

Wallace Hall ELC, Primary and Academy
How Good is our School?
… our summary for parents 2021

Education Scotland has asked all schools to report to parents on performance. This will look at what has been going well, what we want to improve on and how we judge our own standards. It will also include information about the key messages you have given us – particularly through feedback from you and from our pupils and how we plan to respond.

Our school is committed to

- A process of self-evaluation – to assess our strengths and our areas to improve on.
- Working in partnership with parents – not just sharing information with you but genuinely involving you in the work of the school helping us to make this a great place to learn and grow.

Our approach to self-evaluation: What do we do to assess our strengths and plan our development priorities?

√ We ask people (pupils/staff/parents) through surveys, focus groups and questionnaires.
√ We look at the wealth of data we have about the work we do – e.g. attendance statistics, behaviour merits and demerits, assessment information, SQA exam results, Standardised Assessment results, destination figures for our leavers etc.
√ We observe the learning and teaching that goes on in our school.

The results of our self-evaluation activities are then collated and used to plan improvements. Of course we also have to work towards priorities set by the Scottish Government and by Dumfries and Galloway Council. You will no doubt have heard about the national drive to raise attainment for all and to close the attainment gap between the most deprived areas and the most affluent. This is part of the National Improvement Framework for Scottish education.

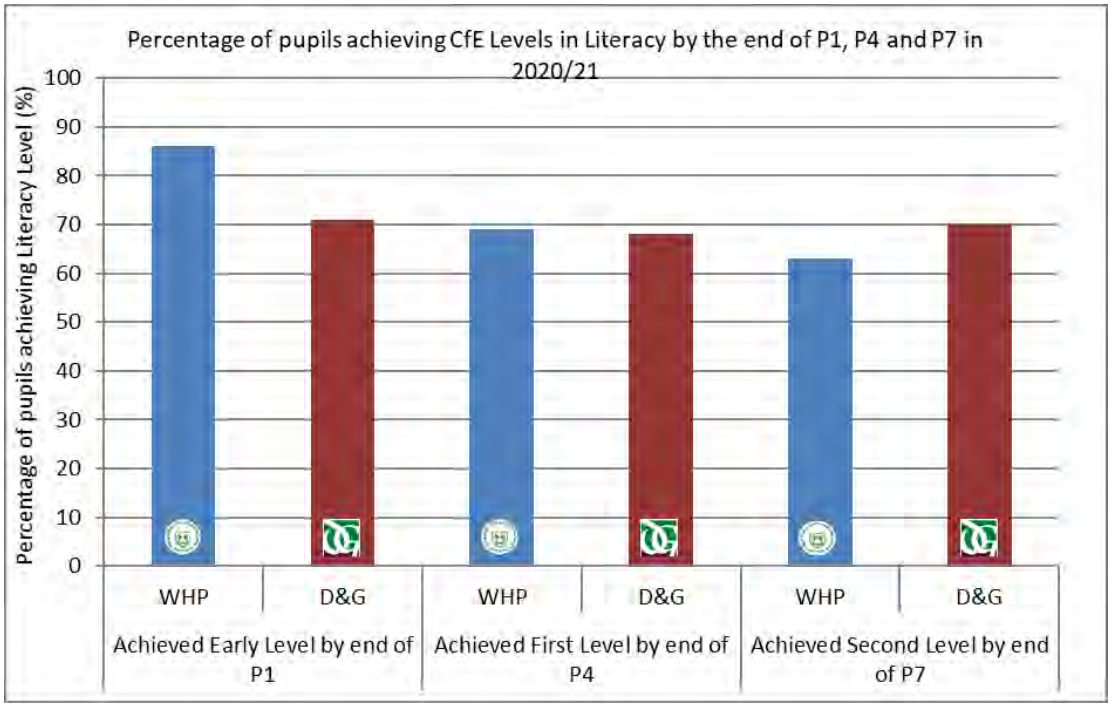
The National Improvement Framework priorities are:

- to improve attainment for all, particularly in literacy and numeracy.
- to improve the learning progress of every child, by reducing inequality in education.
- to improve children and young people's health and wellbeing.
- to improve employability skills and sustained positive school leaver destinations for all young people.

