



Education in The City of London Annual Report 2018

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	3
2. Summary of key findings	3
3. Demographics.....	4
3.1 Population	4
3.2 Schools.....	4
4. Quality of provision - Ofsted Inspections	6
5. Attainment outcomes	7
5.1 Health warning about small numbers	7
5.2 Early Years Foundation Stage	7
5.3 Phonics in Year 1	8
5.4 Key Stage 1	9
5.5 Key Stage 2.....	11
6. Attendance.....	17
7. Admissions	19
7.1 Primary school admissions.....	19
7.2 Secondary school admissions.....	19
Suggested Questions for Governors.....	21

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1. Introduction

This annual report looks at how well the education service in the City of London is meeting our aspirations for children and young people's educational outcomes. The report is one of the ways in which we keep members, governors and our wider partners informed about education performance in the City of London.

The data in this report are drawn from a range of sources. Where available, comparisons have been made between performance of City of London resident children in Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and Islington schools, all pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, City of London residents attending Prior Weston (and for Early Years Foundation Stage, City of London Primary) and the inner London and national performance. The analyses cover the last full academic year, 2017/18 and include some trends from 2013/14, where the data are available. The small size of the City of London's school and residential population means its education statistics are liable to fluctuate from year to year by a larger amount than local authorities with bigger populations.

2. Summary of key findings

Quality of provision

- Our one local authority maintained school, Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, has been judged outstanding for overall effectiveness in its last two Ofsted inspections (2013 and 2008).

Outcomes for children and young people

- **Early Years Foundation Stage** results for 2017/18 show reception pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, City residents attending Prior Weston and City residents at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School or an Islington school performed at between 6 and 21 percentage points above the national average for the 'Good Level of Development' benchmark.
- **Phonics screening check** outcomes for Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School's Year 1 in 2017/18 was ranked first or second out of all 152 English local authorities¹.
- **Key Stage 1** results for the percentage reaching the expected standard for 2017-18 for Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School are in the first (top) percentile out of all 152 LA's in England¹ for all three core subjects. This is also true of the results of City of London residents attending Prior Weston School and those residents attending Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and any school in Islington.

¹ Because of small numbers the 2018 results of the City of London for Phonics and KS1 assessments were suppressed by the DfE along with those for the Scilly Isles. The figures for Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School are, however, above the figures for every published local authority.

- **Key Stage 2** Due to small numbers, the DfE has not published the City of London's 2017/18 KS2 results, however the percentage of pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School reaching the expected grade for reading, writing and mathematics combined, at 72%, put the corporation in the top decile for English local authorities for this headline measure at Key Stage 2. The percentage reaching the higher level for this measure (21%) was the highest figure for local authorities in England for 2017/18.

Attendance and behaviour

- **Absence** in 2016/17, the rate of absence² for all three terms for the City of London, at 2.5%, was lower than the previous year and is the lowest rate recorded by any English local authority for that year.
- **Persistent absence** for the 2016-17 three term data, at 2.8% was less than a third of the rate recorded by inner London (8.6%) and the best recorded by any English local authority for that year.

3. Demographics

1.1 Population

According to the ONS, the population of London grew at double the rate of the country as a whole between 2011 and 2015; and is set to increase further. By 2020 the Capital is forecast to exceed nine million residents. The GLA estimates the population of the City of London will rise from 7,400 in 2011 to 9,400³ in 2021 (27%).

GLA projections suggest there were 500 pupils of primary age (4 - 10) and 200 pupils of secondary age (11 - 15) children living in the City of London in 2018. The GLA estimate of the population of children aged 11 to 15 is substantially lower than their 2017 estimates (254). The GLA has projected there were 1,090 people aged 0 – 19 years living in the City of London in 2018 of which 830 (76%) are estimated to be from Black and minority ethnic (BME) backgrounds, with growing numbers of children from Other White backgrounds (250 in 2018; up from 80 in 2011) in contrast to White British (estimated to be 260 in 2018; down from 360 in 2011)⁴.

City of London is the 31st most deprived local authority in London out of 33 according to the 2015 Indices of Multiple Deprivation (up from 32nd IMD 2010).

1.2 Schools

The City of London Corporation has one maintained primary school, eight sponsored academies as part of the City of London Academies Trust, and two co-sponsored academies in neighbouring boroughs. It also supports three independent schools, two based in the City and one in Surrey. The maintained primary school is Sir John

² 2016/17 rate of absence for 6 half terms published by the DfE.

³ The source data is from the Greater London Authority (GLA) 2015 Round of Demographic Projections - SHLAA, short term migration, capped household size model.

⁴ Source of population figures can be found at: [GLA 2016-based housing-led ethnic group projections](#). Note that the figures published this year's report are lower than those published in 2017 due to the GLA adjusting for over estimates discovered in ONS data.

Cass's Foundation Primary School with Cass Child & Family Centre. Primary aged children that live in the City of London local area attend Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and a small number of schools in Islington, Tower Hamlets and Camden. Secondary age children attend a range of schools including Islington secondary schools and schools in other neighbouring local authorities, including Tower Hamlets and Hackney.

Table 1 overleaf shows the proportion of children eligible for free school meals (FSM) at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School from 2013/14 to 2017/18. The rate of eligibility for FSM was about a fifth of the cohort but fell in 2016/17 to 12%⁵ (the rate for 2018 was 12.5%). Some 17.5% of the school roll had funded 'pupil premium' status in 2018.

Graph 1: Proportion of Children Eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School from 2013/14 to 2017/18 with comparators over time

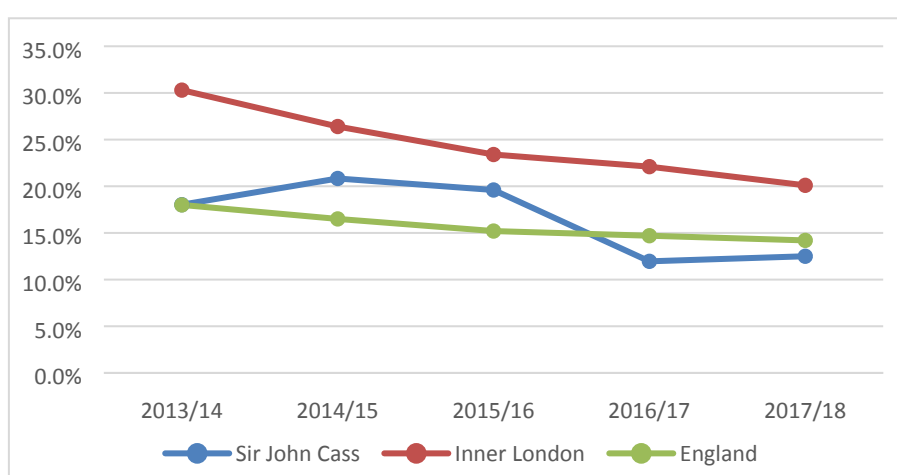


Table 1: % FSM at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School 2013/14 to 2017/18 with comparators

% FSM Eligibility	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School	18.0%	20.8%	19.6%	12.0%	12.5%
Inner London	30.3%	26.4%	23.4%	22.1%	20.1%
England	18.0%	16.5%	15.2%	14.7%	14.2%

Source: January School Census 2014 to 2018 & DfE SFR data,

Table 2 below shows the proportion of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and the rates for inner London and England. The percentage of pupils with SEND Support has more than doubled from 9% to 20.8% from January 2014 to January 2018. The proportion of pupils with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan or Statement has remained at about 3% since 2014.

⁵ Changes to benefit eligibility has lowered the rate of FSM entitlement across the country.

