



**Cambridge
Assessment**

Uptake of level 2 qualifications in English schools in 2016

Statistics Report Series No. 118

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October 2017

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How to cite this publication:

Gill, T. (2017). *Uptake of level 2 qualifications in English schools in 2016. Statistics Report Series No. 118*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge Assessment.

Introduction

This report is a follow up to previous reports analysing the uptake of different qualifications by pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 (KS4) in English schools in 2013/14 and 2014/15 (Gill, 2015; Gill, 2016). The current report is an update for 2015/2016.

Uptake of a subject is usually defined as the percentage of students (who take the qualification in at least one subject) taking the subject (either in the current, or a previous year). For example, uptake of GCSE English is the percentage of GCSE students taking a GCSE in English. However, as this report looks at multiple qualifications, uptake is redefined as the percentage of all students (at the end of KS4) taking a particular qualification (or a particular subject in that qualification).

Data

The data for these analyses were taken from the National Pupil Database (NPD) for 2016. This is a database held by the Department for Education, consisting of results for all students in all subjects in schools and colleges in England. The Key Stage 4 (KS4) extract of the NPD was used, consisting of all students who were at the end of KS4 (i.e. in year 11).

All exams taken by these students were included, even if taken in previous years. Most of the analyses were also broken down by school type. This year's analysis used a different classification to previous years, to better reflect the differences among schools. Seven main categories were used¹: Academy (Comprehensive); Academy (Modern); Academy (Selective); Comprehensive; Secondary Modern; Grammar; Independent. Students attending Sixth Form or FE Colleges or Special Schools were excluded from the school type breakdown (although they were still included in the overall totals). Table 1 presents the number of students (at the end of KS4) in each school type.

Table 1: Number and percentage of students in different school types

School type	Number of students	Percent
Academy (comprehensive)	305,979	51.8
Academy (modern)	12,911	2.2
Academy (selective)	19,349	3.3
Comprehensive	182,362	30.9
Grammar	3,191	0.5
Independent	44,897	7.6
Secondary Modern	6,151	1.0

There were a very large number of different qualifications recorded in the KS4 extract of the NPD, but not all of these were included in this report. To make the analyses more manageable only KS4 qualifications which were the same size as a GCSE (according to the NPD) were included.

¹ The new categories combine school type and selection policy, and were derived from Edubase, the Department for Education's register of educational establishments in England and Wales. For further information on derivation of categories, see Statistics Report No. 113 (Gill, 2017).

One of the more common alternatives to GCSEs is International GCSEs². These were originally developed for use overseas, but independent schools in England began using them more than 10 years ago. More recently, accredited versions of some subjects have been developed for use in English state schools. Thus, in 2016 there were two types of International GCSEs available to schools in England (accredited and non-accredited). However, only the accredited versions are included in the NPD. It is very rare for state schools to offer non-accredited versions because they will not receive government funding, but these restrictions do not apply to independent schools. Thus, in the following analysis the uptake of International GCSEs in independent schools will be under-estimated. It is worth noting that from 2017 International GCSEs will be phased out from inclusion in state school performance tables (Vaughan, 2014) and therefore uptake of these is expected to drop significantly.

Results

Overall volumes

Table 2 presents the number of students and entries for level 2 qualifications taken by students at the end of KS4.

Table 2: Uptake of Level 2 qualifications, by type

Qualification	Students	Entries	% of entries
GCSE	587,716	4,542,301	83.2
International GCSE	268,100	445,396	8.2
BTEC	139,273	172,759	3.2
VRQ	114,116	118,530	2.2
Vocational GCSE	62,707	66,694	1.2
Other GQ	49,737	52,839	1.0
Cambridge National	50,219	52,431	1.0
AS level	6,405	6,845	0.1
Diploma	634	634	<0.1

Apart from GCSEs, the most common qualifications were International GCSEs, BTECs and Vocationally Related Qualifications (VRQs). Almost 85% of the VRQ entries were in a qualification in digital literacy known as the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL). This is a controversial qualification which some schools were apparently teaching to students in just a few days (Dickens, 2015). This qualification was responsible for the large increase in VRQ entries compared with last year (Gill, 2016). However, it will be removed from performance tables from 2018 onwards (Busby, 2017) and therefore uptake is likely to drop significantly. Other VRQs include a Certificate in IT User Skills, a Certificate in Financial Education and an Award in Child Development and Care.