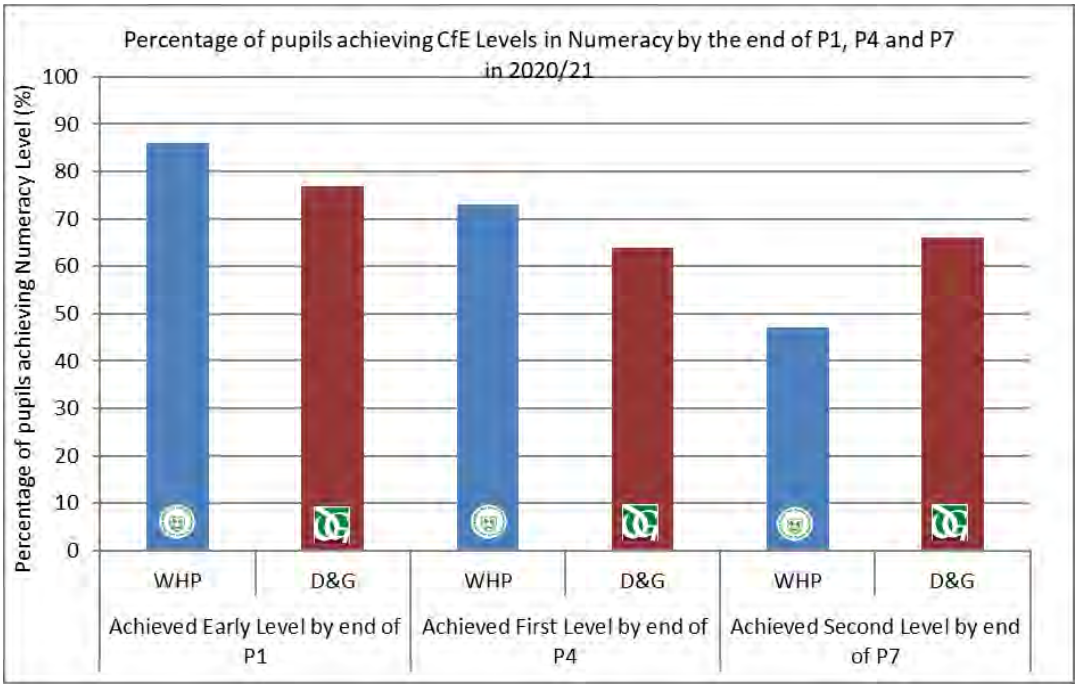
More details can be found at Parentzone – website address:
*www.**educationscotland**.gov.uk/**parentzone***

Wallace Hall Academy, Primary & ELC
"Together we grow, learn and achieve"