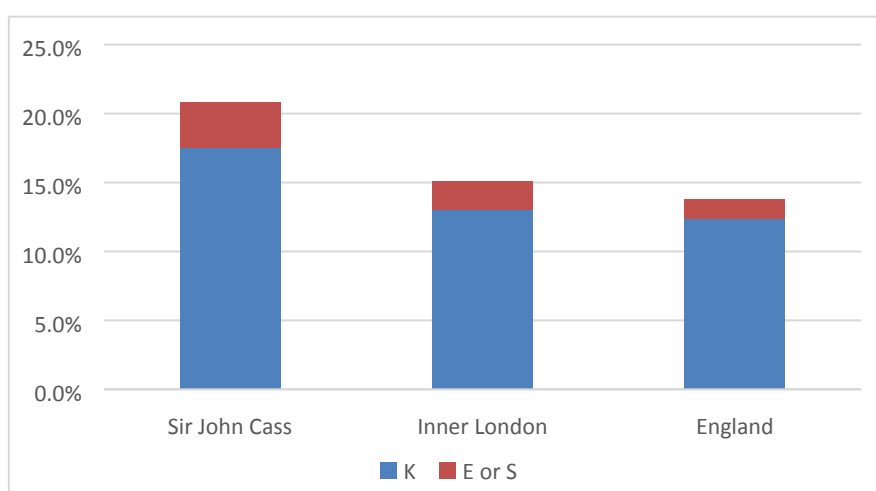
Table 2: % SEN at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School 2013/14 to 2017/18

SEN	Type	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School	SEN Support	6.4%	9.2%	16.0%	14.9%	17.5%
	EHCP or Statement	2.6%	2.9%	2.8%	2.9%	3.3%
Inner London	SEN Support	17.2%	14.6%	13.4%	13.1%	13.0%
	EHCP or Statement	1.8%	1.9%	1.9%	1.9%	2.1%
England	SEN Support	15.2%	13.0%	12.1%	12.2%	12.4%
	EHCP or Statement	1.4%	1.4%	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%

Source: January School Census 2014 to 2018 & DfE SFR data

Graph 2 below shows the rate of SEN for 2017/18. It shows that SEN at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School is higher than both the rate for England and Inner London.

Graph 2: Rates of SEN: Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, Inner London and England, 2017/18



4. Quality of provision - Ofsted Inspections

Table 3: The last two Ofsted Inspection Judgements for Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School

Judgement	Latest inspection 18/04/13	Previous inspection 26/09/08⁶
Overall effectiveness	Outstanding	Outstanding
Achievement of pupils	Outstanding	NA
Quality of teaching	Outstanding	Good
Behaviour and safety of pupils	Outstanding	NA
Leadership and management	Outstanding	NA

Source: Ofsted Inspection Reports

⁶ The inspection of Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School in 2008 was a reduced tariff inspection and judgements were not made against all of the inspection criteria.

Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School was last inspected by Ofsted in April 2013, when it was judged to be outstanding, for overall effectiveness and in all areas where judgements are made. In the previous inspection it was also judged to be outstanding for overall effectiveness. The Ofsted judgements from the last two inspections are shown in Table 3 shown above.

Table 4: The last two Ofsted Inspection Judgements for Prior Weston Primary School

Judgement	Latest inspection 08/03/18	Latest Inspection 15/10/13
Overall effectiveness	Good	Good
Achievement of pupils	NA	Good
Quality of teaching	NA	Good
Behaviour and safety of pupils	NA	Good
Leadership and management	NA	Good

Source: Ofsted Inspection Reports

One Islington primary school, Prior Weston, has a substantial number of City of London resident children on roll. The Ofsted judgements from Prior Weston's last two inspections are shown in Table 4 on the page above.

5. Attainment outcomes

This section analyses the educational performance of the City of London, comparing the outcomes at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School with City of London resident children attending Prior Western School in Islington and all City of London resident children attending Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School or an Islington school, alongside the inner London and England averages for benchmarking purposes. The 2017/18 comparator performance outturns are based on the final published results.

1.3 Health warning about small numbers

Please be aware that the numbers of children in some of the analyses are often very small, particularly when the yearly cohorts are split into sub-groups. In a small cohort one pupil's performance can make a large change in the percentage of the total. One should exercise caution when making comparisons of outturns based on small numbers of children; because of this data for resident groups (those at Prior Weston and City of London residents attending Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School or an Islington school) should be interpreted with great caution.

1.4 Early Years Foundation Stage

At the end of Reception children are assessed using the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile across a range of areas, including communication & language, physical development, personal, social & emotional development as well as literacy and maths. Children will be defined as having reached a GLD at the end of the EYFS if they achieve at least the expected level in the early learning goals in the prime areas

of learning (personal, social and emotional development; physical development; and communication and language) and in the specific areas of mathematics and literacy.

Table 5: Percentage of pupils who have reached a Good Level of Development between 2013/14 and 2017/18 for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

EYFS: % gaining a 'Good Level of Development'	2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18	
	No.s	%	No.s	%	No.s	%	No.s	%	No.s	%
Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School	21	70.0	23.0	76.7	21.0	70.0	61.0	77.0	31.0	77.4
CofL Residents at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and LBI	18	69.2	23.0	82.1	17.0	70.8	33.0	60.6	19.0	78.9
CofL Residents at PW & COL-P*	11	81.8	10.0	100.0	11.0	91.7	11.0	72.7	11.0	90.9
Inner London	n/a	62.0	n/a	67.7	n/a	70.7	n/a	72.8	n/a	73.7
England	n/a	60.0	n/a	66.3	n/a	69.3	n/a	70.7	n/a	71.5

*PW = Prior Weston School, COL-P = City of London Primary Islington.

Source: Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, Islington's Children's Services and DfE Statistical First Releases

The EYFS results of Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, City of London residents and City of London residents attending Prior Weston or the City of London Primary Islington were all higher than the rates for Inner London and England for all five years.

1.5 Phonics in Year 1

Since 2012 schools have been required to administer a statutory phonics screening check⁷ of Year 1 pupils. Each pupil tested must read 40 sounds out loud to their teacher. Performance at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School has improved over time, and on average 89.4% reached the standard in the last three years and the school's results for 2017-18 were above those for both Inner London and England. Table 6 below shows the figures for City of London residents attending Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and Islington schools as well as those for City of London residents attending Prior Weston School alongside the data for Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School. The average results for the years 2015/16 to 2017/18 combined for City of London residents attending Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and LBI schools passing phonics was 83.0%; the figure for City of London residents attending Prior Weston was 83.6%.

⁷ Phonic marks range from 0 to 40. A mark of 32 or above (80%+) is means that the required standard has been reached.

**Table 6: Proportion of pupils passing the Phonics Screening
2013/14 to 2017/18**

% passed (32+ marks or 80%+)	% Year 1 Pupils Passed				
	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School (CofL LA)	50.0%	82.8%	90.0%	86.7%	91.5%
CofL Residents at PW	83.3%	90.9%	81.8%	88.9%	80.0%
CofL Residents at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School or LBI	76.9%	87.0%	88.0%	85.7%	80.0%
Inner London	78.0%	80.0%	84.0%	85.0%	85.0%
England	74.0%	77.0%	81.0%	81.0%	82.0%

Source: DfE Statistical First Releases LB Islington and the City of London

1.6 Key Stage 1

All Year 2 pupils (rising 7 year olds) are assessed at the end of Key Stage 1 (KS1). Table 7 shows the number of children in each of the groups for Key Stage 1 results. The largest of these cohorts is Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School.