Other GQ refers to other 'General Qualifications', being non-vocational qualifications which are not GCSEs or International GCSEs. Around half of these entries were in an AQA Level 2 Certificate in Further Maths and an AQA Level 1 Certificate in French.

Table 3 presents the uptake of the different qualifications, by students in each school type, and overall. In terms of the alternatives to GCSEs, International GCSEs were most likely to be taken

² Also sometimes called Level 1 / Level 2 Certificates

in secondary modern (65.5%) or independent schools (64.4%). Students in secondary moderns (both academies and non-academies) were most likely to take BTECs or Cambridge Nationals. BTECs were taken by over 25% and Cambridge Nationals by 9.5% of comprehensive school students. Very few grammar school or independent school students took either BTECs or Cambridge Nationals. VRQs were most likely to be taken in secondary modern or comprehensive schools.

Table 3: Uptake of level 2 qualifications, by school type (% of students at end of KS4)

Qualification	Acad (comp)	Acad (mod)	Acad (sel)	Comp	Gram	Ind	Sec Mod	All
GCSE	99.7	99.7	99.8	99.8	100.0	97.4	99.7	99.4
Int. GCSE	45.6	60.7	50.9	39.6	31.8	64.2	65.5	45.3
BTEC	26.7	36.7	1.2	25.2	1.1	0.9	41.3	23.5
VRQ	24.8	21.2	4.6	17.0	1.9	1.9	25.0	19.3
Vocational GCSE	12.3	8.4	1.5	11.8	2.8	0.6	14.6	10.6
Cambridge National	9.5	12.1	2.7	9.5	.	0.6	10.6	8.5
Other GQ	8.2	10.6	22.9	7.5	15.8	9.6	4.2	8.4
AS level	0.8	0.4	5.0	0.8	0.5	2.5	0.8	1.1
Diploma	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	.	.	0.1	0.1

Compared with the analysis of 2015 data (Gill, 2016), there was a large increase in the percentage of students taking a VRQ (from 7.5% to 19.3%), whilst there were falls in the percentages taking a BTEC (from 31.2% to 23.5%) or a Cambridge National (from 12.8% to 8.5%).

Combinations of qualifications taken by students

Table 4 presents the top 10 most common combinations of qualifications taken by students. It is a sign of the variety of qualifications available currently that there were 192 different combinations of qualifications taken by students in 2015/16.

Table 4: Most popular combinations of qualifications taken by students

Combination	Students	% Students
GCSE	160,106	27.1
GCSE-Int. GCSE	112,756	19.1
GCSE-BTEC	39,904	6.7
GCSE-BTEC-Int. GCSE	35,542	6.0
GCSE-Int. GCSE-VRQ	30,798	5.2
GCSE-VRQ	25,951	4.4
GCSE-Cambridge National	17,097	2.9
GCSE-Other GQ	17,027	2.9
GCSE-Vocational GCSE	16,228	2.7
GCSE-BTEC-Int. GCSE-VRQ	15,693	2.7

The most popular combination was GCSEs only, which was taken by 27.1% of students, followed by combining GCSEs with International GCSEs (19.1%) and with BTECs (6.7%). Appendix A presents the five most popular combinations in each school type.

Uptake of individual subjects

Compulsory subjects

The National Curriculum requires state-funded schools to provide pupils with access to core subjects (English, Mathematics and Sciences). In science the requirement is access to a course of study leading to at least two GCSEs (or equivalent). This essentially means offering core science and additional science or all three separate sciences. In English, most students take either separate qualifications in English language and English literature or a combined English qualification.