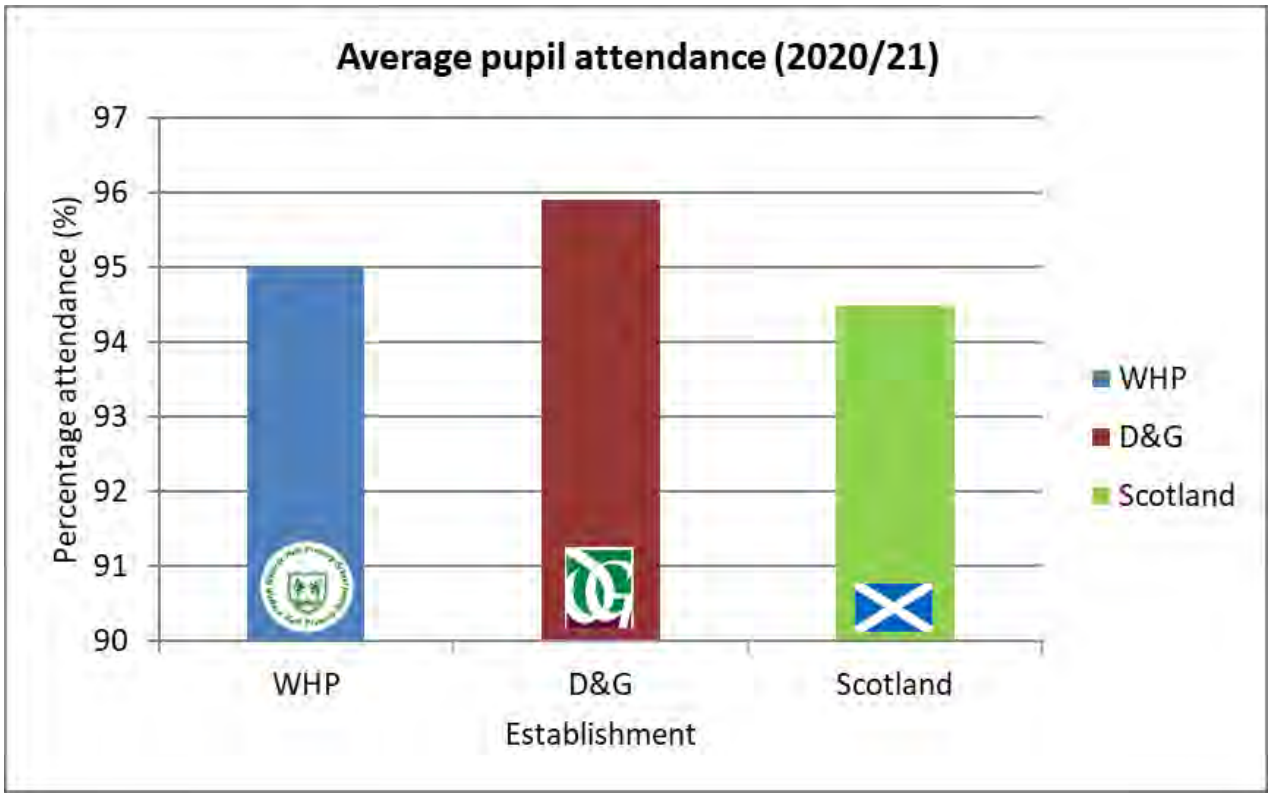
Pupils are assessed on their Literacy skills (Reading, Writing, Talking and Listening) throughout their time at Primary school. It is expected that most pupils will achieve Early Level by the end of P1, First Level by the end of P4 and Second Level by the end of P7. Due to two separate school closures beginning in March 2020 and January 2021 this has been a really challenging period for all of the pupils at Wallace Hall Primary. We will continue to focus on Health and Wellbeing, Literacy and Numeracy as part of our recovery plan to support all pupils at Wallace Hall Primary.