Table 7: Number of pupils per group in the Year 2 cohort 2013/14 - 2017/18

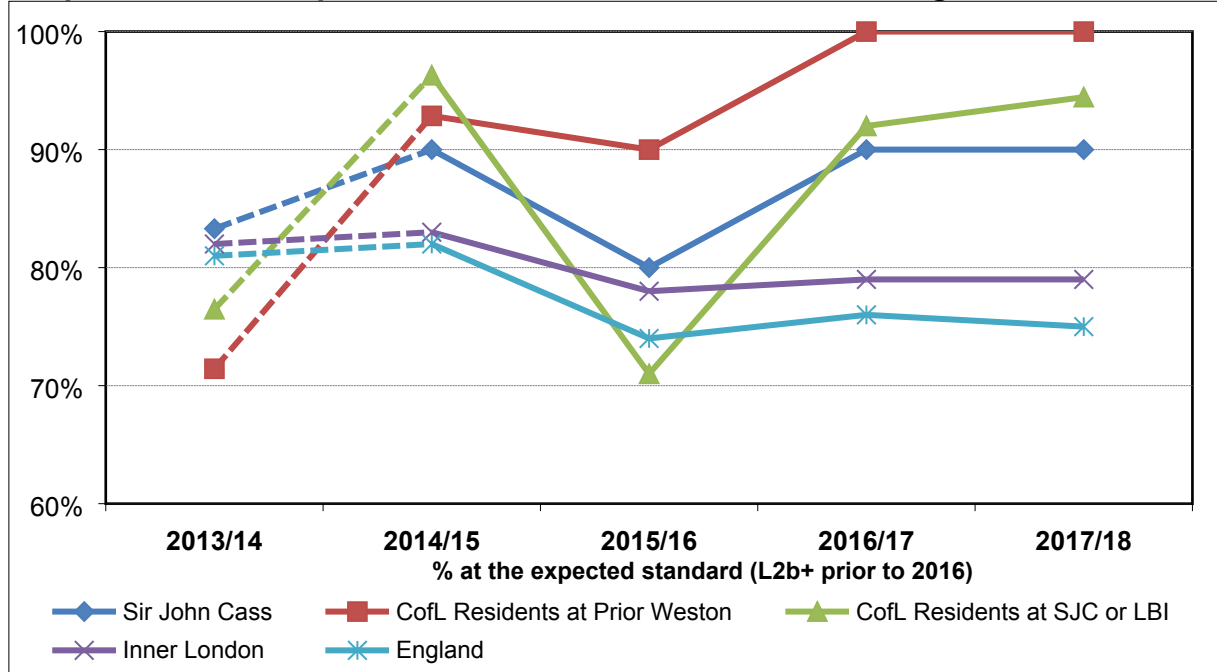
Key Stage 1: Numbers	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School	30	30	30	30	30
CofL Residents at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School	8	10	11	11	10
Cof L Residents at Prior Weston	7	14	10	10	7
CofL other Islington schools	2	3	3	3	1
CofL Residents at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School or LBI	17	27	24	24	18

Source: Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and Islington's Children's Services. The numbers in these groups are not mutually exclusive

Changes to the KS1 curriculum and method of assessment means figures from 2016 are not comparable to those for earlier years. Before 2016 the old Level 2B+, is shown as the closest benchmark. The 2016 reading test emphasised the comprehension elements of the new curriculum. The proportion of pupils that passed this more difficult assessment was lower, both nationally and in the City of London.

Since the first KS1 assessment of the more challenging new curriculum in the academic year 2015/16 the performance of Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and Corporation residents attending Prior Weston has been above that of the Inner London and England averages. This is also true of City of London residents attending either Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School or an Islington primary school for the last two years (see Graph 4 below).

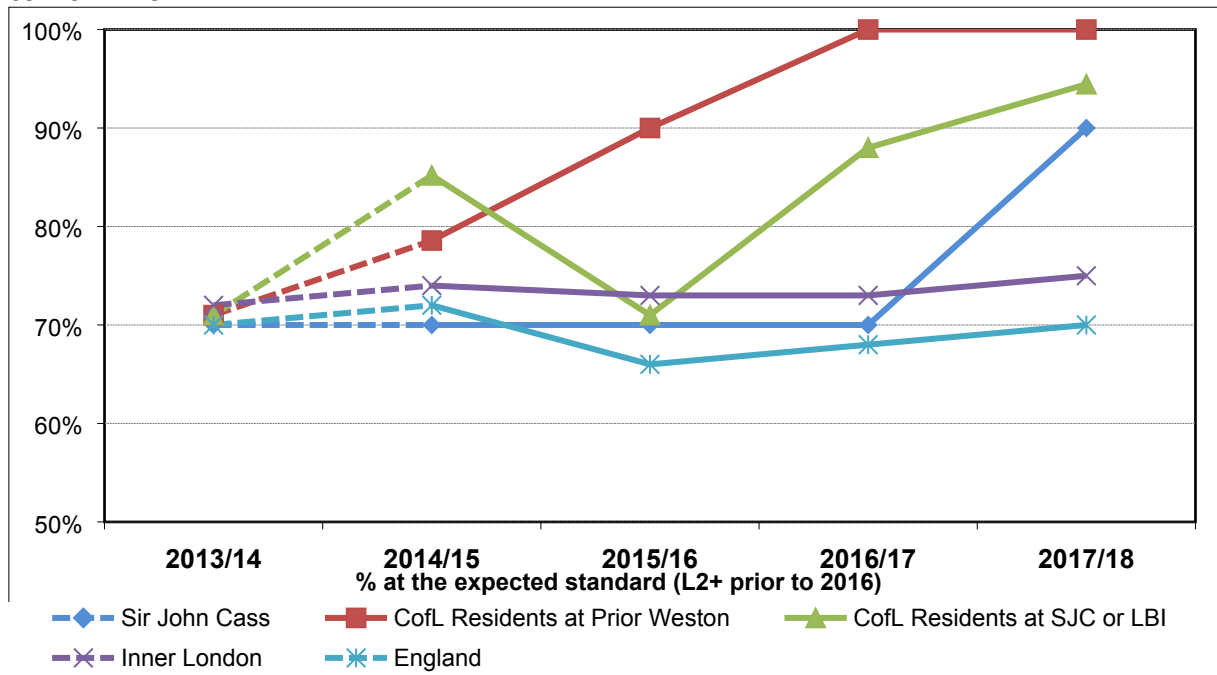
Graph 4: % at the expected standard or above in KS1 Reading 2013/14 - 2017/18



Source: DfE Statistical First Releases and City of London. Dotted lines indicate old Level 2b+ benchmark.

Graph 5 below shows that the Key Stage 1 writing results for Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School were above national average but below those for Inner London for the first two years of assessment of the new Key Stage 1 curriculum. In 2017/18, however, all City of London groups, residential and pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, were above both comparators.

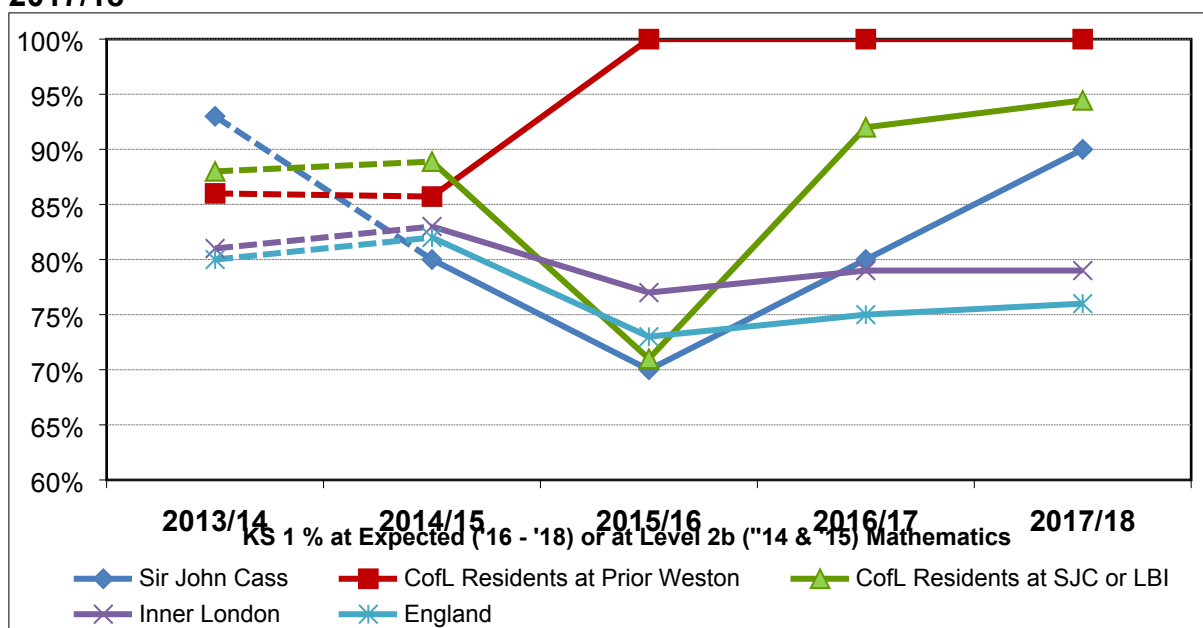
Graph 5: % of pupils at the expected standard or above in KS1 Writing 2013/14 to 2017/18



Source: DfE Statistical First Releases. Dotted lines indicate old Level 2b+ benchmark.

