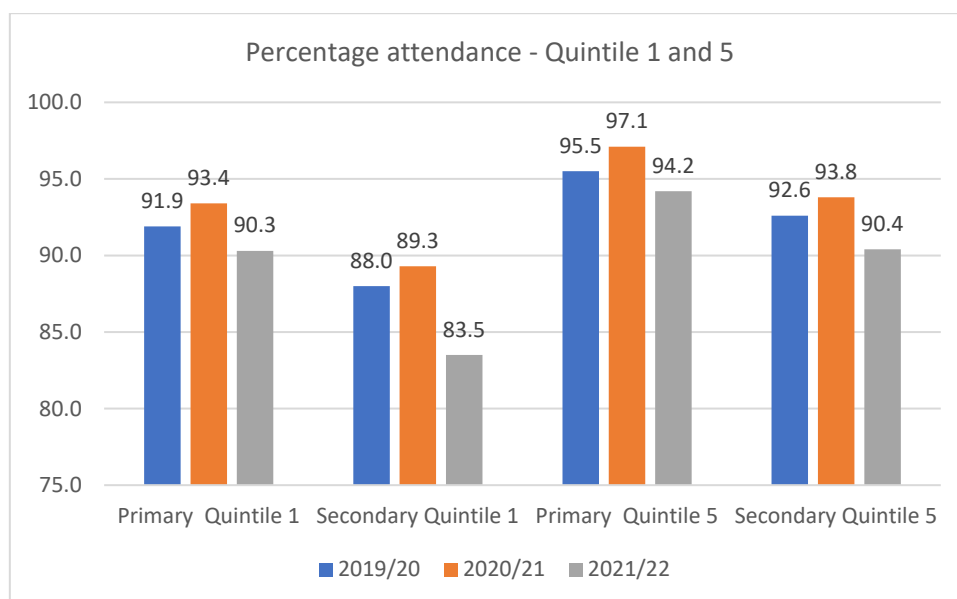
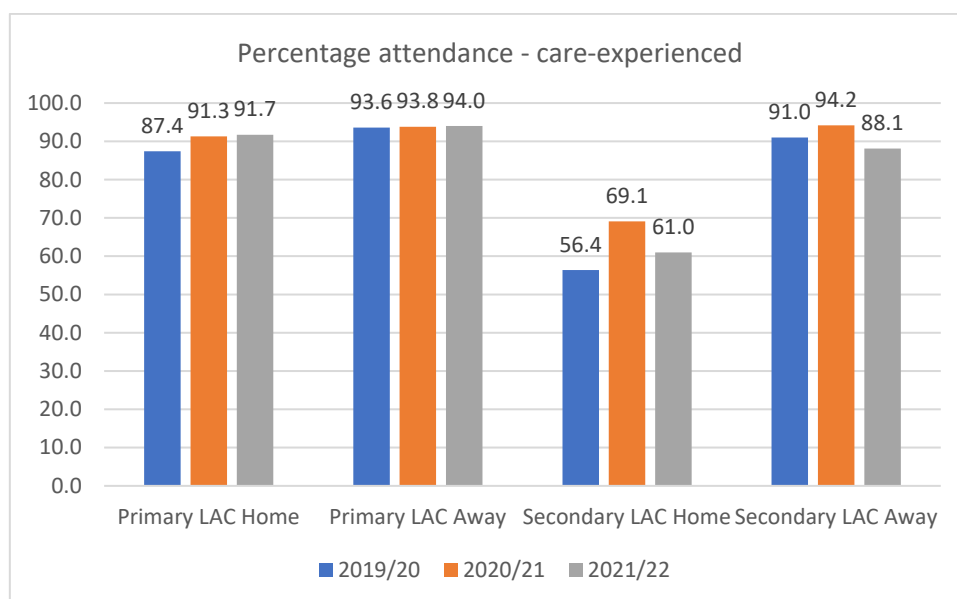


Chart 14: Percentage attendance for care-experienced children and young people



Overall attendance has fallen for both primary and secondary school-aged children and young people. Primary school attendance is lower than average for Q1 and higher than average for Q5. The same pattern can be seen at secondary school.

Care-experienced primary school aged-children attend school almost all of the time, whether they are looked after at home or away from home. Young people who are looked after at home attend secondary school a majority of the time. This figure has reduced in the past year, but attendance remains higher than in 2019/20. Young people looked after away from home attend school most of the time.