It is necessary for schools to offer these subjects, but not for all pupils to take them or to be entered for the exams. For instance, some lower ability pupils may not be entered for some subjects if they have little chance of getting a grade. This may explain why some totals in the tables below are less than 100%. Furthermore, when looking at the school type breakdown, it is worth noting that independent schools do not have to follow the National Curriculum and therefore do not have to offer these subjects.

Mathematics

Table 5 presents the uptake of different mathematics qualifications. In the table the sum of the percentage of students taking each qualification may not add up to the total in the 'Any' row because some students may take more than one qualification.

The vast majority (96.6%) of students taking maths took a GCSE in the subject, with 4.1% taking an International GCSE. Although the table suggests that over 5% of students did not take a maths qualification at all, it is likely that many of these students took the non-accredited International GCSE in the subject and did therefore not appear in the data. It is worth noting that around 0.7% of students took both a GCSE and an International GCSE in maths.

Table 5: Uptake of different mathematics qualifications

Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking mathematics
GCSE	538,135	90.97	96.57
Int. GCSE	23,098	3.90	4.14
AS level	422	0.07	0.08
Any	557,277	94.20	100.00
None	34,296	5.80	n/a

Table 6 presents the same analysis but broken down by school type.

Students in grammar schools or secondary modern academies were more likely to take an (accredited) International GCSE (9.0% and 8.1% of all students respectively) than those in other schools. Independent school students were the most likely to not take a mathematics qualification (55.0%). This backs up the hypothesis that these students probably took the non-accredited International GCSE, rather than not taking a maths qualification at all.

Grammar school pupils were the least likely to not take a mathematics qualification (0.18% in selective academies and 0.13% in non-academies), which is probably related to their intake (mainly high ability students).

Table 6: Uptake of different mathematics qualifications, by school type

	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking mathematics
Acad (comp)	GCSE	293,034	95.77	96.84
	Int. GCSE	11,438	3.74	3.78
	AS level	138	0.05	0.05
	Any	302,594	98.89	100.00
	None	3,386	1.11	n/a
Acad (mod)	GCSE	12,327	95.48	96.46
	Int. GCSE	1,034	8.01	8.09
	AS level	2	0.02	0.02
	Any	12,779	98.98	100.00
	None	132	1.02	n/a
Acad (sel)	GCSE	18,220	94.17	94.33
	Int. GCSE	1,097	5.67	5.68
	AS level	107	0.55	0.55
	Any	19,315	99.82	100.00
	None	34	0.18	n/a
Comprehensive	GCSE	174,419	95.64	96.79
	Int. GCSE	7,008	3.84	3.89
	AS level	42	0.02	0.02
	Any	180,209	98.82	100.00
	None	2,155	1.18	n/a
Grammar	GCSE	2,901	90.91	91.03
	Int. GCSE	286	8.96	8.97
	AS level	1	0.03	0.03
	Any	3,187	99.87	100.00
	None	4	0.13	n/a
Independent	GCSE	18,893	42.08	93.54
	Int. GCSE	1,252	2.79	6.20
	AS level	104	0.23	0.51
	Any	20,197	44.99	100.00
	None	24,700	55.01	n/a
Secondary Modern	GCSE	5,780	93.97	95.05
	Int. GCSE	396	6.44	6.51
	AS level	.	0.00	0.00
	Any	6,081	98.86	100.00
	None	70	1.14	n/a

English

In 2015/16 students could choose from GCSEs in English Language, English Literature or English (which combines some language and some literature). Most students took both English Language and English Literature, with a minority taking the combined qualification.

The following tables present the uptake of different qualifications in the three English subjects. For the purpose of calculating the percentages of 'English' students a distinction was made between those taking the combined English (with or without other English subjects) and those taking English language and English literature. Tables 7 and 8 present the data for those taking combined English.