Graph 6 below shows that Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School results for maths in 2017 and 2018 rose after poor results for the first year of the new curriculum.

Graph 6: KS1 Maths % of pupils at the expected standard or above 2013/14 - 2017/18



Source: DfE Statistical First Releases, LB Islington & the City of London. Dotted lines show old Level 2b+ benchmark.

Key Stage 2

All Year 6 pupils (rising 12 year olds) are assessed at the end of Key Stage 2 (KS2). In 2016, the new more challenging national curriculum was assessed by new tests and interim frameworks for teacher assessment. Results are no longer reported as levels: each pupil receives their test results as a scaled score and teacher assessments based on the interim framework.

Please note: figures for 2016 onwards are not comparable to those for earlier years.

Table 8 below shows the number of children in each group for at the end of KS2 from 2013/14 to 2017/18. The largest group is the roll at the Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School.

Table 8: Numbers of pupils per group in the Year 6 cohort 2013/14 to 2017/18

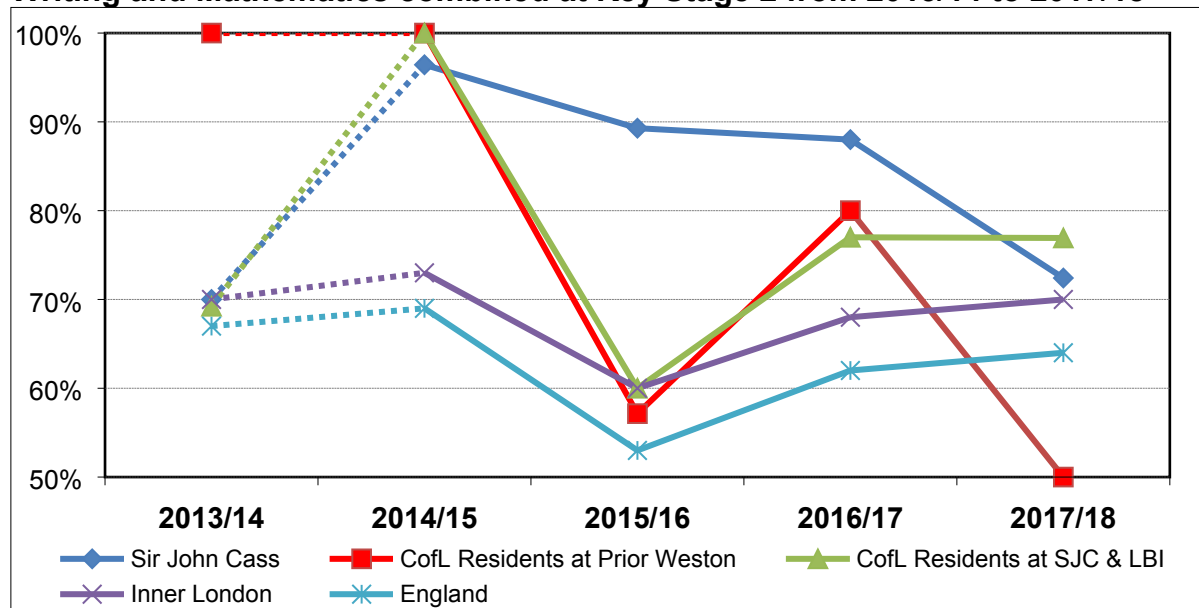
KS2	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School	30	28	28	26	29
CofL Residents at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School	4	5	5	2	8
CofL Residents at Prior Weston	8	9	9	10	4
CofL other Islington school	1	1	1	1	1
CofL Residents Total	13	15	15	13	13

Source: Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and Islington's Children's Services
Note: The categories are not mutually exclusive and some pupils will appear in more than one group.

Graph 7 below shows 72% of pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School were at the expected standard or above in reading, writing and mathematics combined in 2017-18, compared to 88% the previous year. The City of London's results (Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School) were the highest for any L.A. in

England for 2013/14 to 2016/17. The figure for 2017/18 was 76% putting the authority in the top decile for this measure.

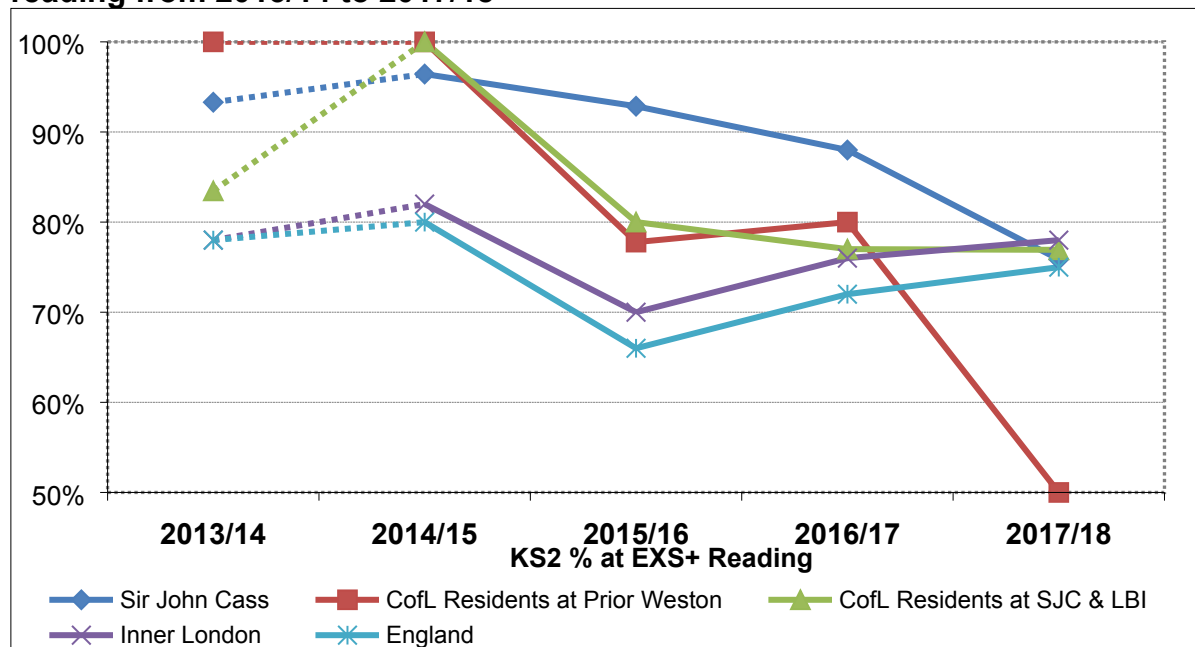
Graph 7: Percentage of pupils expected standard and above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics combined at Key Stage 2 from 2013/14 to 2017/18



Source: DfE Statistical First Releases, LB Islington and City of London. 2013/14 & 2014/15 data shows % at 4b+ for the old curriculum.