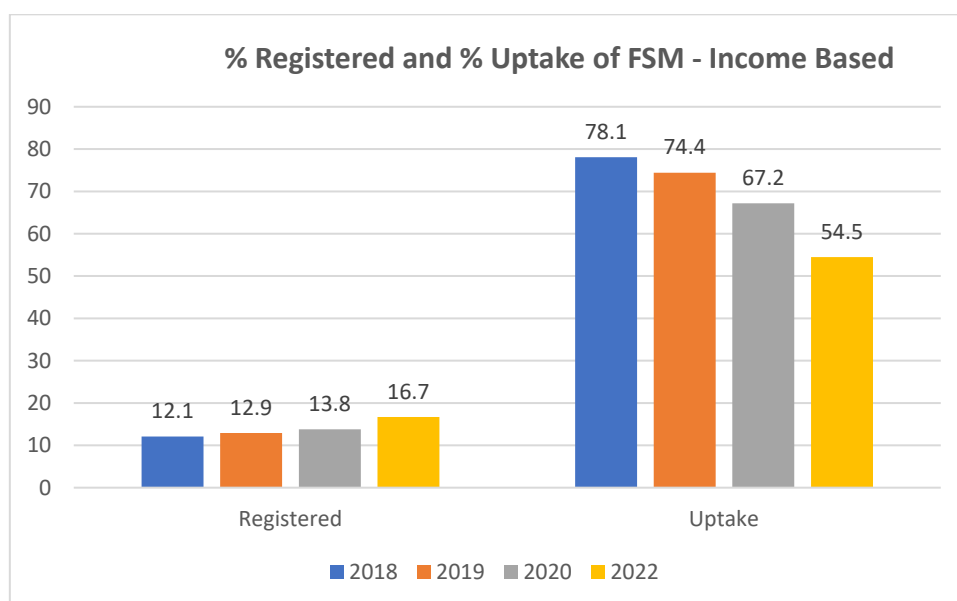
Our attendance management procedures support senior leaders in schools to be aware of any issues that impact attendance for looked after children, to and look for ways to support the child with these.

We are exploring alternative ways to monitor attendance. For 2022/23 we have a specific focus on increasing attendance in the Arbroath North and Brechin Clusters. We are also looking specifically at care-experienced young people, with a view to increasing the proportion of individual children who attend more than 80% of the time.

5 Free School Meals

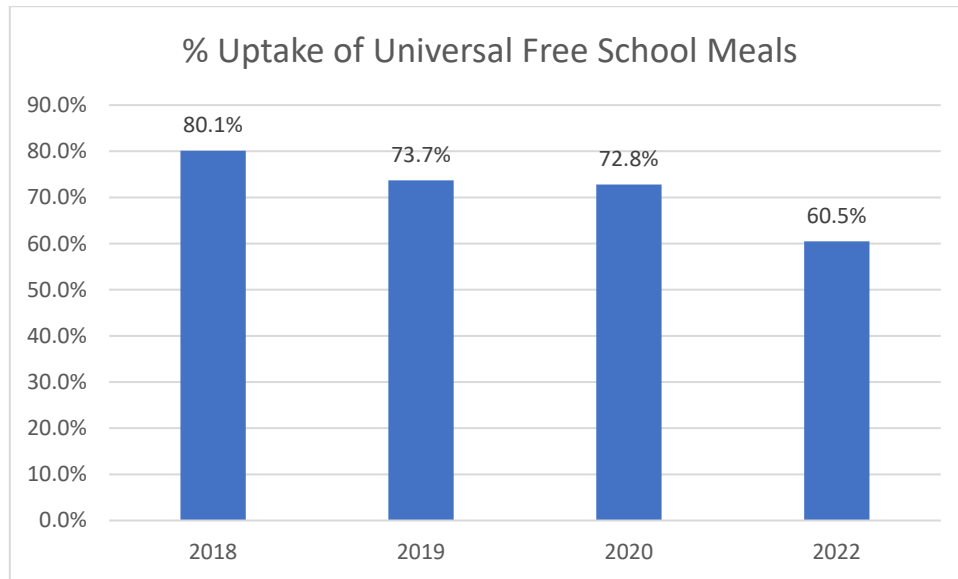
The following charts show trend data for free school meal entitlement and uptake. When considering this data, it should be noted that figures are taken from the annual 'Healthy Living Lives' survey, which takes place annually in February. These figures are therefore 'as at' the survey date and vary throughout the year. The survey did not take place in 2021 due to the pandemic.

Chart 15: Income-based free school meal registrations



The data shows increasing eligibility for free school meals, based on income level. While eligibility has increased, there has also been a sharp decline in uptake. Addressing this decline is a priority for the Council and Tayside Contracts as part of efforts to reduce the prevalence and impacts of child poverty. It is not clear why uptake has declined so sharply, however there may be some affect from the pandemic and changes to dining services. Revised nutritional guidelines were introduced in 2021. Previous changes to guidelines have had a similar impact on school meal uptake. A Service Design project is in place, looking at increasing uptake of free school meals, with a specific focus on secondary schools.

Chart 16: Percentage uptake of universal free school meals



Universal free school meals are now offered to all children in P1-5, regardless of income. The intention is to increase this offer up to P7, however there is no detailed timetable for doing so. Uptake of universal free school meals is also declining. Further work is required to understand the reasons for this. Although not captured on this chart, it should also be noted that some children attending funded early learning and childcare provision receive a free lunch. Entitlement is based on the attendance model chosen.