Education Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Agenda Item No. 8

19 November 2019

Education Attainment and Ofsted Inspections

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Councillor Chris Towe – Education & Skills

Executive Summary:

This report is a covering report for a presentation which will be delivered to Members during the committee meeting. The presentation is attached and this report summarises what will be presented on each slide and some of the key outcomes which will be discussed in more detail when the presentation is delivered.

In summary, the presentation will highlight the demographics of Walsall's child population and some of its key challenges and the Ofsted performance of schools within Walsall which is lower than national and regional averages.

The presentation outlines the attainment of children across all key stages in 2018 and 2019 which for the most part shows that educational attainment outcomes for children in Walsall is below that of regional and national comparators, although improvements and progress is being made in some areas.

Where final validated 2019 attainment data is available (Early Years and Key Stage 1), it has been included in the presentation. Where only provisional 2019 data is available (Key Stages 2, 4 and 5), the 2018 data has been included with a brief indication of what the 2019 data highlights. A further update of this presentation and report will be prepared with the final 2019 validated data is released in January 2020.

Reason for scrutiny:

This reports and presentation have been prepared for scrutiny to provide members with an overview of education attainment and school ofsted outcomes across the Borough

Recommendations:

That:

The Committee note the Ofsted outcomes of Walsall's schools and academic attainment of Walsall's children.

Background papers:

There are no background papers related to this report.

Resource and legal considerations:

There are no resource and legal considerations relating to this report.

Council Corporate Plan Priorities:

This report links to the following Corporate Plan Priorities:

Children have the best possible start and are safe from harm, happy, healthy and learning well.

- Children will be ready for school
- The gaps in educational attainment between the least and most deprived communities will be narrowed for all under achieving groups

Economic growth for all people, communities and businesses.

 Residents are supported to possess the skills required to enter into and progress in work

Citizen impact:

This report has no direct impact on the citizens of Walsall, however, it does highlight the academic outcomes of Walsall's youngest citizens and the quality of their education as judged by Ofsted.

Environmental impact:

There is no environmental impact to this scrutiny exercise.

Performance management:

This report is a key report for the council to understand performance in relation to the academic outcomes for children in Walsall and the Ofsted outcomes for Walsall's schools.

Reducing inequalities:

This report and presentation seek to highlight and understand inequalities by providing outcome and attainment data in relation to disadvantaged groups (including those in receipt of Free School Meals, those disadvantaged due to deprivation and those with SEND needs). It seeks to understand the difference in performance for these groups compared with their non-disadvantaged peers to support the development of support for children in these groups to raise attainment to ensure that all children can maximise their achievements.

No Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out.

Consultation:

An earlier version of this presentation has been presented to the Strategic Education and Inclusion Board on 1 October 2019 which is attended by partners and the Portfolio Holder for Education and Skills.

It has also been provided to the Access and Inclusion Scrutiny Working Group on 24 October 2019.

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1. Report

- 1.1. This report provides a brief overview of a presentation that will be delivered to the Education Scrutiny Committee on 19th November 2019. The presentation is attached for information.
- 1.2. Where available, 2019 validated educational attainment data has been included (Early Years and Key Stage 1), where only provisional data is available (Key Stages 2, 4 and 5), 2018 data has been included with a brief summary of the provisional 2019 data. A further update of the presentation and more detailed analysis will be available when the final validated data is published in January 2020.

2. Context

- 2.1. Slide 2 of the presentation outlines some of the key demographics relating to Walsall's child population
 - 23.9% of the population are aged 0-17
 - In the Indices of Deprivation Affecting Children (IDACI), Walsall is the 27th most deprived council with 23% of neighbourhoods in the top 10% of most deprived neighbourhoods nationally.
 - 32.5% of children live in poverty before housing costs and 41% after housing costs.
 - Children in Walsall have more health challenges than their peers.
- 2.2. Walsall also has it's challenges in relation to its school age population and these are outlined on slide 3 of the presentation:
 - Significantly more children have English as an additional language
 - Significantly more children are in receipt of Free School Meals
 - A higher proportion of children are overweight in Reception and Year 6 compared with their peers
 - A smaller proportion have identified special educational needs compared with their peers.