Table 7: Uptake of different English qualifications

Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking English
GCSE	33,891	5.73	98.03
Other GQ	662	0.11	1.91
AS level	21	0.00	0.06
Any	34,573	5.84	100.00

Very few of these students took anything other than a GCSE in the subject. The 'Other GQ' qualification in the table refers to an OCR Level 1 / Level 2 Certificate in Living Texts³. Table 8 presents the breakdown by school type.

Table 8: Uptake of different English qualifications by school type

	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking English
Acad (comp)	GCSE	17,636	5.76	98.78
	Other GQ	197	0.06	1.10
	AS level	20	0.01	0.11
	Any	17,853	5.83	100.00
Acad (mod)	GCSE	591	4.58	100.00
	Other GQ	0	0.00	0.00
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
	Any	591	4.58	100.00
Acad (sel)	GCSE	176	0.91	58.47
	Other GQ	125	0.65	41.53
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
	Any	301	1.56	100.00
Comprehensive	GCSE	9,263	5.08	98.51
	Other GQ	140	0.08	1.49
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
	Any	9,403	5.16	100.00
Grammar	GCSE	0	0.00	0.00
	Other GQ	0	0.00	0.00
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
	Any	0	0.00	0.00
Independent	GCSE	1,622	3.61	89.32
	Other GQ	194	0.43	10.68
	AS level	1	0.00	0.06
	Any	1,816	4.04	100.00
Secondary Modern	GCSE	390	6.34	100.00
	Other GQ	0	0.00	0.00
	AS level	.	0.00	0.00
	Any	390	6.34	100.00

Selective academy (0.65%) or independent school (0.43%) students were most likely to take the Level 1 / Level 2 Certificate.

³ Although this is called a Level 1 / Level 2 Certificate, it is not an International GCSE.

The next analysis looks at those taking combinations of English language and English literature. Tables 9 and 10 present the results for English Language and English Literature separately:

Table 9: Uptake of different English language qualifications (students also taking English Literature)

Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of students taking English lang & English lit
GCSE	307,773	52.03	60.01
Int. GCSE	209,168	35.36	40.78
AS level	49	0.01	0.01
Any	512,900	86.70	100.00

Table 10: Uptake of different English Literature qualifications (students also taking English Language)

Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of students taking English lang & lit
GCSE	406,830	68.77	79.32
Int. GCSE	106,588	18.02	20.78
AS level	8	0.00	0.00
Any	512,900	86.70	100.00

The percentages taking an International GCSE in these subjects was relatively high (35.4% in English Language and 18.0% in English Literature). It is also worth noting that around 0.7% of these students took both a GCSE and an International GCSE in English Language. This is a big decline compared with previous years (7% in 2013/14 and 2% in 2014/15), likely to be due to a government announcement that only a student's first entry to a GCSE would be counted in performance tables (Department for Education, 2013).

Tables 11 and 12 present the breakdown by school type.

For English Language, students at secondary modern schools were most likely to take an International GCSE (58.3% in academies and 60.7% in non-academies). Secondary modern students were also most likely to take an International GCSE in English Literature (27.1% in academies and 37.7% in non-academies). Independent or grammar school students were the least likely to take an International GCSE in either subject. However, in the case of independent schools this figure may be misleading as non-accredited versions of these qualifications were not included in the NPD. In all school types students were more likely to take an International GCSE in English Language than in English Literature.