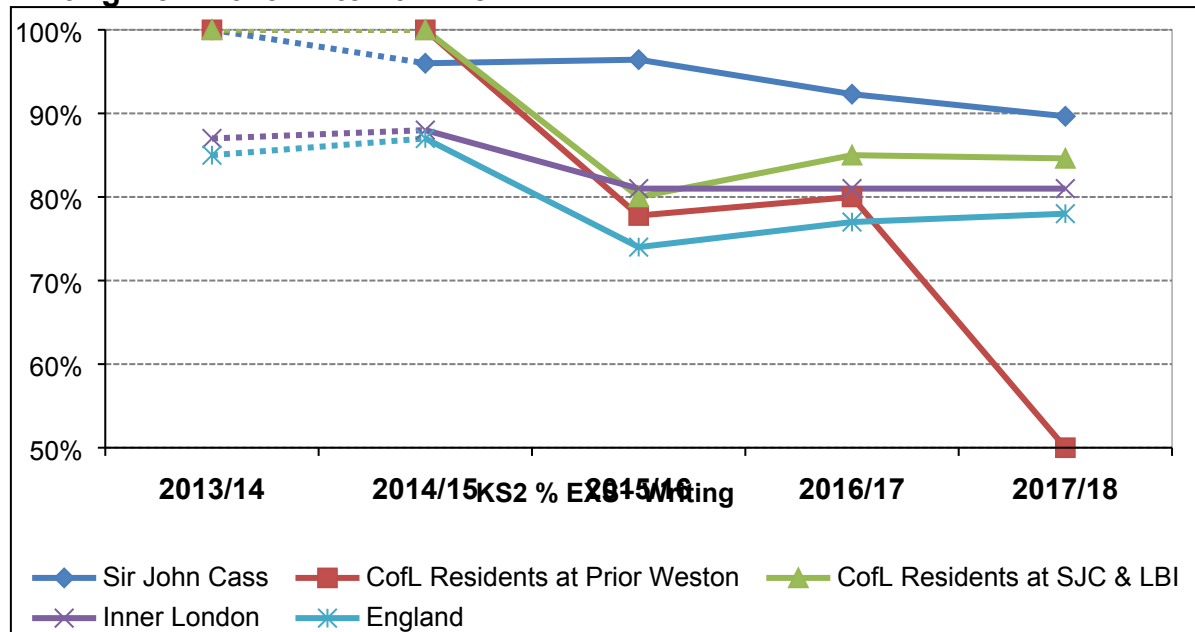
Graph 8 below shows that 76% of pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and 77% of the authority's residents attending school in the City or Islington were at the expected standard or above in reading.

Graph 8: Percentage of pupils at or above the expected standard in KS2 reading from 2013/14 to 2017/18



Source: DfE Statistical First Releases, LB Islington and City of London. 2013/14 & 2014/15 data shows % at 4b+ for the old curriculum.

Graph 9: Percentage of pupils at or above the expected standard in KS2 Writing from 2013/14 to 2017/18

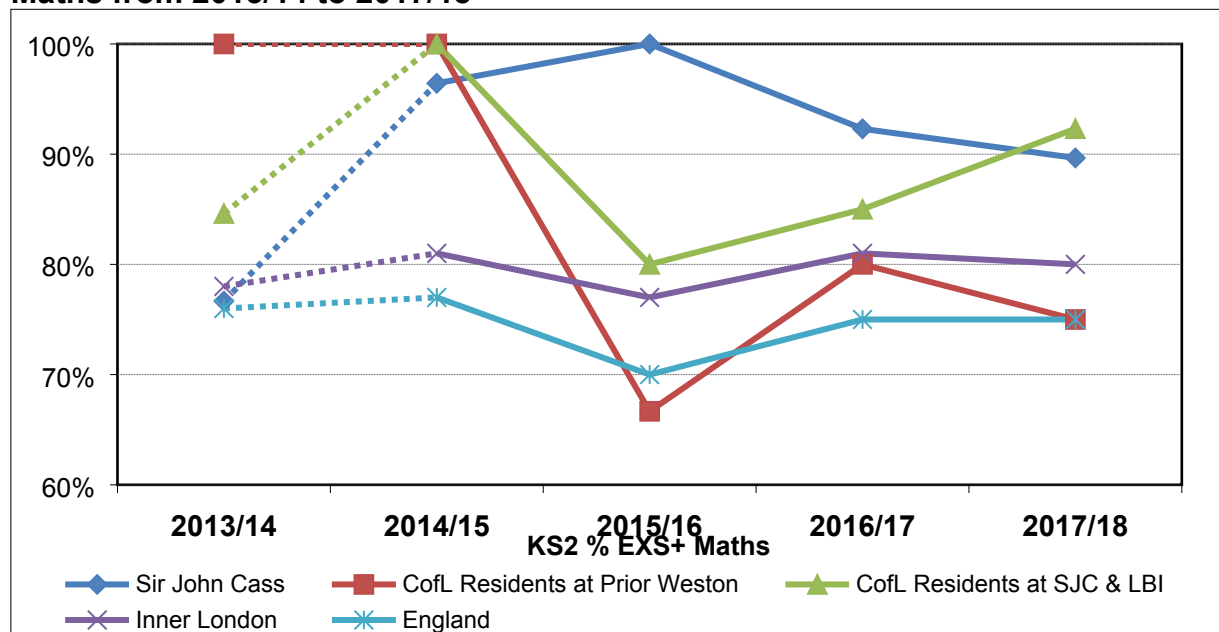


Source: DfE Statistical First Releases LB Islington and City of London. 2013/14 & 2014/15 data shows % at 4b+ for the old curriculum.

Graph 9 above shows 90% of pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School reached the expected level or above at Key Stage 2 in writing in 2017/18. This figure is lower than the previous year but is still above the results for Inner London and England.

Graph 10 below shows that 90% or more pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School reached the expected level or above at Key Stage 2 in mathematics in since the introduction of the new curriculum.

Graph 10: Percentage of pupils at or above the expected standard in KS2 Maths from 2013/14 to 2017/18



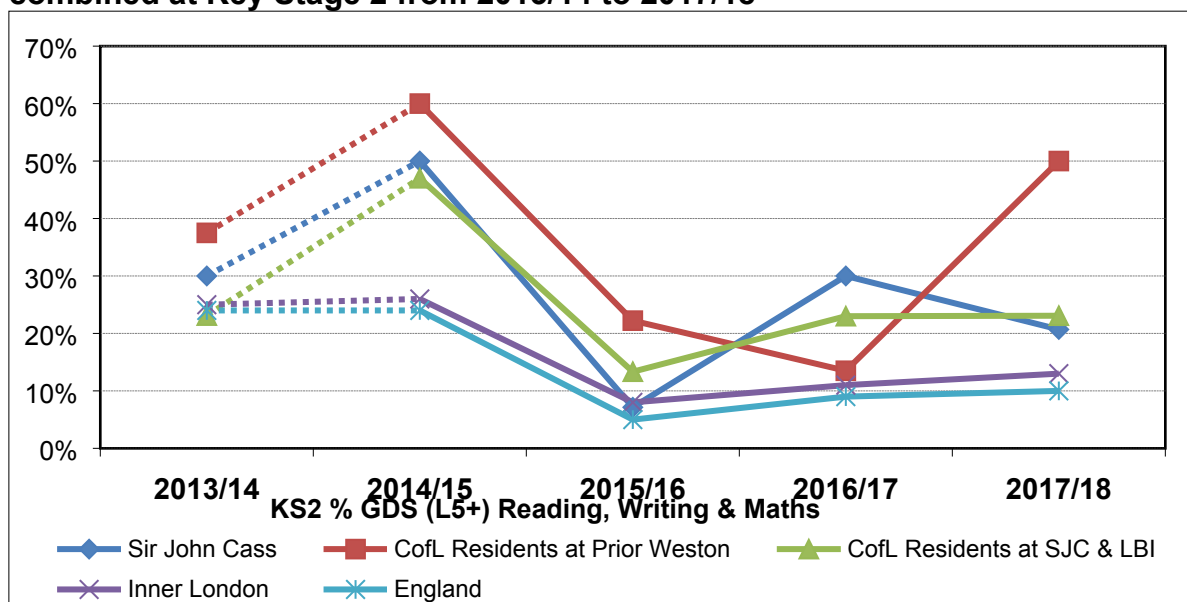
Source: DfE Statistical First Releases, LB Islington and City of London. 2013/14 & 2014/15 data shows % at 4b+ for the old curriculum.

5.5.1 Pupils working at greater depth at Key Stage 2

The new curriculum threshold for 'working at greater depth' (GDS) for subjects that are tested (reading, maths and GPS) is 110 standardised points. Level 5 was the previous higher benchmark for pupils working above the expected level for their age.