3. Ofsted Outcomes

- 3.1. The Ofsted outcomes for Walsall schools is worse than the regional and national averages. Further detail is laid out in slides 4 and 5:
 - At the end of September 2019 78% of Walsall schools were rated Good or Outstanding compared with 84% regionally and 85% nationally.
 - 26 schools are rated Outstanding, while 6 are rated Inadequate.
 - 74% of all learners and 69% of the most deprived learners attend Good or Outstanding schools.
 - The lowest performing domain in Walsall schools is 'Outcomes for pupils' with 75% of schools rated good or outstanding.
 - The best performing domain is 'Effectiveness of leadership and management' with 84% of schools rated good or outstanding.

4. Attendance and Exclusions

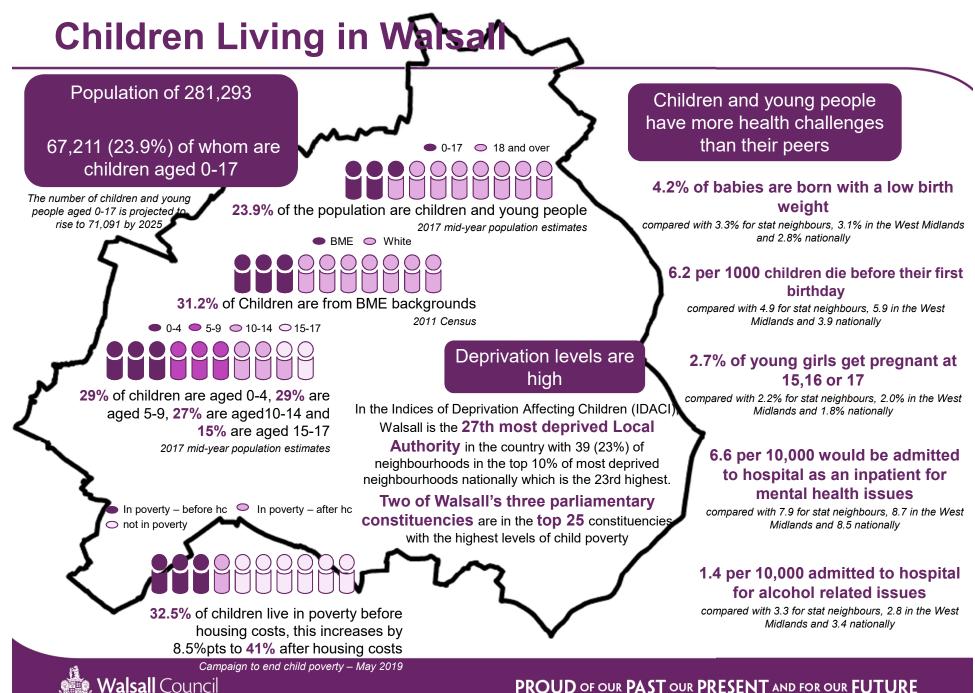
- 4.1. Slide 6 outlines Walsall's performance in relation to attendance and exclusions of pupils
 - A higher proportion of children are absent from school than among regional and national neighbours, however, the smaller proportion are absent compared with statistical neighbours.
 - Authorised absence is lower than comparators but unauthorised absence is higher
 - Fewer children are excluded from school although numbers have been rising

5. Educational Attainment

- 5.1. Slides 7-11 outline educational attainment by each Key Stage. Final 2019 data is available for Early Years and Key Stage 1 (excluding Free School Meals), however, results for Key Stages 2-5 have currently only been published provisionally for 2019 – therefore, the majority of data for these Key Stages is 2018. A further update of this report will be provided in January 2020 when the final, validated data for 2019 has been published.
 - **Early Years** performance has fallen in 2019 and is lower than comparators. The percentage of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development is 67.5% compared with 68% in 2018.
 - **Key Stage 1** performance has been mixed in 2019 the proportion of children achieving the expected level in Phonics decoding has fallen, however, the proportion of children achieving expected standards in Maths and Writing has increased.
 - **Key Stage 2** performance was in line with statistical neighbours but lower than regional and national comparators. Provisional 2019 data suggests that performance has remained static.
 - Attainment gaps between children in receipt of free-school meals, those who are deprived and those with SEND and those who are not in those groups are generally higher than comparators.
 - **Key Stage 4** performance is generally lower than comparators, although provisional 2019 data suggests that there has been some improvement, particularly in progress between KS2 and KS4.
 - Attainment gaps between children in receipt of free-school meals, those who are deprived and those with SEND and those who are not in those groups are generally lower than comparators.
 - **Key Stage 5** performance is mixed. A higher proportion of young people achieve AAB at A-Level than their statistical neighbour and regional peers, however, average point scores for A-Level are lower. The average point score for the Tech-Level cohort is in line with comparators whereas the average point score for the Applied Studies cohort is higher. Provisional 2019 data indicates that there has been some improvement in the Tech-Level cohort average points score, and some decline in the Applied Studies cohort score and the percentage of pupils achieving AAB at A-Level.
 - A slightly lower proportion of Walsall KS5 pupils go on to or remain in education, employment or training compared to regional and national peers.