Table 11: Uptake of different English language qualifications, by school type (students also taking English literature)

	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking English lang & lit
Acad (comp)	GCSE	162,699	53.17	57.47
	Int. GCSE	122,308	39.97	43.20
	AS level	30	0.01	0.01
	Any	283,110	92.53	100.00
Acad (mod)	GCSE	4,789	37.09	39.78
	Int. GCSE	7,523	58.27	62.49
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
	Any	12,039	93.25	100.00
Acad (sel)	GCSE	13,929	71.99	72.94
	Int. GCSE	5,205	26.90	27.26
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
	Any	19,096	98.69	100.00
Comprehensive	GCSE	108,824	59.67	64.10
	Int. GCSE	62,459	34.25	36.79
	AS level	6	0.00	0.00
	Any	169,765	93.09	100.00
Grammar	GCSE	2,748	86.12	86.36
	Int. GCSE	461	14.45	14.49
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
	Any	3,182	99.72	100.00
Independent	GCSE	11,443	25.49	65.60
	Int. GCSE	6,029	13.43	34.56
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
	Any	17,444	38.85	100.00
Secondary Modern	GCSE	1,917	31.17	34.17
	Int. GCSE	3,732	60.67	66.51
	AS level	12	0.20	0.21
	Any	5,611	91.22	100.00

Table 12: Uptake of different English literature qualifications, by school type (students also taking English language)

	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking English lang & lit
Acad (comp)	GCSE	224,607	73.41	79.34
	Int. GCSE	58,764	19.21	20.76
	AS level	8	0.00	0.00
	Any	283,106	92.52	100.00
Acad (mod)	GCSE	8,550	66.22	71.02
	Int. GCSE	3,492	27.05	29.01
	AS level	.	0.00	0.00
	Any	12,039	93.25	100.00
Acad (sel)	GCSE	15,661	80.94	82.01
	Int. GCSE	3,435	17.75	17.99
	AS level	.	0.00	0.00
	Any	19,096	98.69	100.00
Comprehensive	GCSE	138,141	75.75	81.37
	Int. GCSE	31,776	17.42	18.72
	AS level	.	0.00	0.00
	Any	169,765	93.09	100.00
Grammar	GCSE	2,748	86.12	86.36
	Int. GCSE	434	13.60	13.64
	AS level	.	0.00	0.00
	Any	3,182	99.72	100.00
Independent	GCSE	12,096	26.94	69.25
	Int. GCSE	5,375	11.97	30.77
	AS level	.	0.00	0.00
	Any	17,467	38.90	100.00
Secondary Modern	GCSE	3,295	53.57	58.72
	Int. GCSE	2,316	37.65	41.28
	AS level	.	0.00	0.00
	Any	5,611	91.22	100.00

Sciences

Students usually take either combined science (one or two qualifications) or all three of the separate sciences. Combined science is either GCSEs in Core Science and (usually) Additional Science or Further Additional Science or an International GCSE in Double Science.

There were a very large number of separate combinations of the science subjects taken by students, so they are not all presented here. Table 13 displays the top 10 most popular combinations of science subjects taken.

Table 13: Combinations of science subjects taken by students

Combination	Students	% of all taking Sciences
Science (Core), Science (Additional)	327,700	58.7
Biology, Physics, Chemistry	139,243	24.9
Science (Core)	40,692	7.3
Science (Core), Science (Additional), Science (Further Additional)	16,862	3.0
Applied Sciences	10,694	1.9
Science (Double Award)	4,670	0.8
Science (Core), Applied Sciences	3,769	0.7
Science (Core), Additional Applied Science	2,782	0.5
Additional Science	1,717	0.3
Biology	1,687	0.3
Any	558,501	100.0
None	33,079	n/a

The most popular combination was Core and Additional science, followed by the three separate sciences. Nearly 17,000 students (3.0%) took Core, Additional and Further Additional Science.

Table 14 presents the number of students taking each science subject, by qualification type.