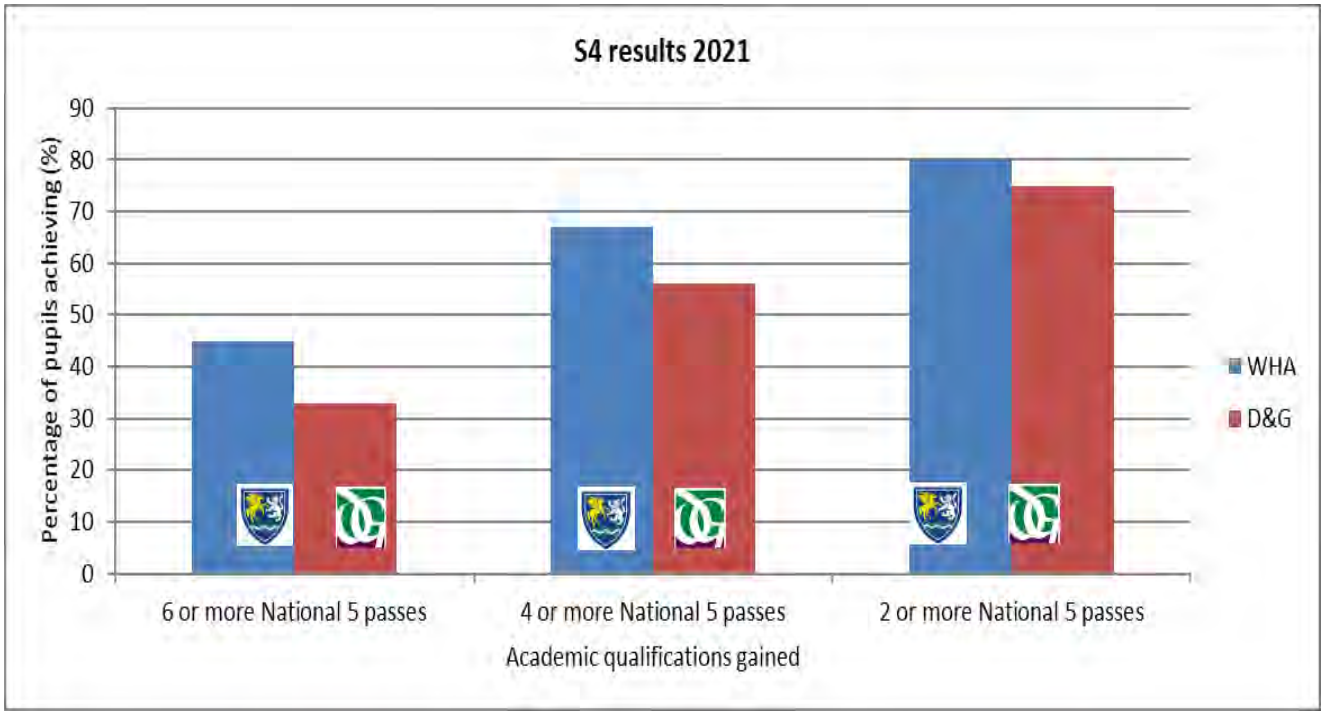
Pupils are assessed on their Numeracy skills throughout their time at Primary school. It is expected that most pupils will achieve Early Level by the end of P1, First Level by the end of P4 and Second Level by the end of P7. Due to two separate school closures beginning in March 2020 and January 2021 this has been a really challenging period for all of the pupils at Wallace Hall Primary. We will continue to focus on Health and Wellbeing, Literacy and Numeracy as part of our recovery plan to support all pupils at Wallace Hall Primary.



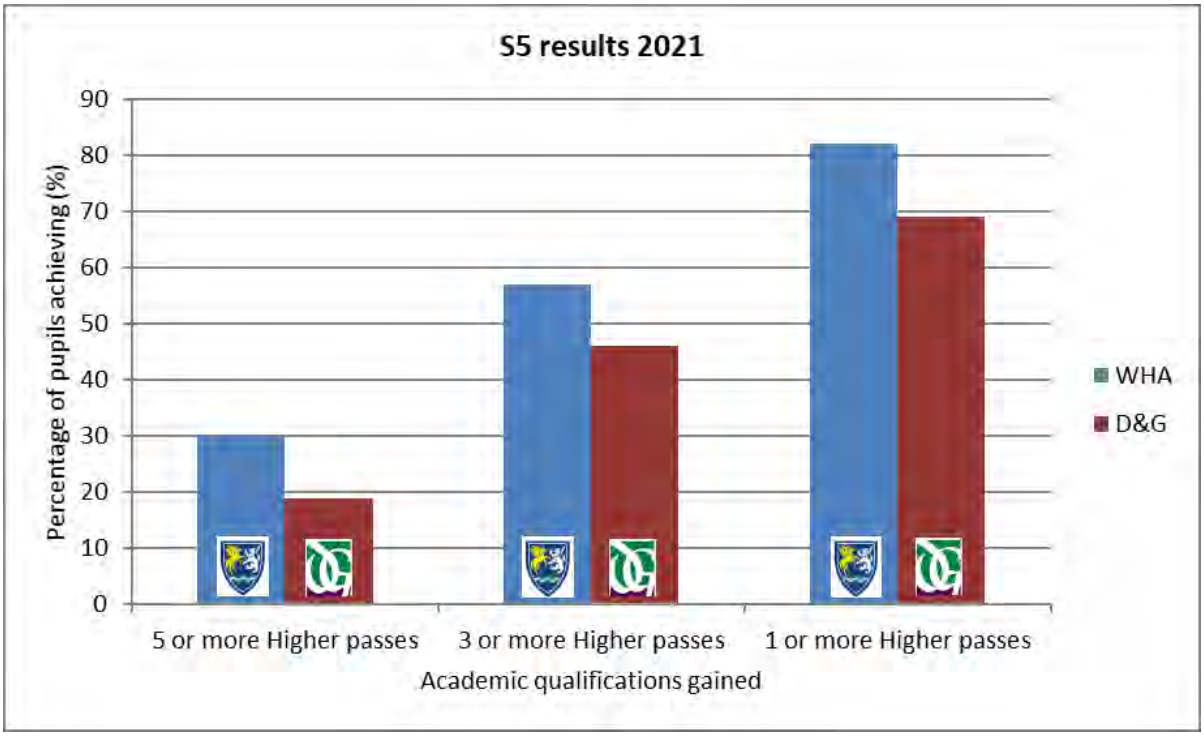
The graph below shows that pupils' attendance at Wallace Hall Primary is broadly similar with other parts of the region or nation.



