

FOCUSON...



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Celebrating our school and community

...Formby High School Top of the League!



We are absolutely thrilled to see Formby High School at the top of the Department for Education School Performance Tables for Sefton schools, based on the exceptional achievements by our students in Summer 2024 – not only at GCSE but at A Level too. This is a phenomenal success which should be celebrated by all involved with the school. These school performance measures look at both progress students made since arriving in school as well as their final examination outcomes at GCSE and A Level/Vocational.

At Key Stage 4 (GCSE) the 'Progress 8' score showed FHS students knocked it out of the park with a score of 0.43 (a significant gap ahead of the second highest school score of 0.23). In simpler terms, this score indicates that students here achieve up to half a grade higher in each qualification on average, compared to similar students across the country. In 'Attainment 8' the school's top ranking score of 54.4 (vs 50.7 for the second place score) shows how well our students performed in up to 8 qualifications at KS4. Importantly, we also top the table with students achieving Grade 5 or above in English and Maths GCSEs with a score of 59.4%!

School name	Type of school	Number of pupils at end of key stage 4	Progress 8		Entering EBacc	Staying in education or entering employment (2022 leavers)	Grade 5 or above in English & maths GCSEs	Attainment 8	EBacc average point score
			Number of pupils included in this measure	Score & description					
Formby High School	Academy	192	188	ABOVE AVERAGE 0.43	30.7%	97% (181 of 186 pupils)	59.4%	54.4	4.6
Birkdale High School	Academy	179	176	ABOVE AVERAGE 0.23	65.9%	99% (155 of 157 pupils)	53.6%	50.7	4.64
Greenbank High School	Academy	214	212	AVERAGE 0.04	80.8%	95% (192 of 202 pupils)	52.3%	50	4.69
Chesterfield High School	Academy	227	222	AVERAGE 0.01	32.2%	89% (190 of 214 pupils)	47.1%	47	4.17
Range High School	Academy	198	188	AVERAGE -0.15	50.5%	96% (184 of 191 pupils)	48.5%	46.3	3.98
Meols Cop High School	Academy	170	167	AVERAGE -0.17	24.1%	93% (167 of 180 pupils)	34.7%	41.1	3.44

At Key Stage 5, the table is equally impressive with FHS students achieving the best progress across all Sefton's sixth forms, and leaving with the highest grade points for their best three A Levels.

As a parent, or just a proud member of the school community, we invite you to visit the [DfE Compare School Performance](#) pages more closely, allowing you to filter in different ways to explore the information in more detail. The bar is set high for this year's examination cohorts but we have every faith that with the right preparation and commitment, they will match this fantastic performance in summer 2025!

School or college name	Type of school or college	Number of students with an A level exam entry	Progress Score and Description	Average result		Achieving AAB or higher, including at least 2 facilitating subjects	Grade and points for a student's best 3 A levels
				Grade	Point score		
Formby High School	Academy	106	AVERAGE 0.12	B-	37.75	27.1% 59 students included in measure	B 38.7 59 students included in measure
St. Mary's College	Independent school	50	AVERAGE 0.12	B	38.86	22.7% 44 students included in measure	B 38.64 44 students included in measure
Merchant Taylors' Boys' School	Independent school	50	AVERAGE -0.08	C+	33.52	21.7% 46 students included in measure	C+ 33.26 46 students included in measure
Deyes High School	Academy	77	BELOW AVERAGE -0.37	C	29.15	13.2% 38 students included in measure	C+ 32.37 38 students included in measure
Merchant Taylors' Girls' School	Independent school	48	AVERAGE -0.06	B-	36.16	11.1% 45 students included in measure	B- 36 45 students included in measure

...Reaching High Centre

Another milestone achievement was reached earlier this week as the newly constructed Reaching High Centre opened at FHS on Monday. Students are now enjoying their Reaching High Curriculum lessons in the centre and, whilst facilities are still being given their final touches, they are settling well and are very proud of the new space. Today, a number of visiting Headteachers from Nottinghamshire schools are looking round the centre and discussing the Reaching High curriculum with our SEND team as part of sharing best practice across schools nationwide. We look forward to an official opening event in the coming weeks... watch this space for more exciting information!



...Liverpool 'City of Sporting Excellence'

Earlier this week a lucky group of students had the opportunity to participate in a fantastic activity at Aintree Racecourse as part of an event celebrating Liverpool as 'City of Sporting Excellence.' The event, supported by the LFC Foundation, Everton in the Community and Aintree Racecourse, was a fantastic showcase of all the city offers and marked the exciting preparations for the Grand National Week coming up very soon. Students got involved in a wealth of sporting activities, including visiting the jockey changing rooms and weighing in area at the racecourse. They were very engaged with all the experts on hand to answer all their questions and even had the chance to meet the winning jockey from the 2012 Grand National, Daryl Jacob!



...UK Maths Trust Competition Success!

We are excited to announce that five of our talented Year 9 and 10 students have successfully advanced from the Intermediate Maths Challenge to the Kangaroo round of the prestigious UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) competition! This exceptional achievement is testament to their hard work, dedication, and remarkable problem-solving abilities. The students who have made it through are Amy, Dan, Toby, Eric, and James. The UKMT competition is renowned for its challenging and thought-provoking questions, so reaching the Kangaroo round is no small feat. The Mathematics Department at Formby High School is incredibly proud of their success and looks forward to seeing them continue to shine in the next stage. A huge congratulations to all involved, and best of luck in the upcoming rounds. Keep up the fantastic work!