Education Attainment for children in Walsall and Ofsted Outcomes of Walsall Schools. Presentation for Education Scrutiny – 19 November 2019





Children going to school in Walsa

Walsall has it's challenges....

There are 53,593 children on a school roll in Walsall January 2019 School Census

A higher proportion of children are overweight at reception and year 6

24.2% in Reception

compared with 22.8% for stat neighbours, 23.4% in the West Midlands and 22.4% nationally

40.7% at Year 6

compared with 36.7% for stat neighbours, 37.1% in the West Midlands and 34.3% nationally

Significantly more children receive free school meals and numbers are increasing

22.8% at Primary

compared with 19.0% for stat neighbours, 18.6% in the West Midlands and 15.7% nationally

20.5% at Secondary

compared with 16.9% for stat neighbours, 16.4% in the West Midlands and 14.1% nationally

Fewer children have an identified special educational need

10.9% have SEN Support

compared with 12.8% for stat neighbours, 12.6% in the West Midlands and 11.9% nationally

2.8% have an EHCP

compared with 3.3% for stat neighbours, 3.1% in the West Midlands and 3.1% nationally

PROUD OF OUR PAST OUR PRESENT AND FOR OUR FUTURE

Academic outcomes for Walsall children are generally worse than those for statistical, regional and national neighbours – although outcomes are improving and at KS2 progress is better in some subjects

Significantly more children have English as an additional language

24.6% at Primary

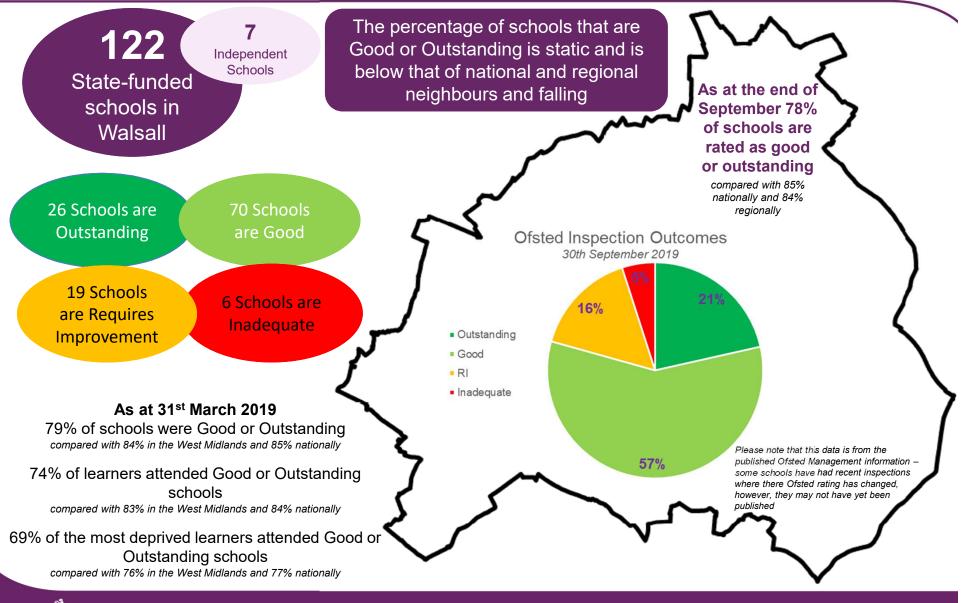
compared with 21.3% for stat neighbours, 22.8% in the West Midlands and 21.2% nationally