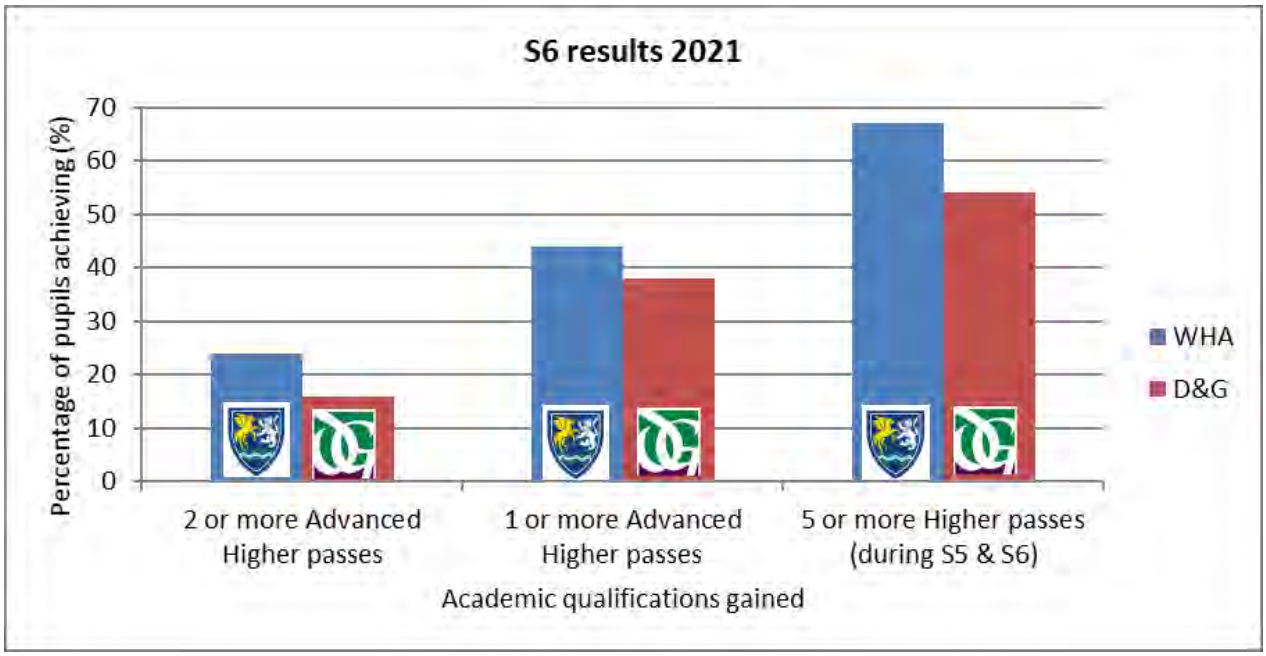
The graph below shows that pupils gaining National 5 qualifications at the end of S4 at Wallace Hall Academy achieve more success than the regional average. National 5 is the most challenging Level of assessment traditionally encountered by S4 pupils. Pupils sit up to seven qualifications at the end of S4, depending on the needs of the individual pupil. Due to the COVID pandemic the results in 2021 were estimated by teachers based on assessment evidence gathered during the session.