Please note: figures from 2016 are not comparable to those for earlier years.

Graph 11: % of pupils at GDS (or Level 5) for Reading, Writing & Maths combined at Key Stage 2 from 2013/14 to 2017/18



Source: DfE Statistical First Releases, LB Islington and City of London. 2013/14 & 2014/15 data shows % at 4b+ for the old curriculum.

Graph 11 shows that 21% of pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School in 2018 were at greater depth compared to inner London (13%) and England (10%).

Table 9 shows the percentage of pupil premium pupils and non-disadvantaged pupils for 2015-16 to 2017-18 combined reaching the expected standard for all three core subjects. The results of the corporation's disadvantaged pupils are not only above the equivalent figures for pupil premium pupils nationally and in inner London but also those for non-disadvantaged pupils both in England and inner London.

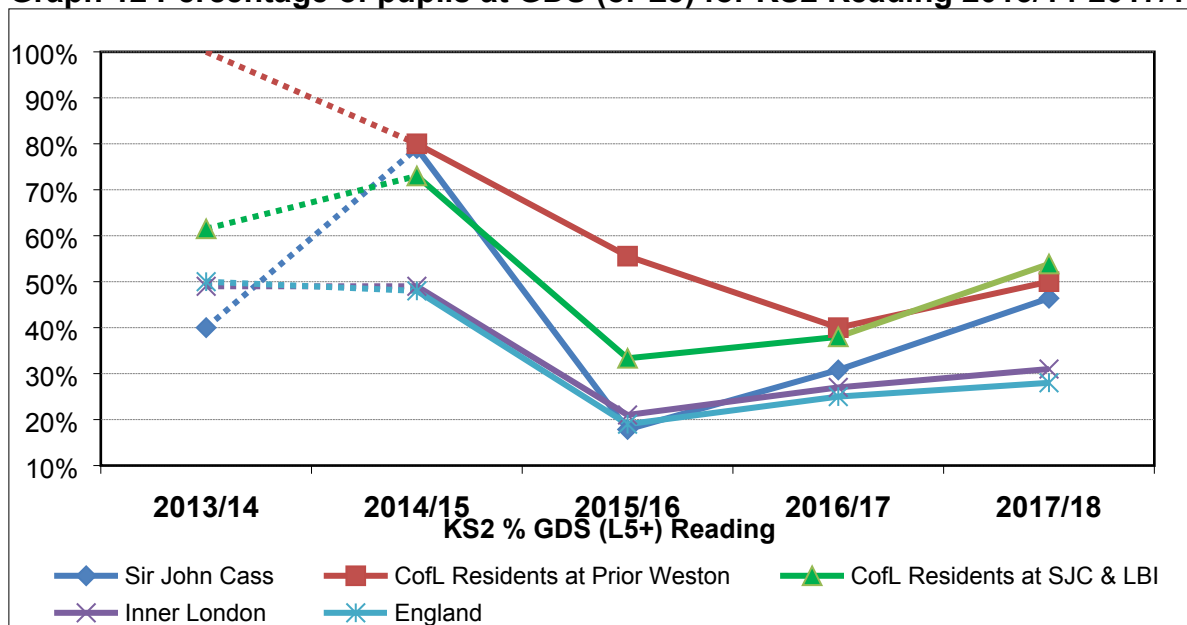
Table 9: % At or Above the Expected for Reading, Writing & Mathematics Combined – Three Year Average

3 Year Average : 2015/16 - 2017/18	Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School		Inner London	England
	#s	%	%	%
All Pupils	71	91.2	66.0	60.3
Pupil Premium Pupils	48	89.5	57.7	43.3
Non-Pupil Premium Pupils	23	93.3	73.0	66.7

Source: City of London

Graph 12 overleaf shows that 46% of pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School were at greater depth for KS2 reading in 2018 and those City of London residents attending Prior Weston, Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School or Islington schools were at or above 50% for this measure. The rates for inner London and England were 31% and 28% respectively.

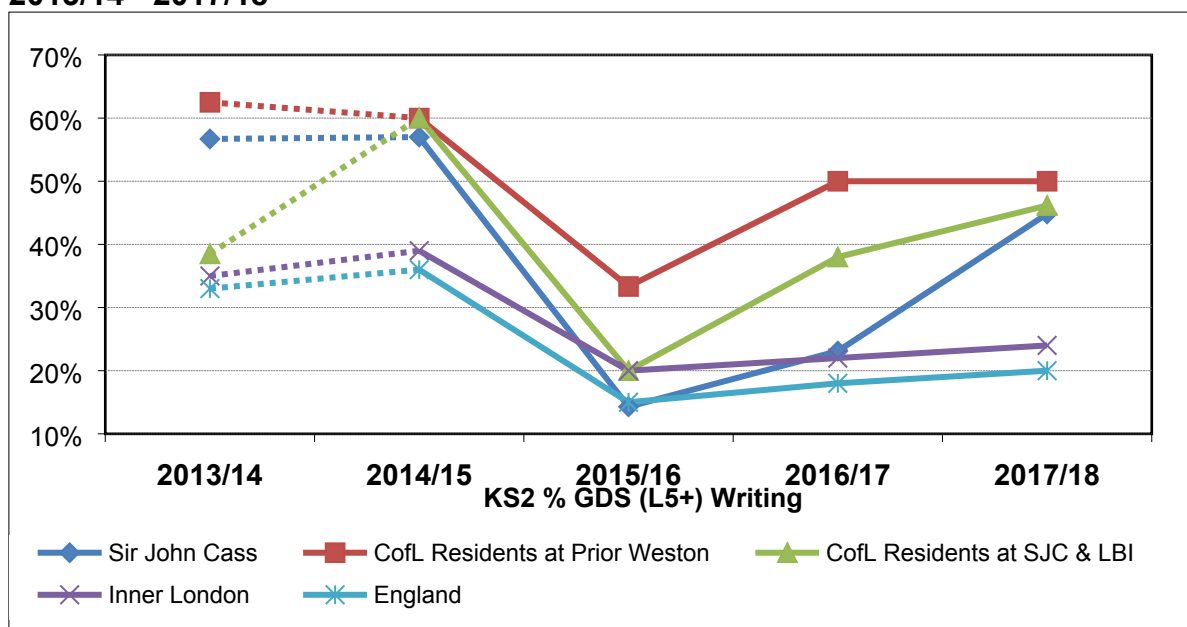
Graph 12 Percentage of pupils at GDS (or L5) for KS2 Reading 2013/14-2017/18



Source: DfE Statistical First Releases, LB Islington and City of London. 2013/14 & 2014/15 data shows % at 4b+ for the old curriculum.

Graph 13 overleaf shows that the proportion of pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School working at greater depth in writing in 2018 was (45%) more than 20 percentage points above the rates for inner London (24%) and for England (20%).