Table 14: Uptake of different science qualifications

Subject	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking Sciences
Science (Core)	GCSE	394,574	66.70	70.65
	AS level	45	0.01	0.01
Science (Additional)	GCSE	348,963	58.99	62.48
Science (Further Additional)	GCSE	16,975	2.87	3.04
Biology	GCSE	132,516	22.40	23.73
	Int. GCSE	12,734	2.15	2.28
	AS level	34	0.01	0.01
Chemistry	GCSE	130,851	22.12	23.43
	Int. GCSE	11,867	2.01	2.12
	AS level	23	0.00	0.00
Physics	GCSE	129,942	21.97	23.27
	Int. GCSE	12,456	2.11	2.23
	AS level	29	0.00	0.01
Applied Sciences	BTEC	15,528	2.62	2.78
	Cambridge National	1,151	0.19	0.21
	Other GQ	30	0.01	0.01
Additional Applied Science	Voc. GCSE	3,426	0.58	0.61
Science (Double Award)	Int. GCSE	4,874	0.82	0.87
Any	Any	558,501	94.41	100.00

In the separate sciences, GCSEs were taken by about 22% and International GCSEs by around 2% of students. However, as before, these figures do not include the non-accredited versions of these subjects. For the Applied Sciences qualifications, students were much more likely to take

the BTEC (2.6%) than the Cambridge National (0.2%). Appendix B presents the same analysis broken down by school type.

Uptake of individual subjects in other level 2 qualifications

Finally, the uptake of the most common subjects to be taken in other popular qualifications (BTECs, Cambridge Nationals and VRQs) is summarised below. These are worth reporting as they make up a substantial percentage of the volume of qualifications taken at level 2. Tables 15 to 17 present the 10 most popular subjects taken in these qualifications.

Table 15: Uptake of popular BTEC subjects

Subject	Students (n)	Students (%)
Sports Studies	38,860	6.6
Business Studies	22,186	3.8
Health Studies	19,657	3.3
Computer Architecture / Systems	16,815	2.8
Applied Sciences	15,528	2.6
Speech & Drama	14,920	2.5
Engineering Studies	9,556	1.6
Music Studies (General)	6,768	1.1
Building / Construction Operations	6,549	1.1
Art & Design	5,030	0.9

Table 16: Uptake of popular Cambridge Nationals subjects

Subject	Students (n)	Students (%)
Computer Appreciation / Introduction	38,863	6.6
Small Business Management	3,493	0.6
Health Studies	2,957	0.5
Sports Studies	2,302	0.4
Sports / Movement Science	1,848	0.3
Applied Sciences	1,151	0.2
Engineering Studies	1,027	0.2
Manufacturing Engineering	790	0.1

Table 17: Uptake of popular VRQ subjects

Subject	Students (n)	Students (%)
Computer Appreciation / Introduction	105,451	17.8
Personal Finance	3,006	0.5
Childcare Skills	2,143	0.4
Small Business Management	1,753	0.3
Hairdressing Services	1,154	0.2
Music Technology (Electronic)	1,071	0.2
Art Techniques/Practical Art	782	0.1
Maintenance Engineering	613	0.1
Engineering Studies	606	0.1
Music performance: Group	446	0.1

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Appendix A: Combinations by school type

Table A1: Most popular combinations of qualifications taken, by school type

	Combination	Students	% Students
Academy (comp)	GCSE	73,399	24.0
	GCSE,IGCSE	48,248	15.8
	BTEC,GCSE	22,087	7.2
	GCSE,IGCSE,VRQ	20,260	6.6
	BTEC,GCSE,IGCSE	19,870	6.5
Academy (mod)	GCSE	2,170	16.8
	GCSE,IGCSE	2,146	16.6
	BTEC,GCSE,IGCSE	1,820	14.1
	BTEC,GCSE	845	6.5
	GCSE,IGCSE,VRQ	792	6.1
Academy (sel)	GCSE,IGCSE	6,448	33.3
	GCSE	6,292	32.5
	GCSE, Other GQ	1,956	10.1
	GCSE, GCSE, Other GQ	1,922	9.9
	GCSE,IGCSE,VRQ	656	3.4
Comprehensive	GCSE	54,702	30.0
	GCSE,IGCSE	27,613	15.1
	BTEC,GCSE	14,628	8.0
	BTEC,GCSE,IGCSE	12,128	6.7
	GCSE,IGCSE,VRQ	8,015	4.4
Grammar	GCSE	1,766	55.3
	GCSE,IGCSE	753	23.6
	GCSE, Other GQ	238	7.5
	GCSE, IGCSE, Other GQ	236	7.4
	GCSE, Voc GCSE	60	1.9
Independent	GCSE,IGCSE	23,310	51.9
	GCSE	13,658	30.4
	GCSE, IGCSE, Other GQ	2,874	6.4
	GCSE, Other GQ	1,084	2.4
	IGCSE	924	2.1
Secondary Modern	GCSE,IGCSE	1,169	19.0
	BTEC,GCSE,IGCSE	942	15.3
	GCSE	711	11.5
	BTEC,GCSE	367	6.0
	GCSE,IGCSE,VRQ	345	5.6