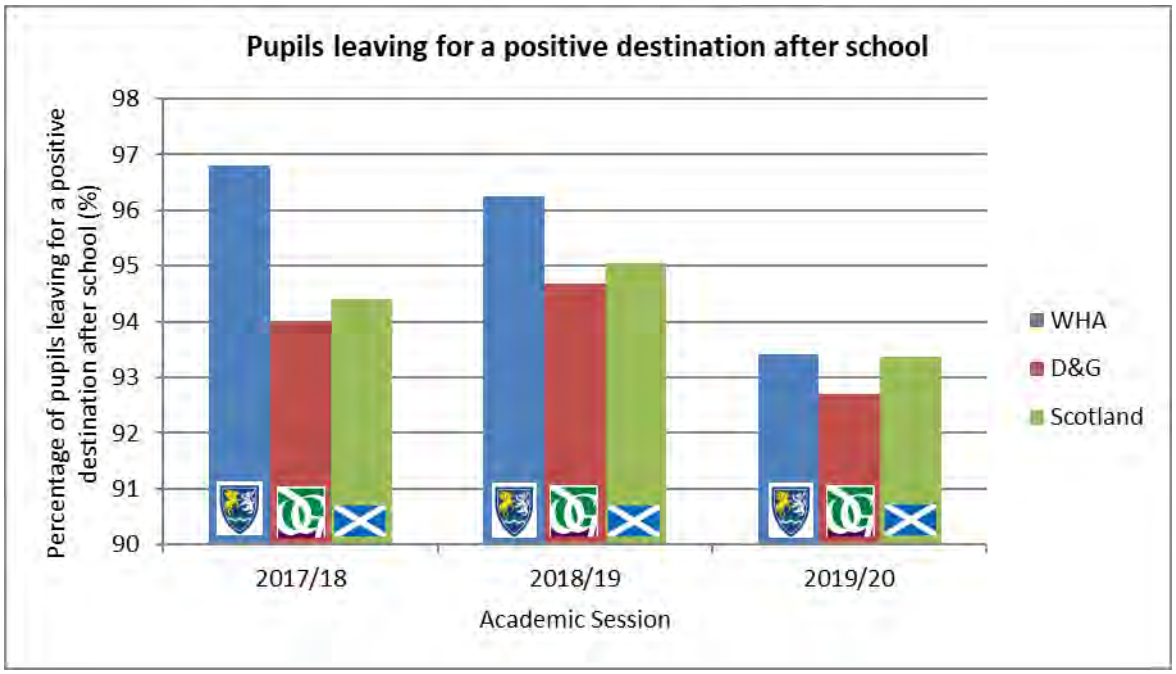
The graph below shows that pupils gaining Higher qualifications at the end of S5 at Wallace Hall Academy achieve more success than the regional average. Higher is the most challenging Level of assessment traditionally encountered by S5 pupils. Pupils sit up to five qualifications at the end of S5, depending on the needs of the individual pupil. Due to the COVID pandemic the results in 2021 were estimated by teachers based on assessment evidence gathered during the session.