20.5% at Secondary

compared with 17.0% for stat neighbours, 13.6% in the West Midlands and 16.9% nationally

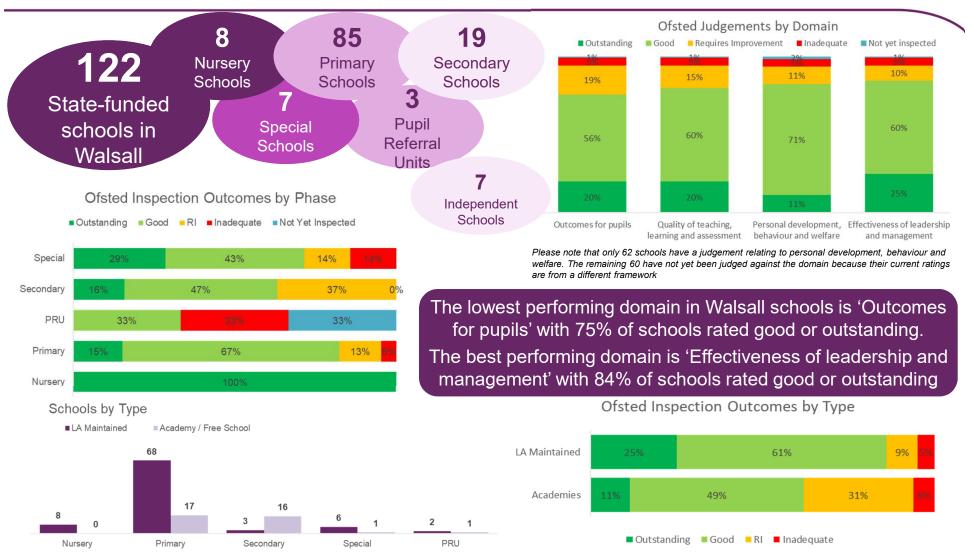


Schools in Walsall





Schools in Walsall

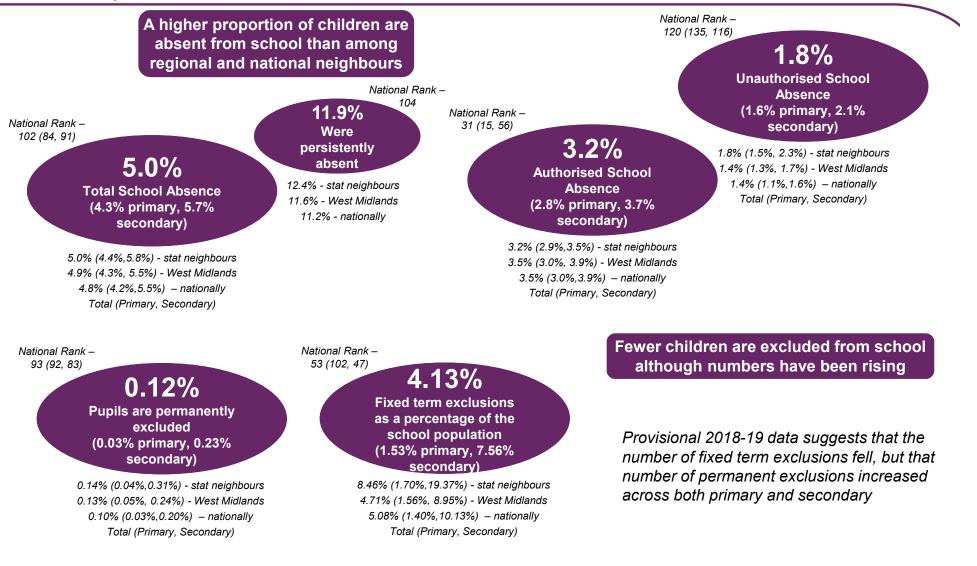


86% of Walsall's 87 LA Maintained schools are rated Good or Outstanding compared with 60% of Walsall's 35 academies