Appendix B: Science uptake by school type.

Table B1: Uptake of science qualifications in academies (comprehensive)

Subject	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking Sciences
Science (Core)	GCSE	223,228	72.96	74.03
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Science (Additional)	GCSE	200,406	65.50	66.47
Science (Further Additional)	GCSE	9,253	3.02	3.07
Biology	GCSE	68,094	22.25	22.58
	Int. GCSE	2,370	0.77	0.79
	AS level	7	0.00	0.00
Chemistry	GCSE	67,995	22.22	22.55
	Int. GCSE	2,036	0.67	0.68
	AS level	6	0.00	0.00
Physics	GCSE	67,807	22.16	22.49
	Int. GCSE	2,153	0.70	0.71
	AS level	8	0.00	0.00
Applied Sciences	BTEC	8,345	2.73	2.77
	Cambridge National	533	0.17	0.18
	Other GQ	0	0.00	0.00
Additional Applied Science	Voc. GCSE	1,982	0.65	0.66
Science (Double Award)	Int. GCSE	1,250	0.41	0.41
Any	Any	301,518	98.54	100.00

Table B2: Uptake of science qualifications in academies (secondary modern)

Subject	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking Sciences
Science (Core)	GCSE	10416	80.68	81.94
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Science (Additional)	GCSE	9251	71.65	72.78
Science (Further Additional)	GCSE	434	3.36	3.41
Biology	GCSE	1948	15.09	15.33
	Int. GCSE	15	0.12	0.12
	AS level	1	0.01	0.01
Chemistry	GCSE	1944	15.06	15.29
	Int. GCSE	3	0.02	0.02
	AS level	1	0.01	0.01
Physics	GCSE	1944	15.06	15.29
	Int. GCSE	2	0.02	0.02
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Applied Sciences	BTEC	416	3.22	3.27
	Cambridge National	0	0.00	0.00
	Other GQ	0	0.00	0.00
Additional Applied Science	Voc. GCSE	52	0.40	0.41
Science (Double Award)	Int. GCSE	12	0.09	0.09
Any	Any	12,711	98.45	100.00

Table B3: Uptake of science qualifications in academies (selective)

Subject	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking Sciences
Science (Core)	GCSE	2,972	15.36	15.44
	AS level	45	0.23	0.23
Science (Additional)	GCSE	2,950	15.25	15.32
Science (Further Additional)	GCSE	126	0.65	0.65
Biology	GCSE	12,174	62.92	63.24
	Int. GCSE	3,776	19.52	19.61
	AS level	2	0.01	0.01
Chemistry	GCSE	11,796	60.96	61.27
	Int. GCSE	4,088	21.13	21.24
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Physics	GCSE	11,622	60.07	60.37
	Int. GCSE	4,279	22.11	22.23
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Applied Sciences	BTEC	0	0.00	0.00
	Cambridge National	0	0.00	0.00
	Other GQ	0	0.00	0.00
Additional Applied Science	Voc. GCSE	0	0.00	0.00
Science (Double Award)	Int. GCSE	312	1.61	1.62
Any	Any	19,251	99.49	100.00