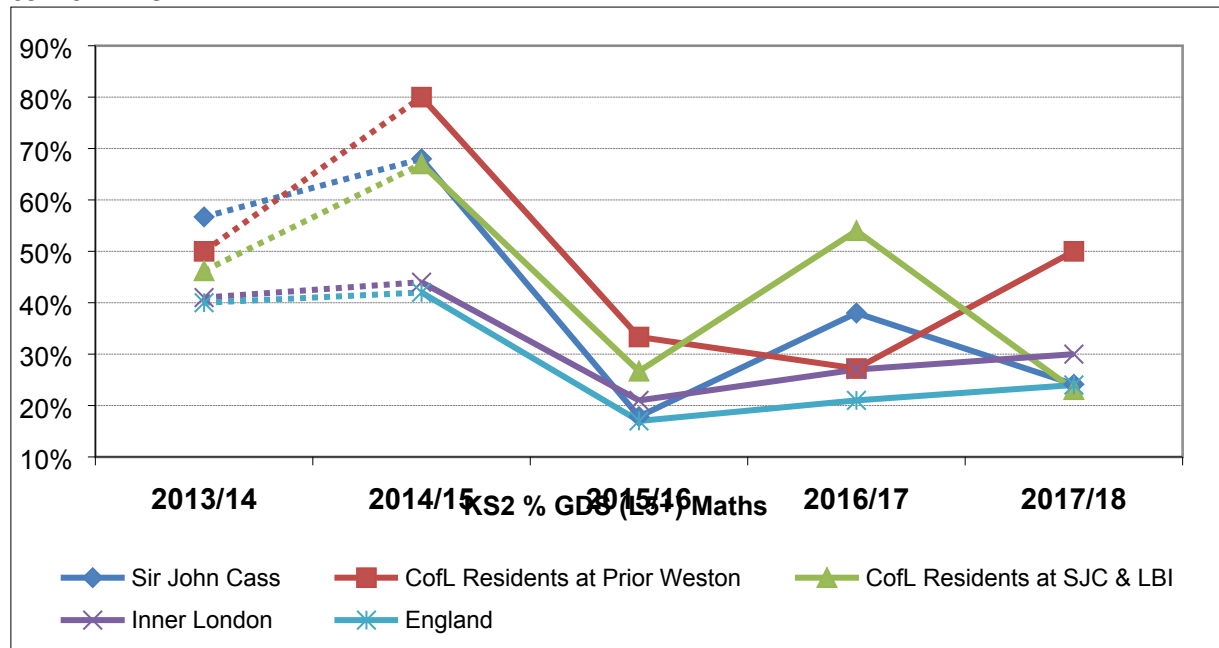
Graph 13: Percentage of of pupils at GDS (or Level 5) in KS2 Writing from 2013/14 - 2017/18



Source: DfE Statistical First Releases, LB Islington and City of London. 2013/14 & 2014/15 data shows % at 4b+ for the old curriculum.

Graph 14 below shows that the proportion of pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School working at greater depth in mathematics, at 24 percentage points, is equal to the national but below Inner London (at 30%); City residents at Prior Weston were at 50% on this measure.

Graph 14: Percentage of pupils at GDS (or Level 5) in KS2 Maths from 2013/14 to 2017/18



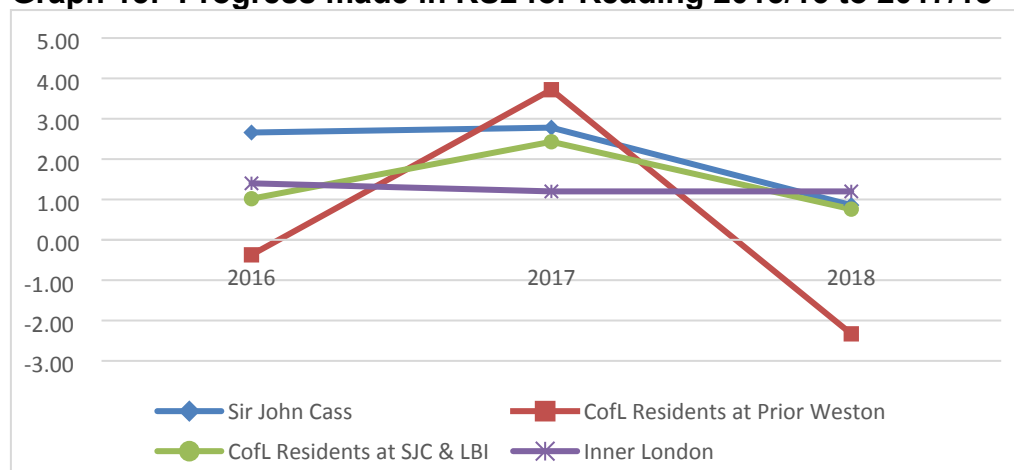
Source: DfE Statistical First Releases, LB Islington and City of London. 2013/14 & 2014/15 data shows % at 4b+ for the old curriculum.

5.5.2 Progress from Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2

The DfE measure for progress is a 'relative attainment' model that compares the standardised score (or the numeric value associated with a grade in the case of writing) for each pupil against the average performance of pupils with very similar end of KS1 results nationally. A score below zero indicates lower than average progress rather than negative progress. The floor standard for progress for all three years was -5 for reading and mathematics bit -7 for writing.

Graph 15 below shows the DfE progress measure for reading for the last three years. The progress figure for Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and City of London residents attending school in the City or in Islington have positive progress figures for all three years. Those residents on roll at Prior Weston school have sometimes had below average progress though this group is very small and so the results are likely to vary from year to year.

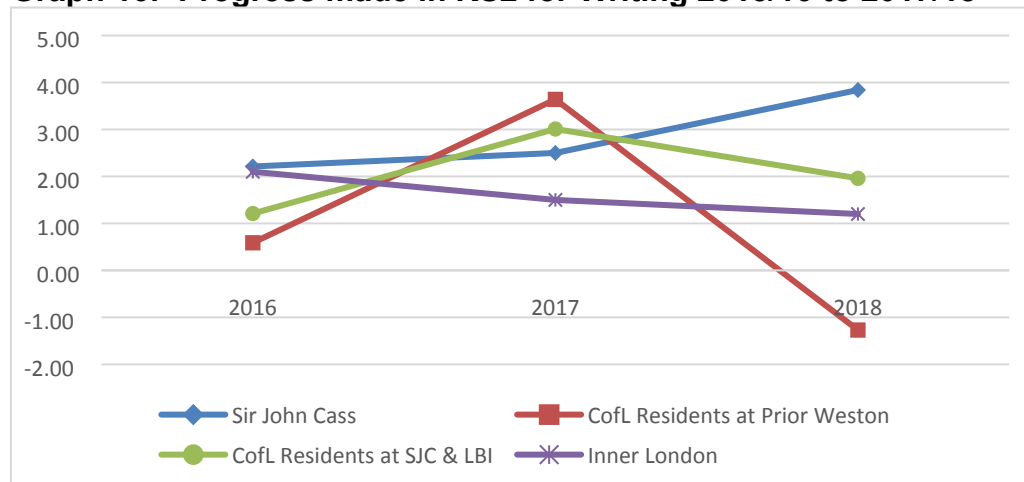
Graph 15: Progress made in KS2 for Reading 2015/16 to 2017/18



Source: DfE Statistical First Releases, LB Islington and City of London.

Graph 16 below shows progress in writing has a similar pattern to progress in reading with Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School and residents of the corporation attending Islington schools above the national average for all three years.

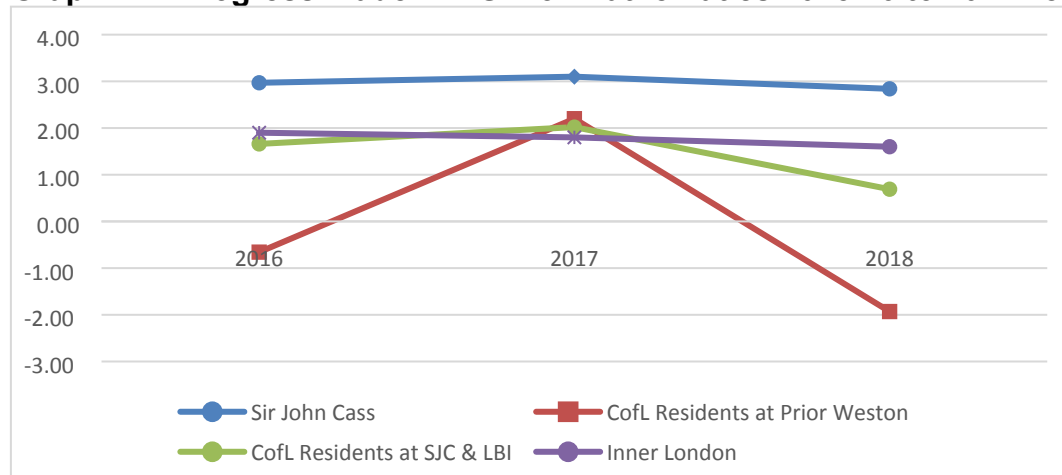
Graph 16: Progress made in KS2 for Writing 2015/16 to 2017/18



Source: DfE Statistical First Releases, LB Islington and City of London.