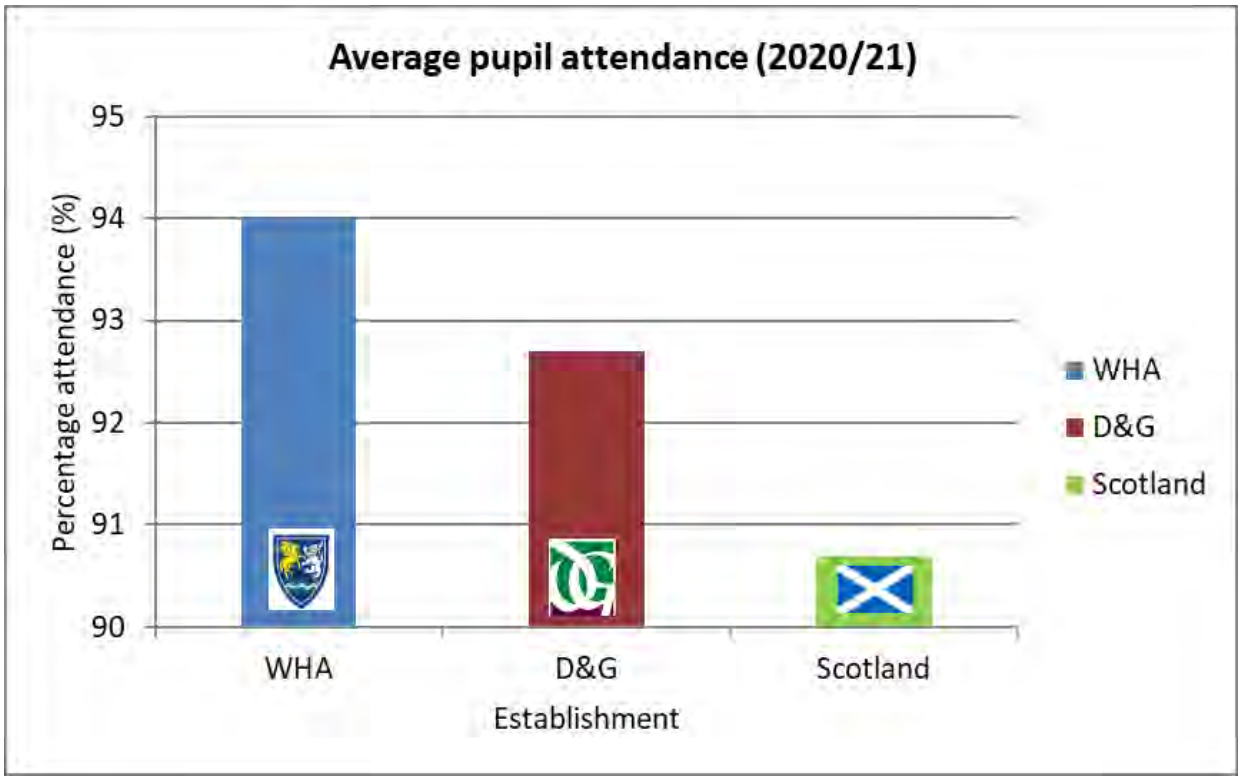
The graph below shows that pupils gaining Higher or Advanced Higher qualifications at the end of S6 at Wallace Hall Academy achieve more success than the regional average. Advanced Higher is the most challenging Level of assessment traditionally encountered by S6 pupils. Pupils sit up to four qualifications at the end of S6, depending on the needs of the individual pupil. Due to the COVID pandemic the results in 2021 were estimated by teachers based on assessment evidence gathered during the session.



The graph below shows the percentage of pupils leaving Wallace Hall Academy at the end of S4, S5 or S6 for a positive destination. Examples of positive destinations include attending university or college, gaining employment, volunteering on a gap year or starting an apprenticeship. Locally, regionally and nationally it has been more challenging for pupils to end up in a positive destination due to the ongoing COVID pandemic. We are, however, continuing to work with our partner agency Skills Development Scotland to ensure that all young people who leave Wallace Hall Academy do so to a positive destination.



The graph below shows that pupils' attendance at Wallace Hall Academy is better than in other parts of the region or nation.





Mr Graham with Matthew, Olivia, Lewis, Edward and Tilly who are our S6 Office Bearers 2021/22

Wider Achievement

Personal or wider achievement provides children and young people with a sense of satisfaction and helps to build motivation, resilience and confidence. Wallace Hall provides opportunities for a range of achievements in the classroom and beyond. We encourage all students to take part in extracurricular activities and wish to provide opportunities for achievement and to support and encourage participation by all.



Mr Graham and Mrs Cochran, Chair of the Wallace Hall Parent Council, present Aidan Kennedy with the 2021 Dux Award

Wallace Hall works closely with community organisations to help young people access information and opportunities. On our school website there is a list of clubs in the Academy which include netball, Bake Club, Creative Writing, rugby, football, Mandarin, Drama, Sketch Book Club, Craft Club, Running Club and Equalities Group. In the Primary we are supported by Active Schools who run various activities. Our partnerships with a variety of organisations also give our pupils opportunities for wider achievement and this includes the Solway Credit Union, HALO Trust, Queensberry Estate, CAMPLE LINE, DuPont, Gates and Steilhead Cider.