Attendance and Exclusions

Based on published data - 2018





Early Years in Walsall

Based on published data - 2019

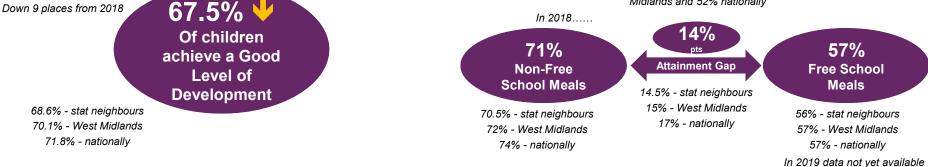
National Rank - 138

Young children are benefitting from early education

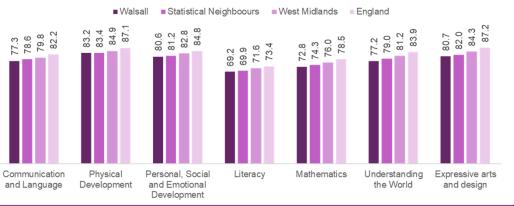
1,251 or 68% of 2 year olds benefit from funded early education compared with 72% for stat neighbours, 66% in the West Midlands and 68% nationally
7,370 or 94% 3 & 4 year olds take up some free education compared with 95% for stat neighbours, 95% in the West Midlands and 94% nationally Fewer 2, 3 & 4 year olds receive that education at providers with staff with graduate status

36% of 2, 3 & 4 year olds are in education at providers with staff with graduate status

compared with 43% for stat neighbours, 50% in the West Midlands and 52% nationally



EYFSP Outcomes by Domain



Final results for 2019 were published at the end of September 2019.

There has been a slight decline in performance in 2019 with the percentage of children achieving a good level of development falling by 0.5% points.

Walsall's performance in the individual domains remains lower than comparators across all domains.

Walsall Council

Key Stage 1 in Walsall

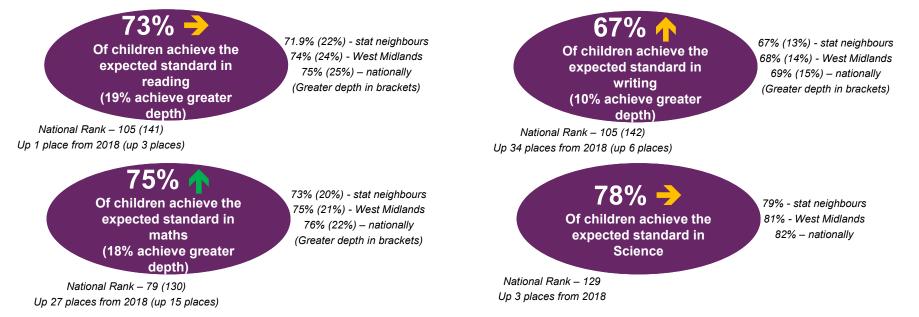
Based on published data - 2019

Children in Walsall do well in decoding phonics, achieving in line with their regional and national peers, even those who are in receipt of Free School Meals

82% of children achieve the expected level in phonics decoding compared with 80% for stat neighbours, 82% in the West Midlands and 82% nationally National Rank – 63, down 1 place from 2018

74% of children in receipt of free school meals achieve the expected level in phonics decoding

compared with709% for stat neighbours, 72% in the West Midlands and 70% nationally National Rank – 32, down 9 place from 2018



Final results for 2019 were published at the end of September 2019. There has been a slight decline performance around Phonics with performance falling by 1% point. Phonics decoding results for children in receipt of free school meals has also fallen by 1% point – however, performance remains in the top 25% for this indicator.

In the four main KS1 subjects, performance is mixed. Results for Reading and Science have remained static with marginal improvements in national ranking. Performance in writing has improved by 2% points, however, remains below that of regional and national comparators. Performance in Maths has improved by 1% point, in better than statistical neighbours, in line with regional performance and only slightly below the national average.

The percentage of pupils achieving greater depth in all subjects is lower than comparators