The Maths success celebrations didn't end there! On Tuesday 11 February, Formby High School was invited by the UK Maths Trust to take part in a Team Challenge against 20 other top performing schools (state and independent) in Sefton. We took four of our top Mathematicians from Year 8 and Year 9 who worked collaboratively to tackle a variety of engaging mathematical activities while developing teamwork and communication skills. Teams competed against each other in four rounds over the course of the whole day: The Group, The Crossnumber, The Shuttle and The Relay. All four students

were an absolute credit to Formby High School, and we finished in an extremely impressive second place! A huge well done to Amy, Alan, James and Toby.

...Year 10 Reap Sweet Rewards

Miss Palmer rewarded 90 Year 10 students on the last day before half term with an extended break time and a hot chocolate as a reward for getting no behaviour points in the last two weeks of the first half of Spring term. These students follow the 'Formby High School Way' on a daily basis and represent their year group and the school impeccably. Miss Palmer said "Well done to these students and keep your eyes peeled for future opportunities to receive rewards!"

...All Aboard!

If you fancy a night of joyful and uplifting song, then head over to Formby Methodist Church on Tuesday evening (4 March) for a very special 'free' concert by our school choirs. The event starts at 7.30pm and there will be collections on the door to support the church. The audience will also be treated to an exclusive performance of our brand new single 'New Day' soon to be released online!





...Library Corner

We are halfway through the annual Year 7 sponsored read, 'Read for Good'. All students should have received a sponsorship card, and any amount raised will be used to provide books and readers to children in all UK children's hospitals. Formby High has an annual tradition of raising money to assist this great charity and we would ask families to please

encourage Year 7 students to read and support these fundraising efforts. Any size donation is appreciated; money can be paid via Parent Pay or cash to the school finance office. Thank you! As part of our World Book Day 2025 celebrations, Year 7 students have been given a World Book Day voucher which entitles them to a free World Book Day 2025 Book from participating stores. We are also holding a 'Design a Book Token' competition in the Libray - latest entry Friday 28 March 2025 so visit the Library to collect a template soon! Students in Years 7 & 8 are invited to take part in Sefton Super Reads 2025. Librarians from Sefton high schools have chosen the final six books. Students are invited to read then score these books and then, during the Summer term, participating students from each high school will meet to decide on the ultimate winner.



...BME visit

Just before half term the Music Department took 25 keen musicians to the British Music Experience (BME). The students had a brilliant day learning about the history of pop music and understanding how music, fashion and world events have a direct correlation. They had a guided tour around the exhibition which includes handwritten lyrics by Adele, the Spice Girls' costumes and Beatles memorabilia, some of the students even got to wear some themed wigs! The day finished with a jam session in the Museum's Gibson Brands Interactive Studio. It was fabulous to see a range of different year groups coming together and being able to provide a workshop for our 'popular music' students.

...NODA Awards

You may recall in an earlier newsletter our delight in announcing that FHS Musical Theatre Company's 'The Little Mermaid Jr' production had been recognised with five nominations in the NODA (National Opera and Dramatic Association) Awards, the national body that represents amateur theatre. The awards ceremony took place on Saturday 22 February at the DW Stadium in Wigan... here are the results from the glittering evening!



- **WINNER!** Milly – Best Male Character Comedy Performance in a Youth Production
- **WINNER!** Naomi – Best Female Character Comedy Performance in a Youth Production
- Nominee The Little Mermaid Jr – Best Youth Musical
- Nominee The Little Mermaid Jr – Best Staging Technical of a Youth Production
- Nominee Miss Dilworth – Best Musical Director of a Youth Production

Our Music Department were also shortlisted as 'Best Concert or Review' for their unique collaborative project 'A Concert for Queenscourt' and we are delighted to announce they were the winners in this category too! The project brought together the very best musical theatre voices from FHS and from the local amateur theatre scene. The concert ran for three sell-out nights at Ormskirk Civic Hall and raised over £15,000. United in song and dance, our Queenscourt Musical Theatre Company is a triumph of dedication, talent and goodwill. From the powerful opening of 'The Circle of Life' from 'The Lion King' with our very own Lilly as Rafiki, we then travelled the theatrical globe ... to Paris with 'Les Miserables', New York for 'Rent', the land of Oz, America's Deep South for 'The Colour Purple'. Other repertoire included 'Six', 'Chicago', 'Dear Evan Hansen', 'Everybody's Talking About Jamie', 'Cabaret' and lots more. In addition, Mrs Harrocks was nominated for Best Choreographer in an adult production of Sister Act and Alexandra (Year 13) was nominated for a play at the Southport Dramatic Club for Best Supporting Female Character in a Youth Drama for her part as Eve in DNA. Congratulations to everyone involved in the shortlists and winners too!

On the Horizon...

- ★ Y11 Non-core PPEs – 3-14 Mar
- ★ Y9 Subject Consultation Eve – 6 Mar
- ★ National Careers week – 3-7 Mar
- ★ Y12 Career Experience Week – 10-14 Mar