These achievements are recognised in a variety of ways including assemblies, social media, school website, staff meetings, Celebration of Success events, church services and a variety of awards including the Youth Achievement Award, Duke of Edinburgh, Saltire, Leadership, Employability and the Prince's Trust.

Wallace Hall Primary House Captains



Mia and Ralph
Dalgarnock



Jai and Loveday
Morton



Lauren and Ella
Dalveen



Iona and Danny
Drumlanrig

Wallace Hall Academy Straight A Students

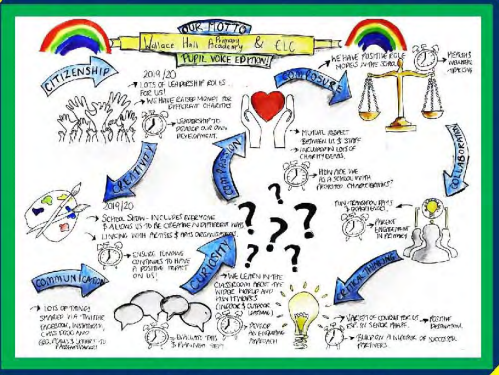
Wallace Hall students excelled in this year's SQA courses with fourteen pupils in total achieving five straight A grades at Higher level. When the results were announced, Olivia Andreasen, Madeleine Bramley, Sorcha Corrigan, Ruby Day-Reader, Rory Gordon, Freya Gracie, Anya Graham, Abbie Harvey, Sarah Hastings, Matthew Johnstone, Cara Peacock, Sean Thornely, Tilly Wilson-Machin and Darroch Wood were all delighted to learn that they had excelled, achieving five Highers at grade A. In S6, Zoe Kean, Aidan Kennedy, Mia Larisma, Milly Macklin, Luke McKay, John McKay, Hannah Ogilvie, Lewis Reid and Hannah Thompson all achieved 2 or more Advanced Highers at grade A with Aidan Kennedy being awarded the Parent Council medal for Dux of Wallace Hall Academy.



Mr Graham congratulates Abbie, Rory, Matthew, Cara, Freya, Sorcha, Sarah, Ruby, Sean, Anya, Olivia, Darroch and Tilly who all achieved straight A grades in their Higher SQA Exams in 2021. Madeline was unfortunately unable to attend for the photograph that day.

The final page of this document shows our School Improvement Plan for 2021-22. This gives a clear indication of our plans for improvement and is based on the feedback we receive from parents, pupils and staff as well, as the advice we receive from Dumfries and Galloway Council and Education Scotland.

Compassion
Communication
Creativity
Curiosity
Critical Thinking
Citizenship
Composure
Collaboration
Recovery:
Building Back Stronger





ELC
Effective use of Assessment
Self-Evaluation
Positive Relationships
Primary
Literacy
Numeracy
Ongoing School Development Work

Learning and Teaching
Modern Languages
Numeracy
Literacy and Moderation
Target Setting
Tracking and Data
Self-Evaluation
Leadership of Change
Departmental Priorities
Partnerships
PEF
Health and Wellbeing
Curriculum Pathways
Transitions
DYW
Employability Skills and Positive Destinations

Our employability skills: Communication and Literacy; Customer Service and Business Links; Problem Solving Abilities and Initiative; A Positive Work Ethic/Attitude; Valuing Diversity and Difference; Numeracy Skills;

Academy

Leadership and Entrepreneurship; ICT Skills and their Application; Working Under Pressure and to Deadlines; Organisational Skills; Team Working Skills; Self Management and Interpersonal Skills

2021-22 School Improvement Plan

Together we grow, learn and achieve

Responsible Citizens
Confident Individuals
Effective Contributors
Successful Learners

Together we grow, learn and achieve

Dumfries & Galloway