Table B4: Uptake of science qualifications in comprehensive schools

Subject	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking Sciences
Science (Core)	GCSE	134,240	73.61	74.69
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Science (Additional)	GCSE	121,265	66.50	67.47
Science (Further Additional)	GCSE	6,292	3.45	3.50
Biology	GCSE	39,130	21.46	21.77
	Int. GCSE	567	0.31	0.32
	AS level	5	0.00	0.00
Chemistry	GCSE	38,922	21.34	21.66
	Int. GCSE	498	0.27	0.28
	AS level	8	0.00	0.00
Physics	GCSE	38,697	21.22	21.53
	Int. GCSE	539	0.30	0.30
	AS level	4	0.00	0.00
Applied Sciences	BTEC	5,696	3.12	3.17
	Cambridge National	532	0.29	0.30
	Other GQ	26	0.01	0.01
Additional Applied Science	Voc. GCSE	1,259	0.69	0.70
Science (Double Award)	Int. GCSE	934	0.51	0.52
Any	Any	179,728	98.55	100.00

Table B5: Uptake of science qualifications in grammar schools

Subject	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking Sciences
Science (Core)	GCSE	745	23.35	23.38
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Science (Additional)	GCSE	742	23.25	23.29
Science (Further Additional)	GCSE	25	0.78	0.78
Biology	GCSE	1,874	58.73	58.82
	Int. GCSE	404	12.66	12.68
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Chemistry	GCSE	1,873	58.70	58.79
	Int. GCSE	402	12.60	12.62
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Physics	GCSE	1,874	58.73	58.82
	Int. GCSE	403	12.63	12.65
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Applied Sciences	BTEC	0	0.00	0.00
	Cambridge National	0	0.00	0.00
	Other GQ	0	0.00	0.00
Additional Applied Science	Voc. GCSE	0	0.00	0.00
Science (Double Award)	Int. GCSE	162	5.08	5.08
Any	Any	3,186	99.84	100.00

Table B6: Uptake of science qualifications in independent schools

Subject	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking Sciences
Science (Core)	GCSE	10,504	23.40	39.23
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Science (Additional)	GCSE	8,626	19.21	32.22
Science (Further Additional)	GCSE	556	1.24	2.08
Biology	GCSE	7,724	17.20	28.85
	Int. GCSE	5,427	12.09	20.27
	AS level	15	0.03	0.06
Chemistry	GCSE	7,046	15.69	26.32
	Int. GCSE	4,788	10.66	17.88
	AS level	7	0.02	0.03
Physics	GCSE	6,725	14.98	25.12
	Int. GCSE	5,018	11.18	18.74
	AS level	16	0.04	0.06
Applied Sciences	BTEC	83	0.18	0.31
	Cambridge National	6	0.01	0.02
	Other GQ	0	0.00	0.00
Additional Applied Science	Voc. GCSE	223	0.45	0.69
Science (Double Award)	Int. GCSE	2,102	4.68	7.85
Any	Any	26,773	59.63	100.00

Table B7: Uptake of science qualifications in secondary modern schools

Subject	Qualification	Students	% of all students	% of all taking Sciences
Science (Core)	GCSE	4,887	79.45	80.64
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Science (Additional)	GCSE	4,217	68.56	69.59
Science (Further Additional)	GCSE	268	4.36	4.42
Biology	GCSE	1,027	16.70	16.95
	Int. GCSE	0	0.00	0.00
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Chemistry	GCSE	1,018	16.55	16.80
	Int. GCSE	0	0.00	0.00
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Physics	GCSE	1,017	16.53	16.78
	Int. GCSE	0	0.00	0.00
	AS level	0	0.00	0.00
Applied Sciences	BTEC	183	2.98	3.02
	Cambridge National	0	0.00	0.00
	Other GQ	0	0.00	0.00
Additional Applied Science	Voc. GCSE	0	0.00	0.00
Science (Double Award)	Int. GCSE	3	0.05	0.05
Any	Any	6,060	98.52	100.00