Graph 17 below shows the mathematics progress made by pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School at about 3 points since this measure was introduced. This means, that on average, pupils at this school scored three standardised scale points more than pupils with similar Key Stage 1 results nationally. City of London residents attending Islington schools were above the national average for all three years and the small number of residents attending Prior Weston showing the same pattern seen for progress in reading and also writing.

Graph 17: Progress made in KS2 for Mathematics 2015/16 to 2017/18



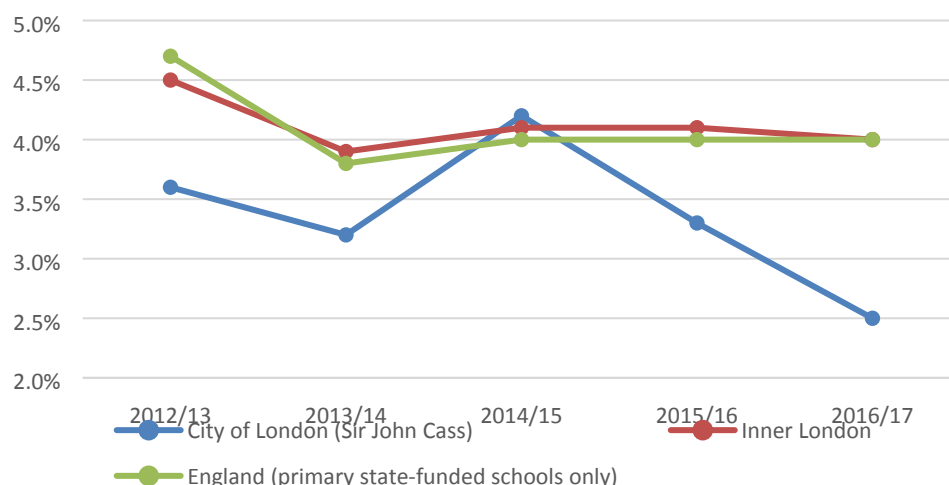
Source: DfE Statistical First Releases, LB Islington and City of London

6. Attendance

Graph 18 compares the City of London's (e.g. Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School's) rates of absence with primary inner London and England. The City of London's rate increased in 2014/15 to a level that was higher than both inner London and England before falling in 2015/16 and 2016/17. Overall absence for 2016/17 was 2.5% which is the lowest rate of absence out of all 152 English local authorities.

Please note that the figures for small groups will show more variance from one year to the next which is why Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School data fluctuates more than the comparators over time.

Graph 18: Overall three term absence rates 2012/13 to 2016/17



Source: DfE Performance Tables and Statistical First Releases. Note: Three term absence data for 2017/18 is not yet published.

Table 10 below shows that there were no pupils persistently absent at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School for 2012/13 and there was no published data in 2014/15 owing to numbers being too small to publish. Performance remains better than the inner London and England averages. The rate of persistent absence in 2015/16 was higher because that year the DfE definition of persistent absence changed to include any pupil whose rate of absence is greater than 10% of their total possible sessions⁸. The 2016/17 rate of persistent absence for the City of London was the lowest recorded by all 152 local authorities in England.

Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School 's three term absence for 2017-18 was 3.3%. Three term absence data for inner London and England 2017/18 is not yet available.

Table 10: Persistent absence rates 2012/13 and 2016/17

DfE figures for Persistent Absence	Definition of Persistent Absence:				
	PA= 15%+ Absence			PA = 10%+ Absence	
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
City of London (Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School)	n/a	1.7%	n/a ⁹	3.9%	2.8%
Inner London	2.8%	2.3%	2.3%	8.9%	8.6%
England (primary state-funded schools only)	2.7%	2.1%	2.1%	8.2%	8.3%

Source: DfE Performance Tables and SFRs 2012 to 2018

⁸ In the past persistent absence was defined as a rate of absence greater than 15% of the whole year (as defined by the DfE). From 2015-16 it was redefined as any rate of absence greater than 10%.

⁹ Data on persistent absenteeism for the City of London was suppressed by the DfE for 2014/15

7. Admissions

Islington Council processes school admission applications on behalf of the City of London. The tables below relate to offers to City of London residents.

1.7 Primary school admissions

Table 11 overleaf shows the number and percentage of resident children who were offered a school place in The City of London, Islington or another borough. From 2015 to 2016 a higher proportion of the corporation's residents were offered a place at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School compared to 2017 & 2018, with over half of resident children offered a place at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School in 2016 when the school opened a bulge class at Reception for that year. Just over a fifth of the corporation's residents were offered a place at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School in 2016 and about 30% were in 2018. With the exception of 2016, roughly 55% were offered an Islington school from 2015 to 2018. The proportion of reception aged children in the City offered a place in another borough rose from 3.1% in 2014 to 17.6% in 2018. Of the six pupils offered places in schools in other boroughs four were offered places in Tower Hamlets schools, one was offered a place in a school in Westminster and one at a school in Camden.

Table 11: Offers of reception school places to City of London resident children in 2015 to 2018

Reception Place Offers	2015		2016		2017		2018	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School	10	31.3%	19	54.3%	6	21.4%	10	29.4%
Islington Schools	18	56.3%	12	34.3%	16	57.1%	18	52.9%
Schools in other Boroughs	4	12.5%	4	11.4%	6	21.4%	6	17.6%
Total	32	100%	35	100%	28	100%	34	100%

Source: Islington Admissions Section, based on the position on offer day.

Note: These are offers to City of London residents only. Only offered pupils are included.

1.8 Secondary school admissions

Table 12 below shows the breakdown of offers to City children by the schools' maintaining local authority from 2014 to 2018. From 2014 to 2017 between 40% and 65% of 11 year olds living in the corporation were offered places in Islington schools, although this figure fell to about a quarter in 2018. On average, over the five years, about 1 in 6 were offered places in a Tower Hamlets secondary school, about 1 in 8 were offered a place in a Hackney school and over 10% were offered places in secondary schools in Southwark. Offers in 2018 included places in Hammersmith and Essex local authority schools for the first time over the last 5 years.

Table 12: Offers of secondary school places to City of London resident children 2014 to 2018

Secondary Transfer Offers	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Islington Schools	6	40.0%	9	42.9%	13	59.1%	11	64.7%	5	26.3%
Greenwich	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	10.5%
Hackney	2	13.3%	3	14.3%	3	13.6%	1	5.9%	3	15.8%
Hammersmith	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.3%
Kensington & Chelsea	0	0.0%	1	4.8%	1	4.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Lewisham	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Southwark	3	20.0%	1	4.8%	0	0.0%	3	17.6%	3	15.8%
Tower Hamlets	1	6.7%	6	28.6%	4	18.2%	2	11.8%	2	10.5%
Westminster	3	20.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	5.3%
Essex	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	2	10.5%
Lambeth	0	0.0%	1	4.8%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Barnet	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	4.5%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Total	15	100%	21	100%	22	100%	17	100%	19	100%

Source: Islington Admissions Section, based on the position on offer day.

Note: These are offers to City residents only. Only pupils offered a place are included.

7.1.1 Suggested Questions for Governors

How well are children in our school doing compared to City of London children in other schools and in relation to inner London and nationally?

What steps has the school taken to improve outcomes and what has the impact been?

How might the school raise performance in Key Stage 1 reading and mathematics? Are any particular groups of pupils underperforming in these subjects?

Are pupils making expected progress between Year 2 and Year 6 (during KS2)?

How do we know if every child is reaching their full potential? How can we ensure higher ability pupils are supported to work at greater depth?

Which pupil groups are performing less well? What action has been taken to address their underperformance?

How is the Pupil Premium being used to 'close the gap' between different groups (gender, ethnicity, SEN, FSM)?

What progress is being made on the key areas for development identified at the last inspection and what has the impact been?

How well has the school prepared for changes to the Ofsted Inspection Framework happening in September 2019?

What action is being taken to sustain our school's judgement of outstanding?

How does the absence data and persistent absence data compare with the national equivalents? How does the equivalent data for just pupil premium pupils compare against the national data for pupil premium and non-pupil premium data?