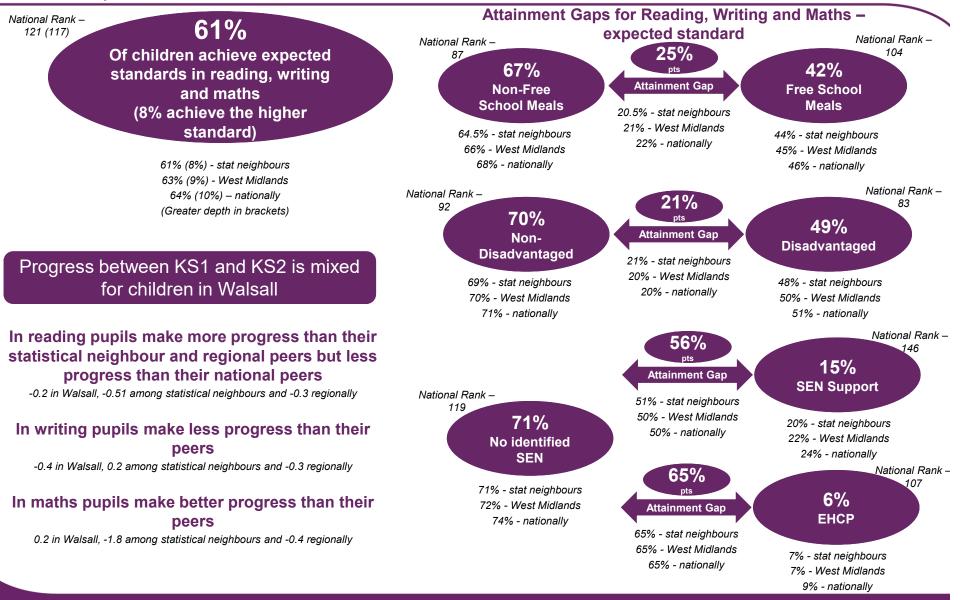


Key Stage 2 in Walsall

Based on published data - 2018

Walsall Council

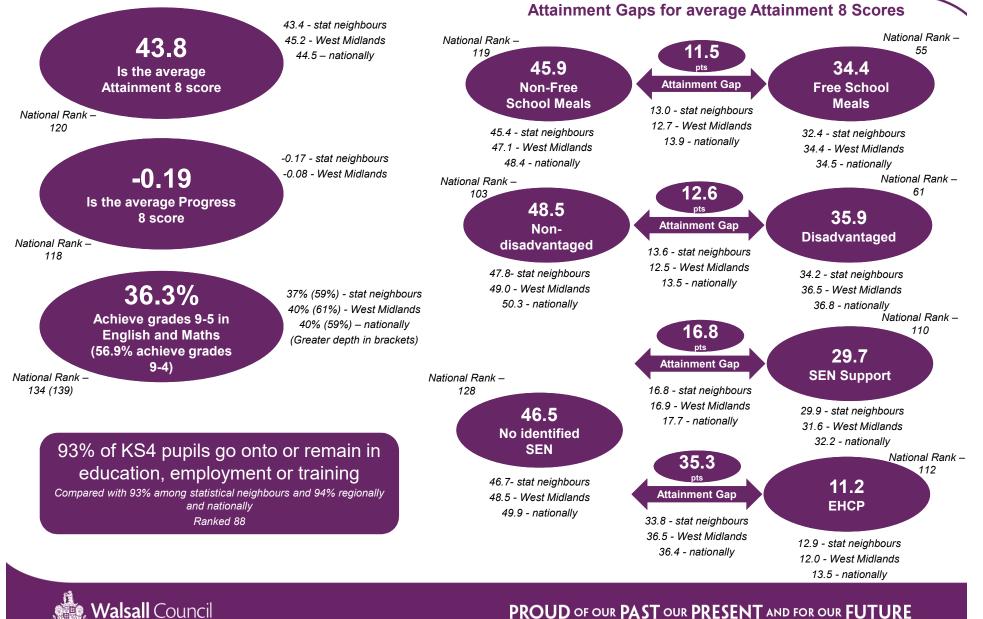
Provisional data for 2019 shows that Walsall's performance and national rank is static at 61% and 121 out of 151 Local Authorities. Final, validated data is due to be published in December 2018



Key Stage 4 in Walsall

Based on published data - 2018

Provisional data for 2019 shows that Walsall's performance in Attainment 8 is static but that progress has improved slightly. The percentage of pupils achieving grade 9-5 in English and Maths is slightly lower but Walsall's national rank has increased. Final validated data is due in January 2020



Key Stage 5 in Walsall

Based on published data - 2018

Provisional data for 2019 shows that Walsall's performance at KS5 is mixed. The percentage of pupils achieving AAB at A-Level has fallen, as has the average point score for Applied General Studies. However, the average point score for the A-Level Cohort and Tech Level cohort have increased. Final validated data is due in January 2020

