

Long-term outcomes: Do grammar schools make a difference, part 2

In this blogpost, I looked at the long-term outcomes for pupils who attended grammar schools compared to similar pupils who attended schools in non-selective local authorities.

I then compared the long-term outcomes of pupils who went to school in selective areas but who did not attend grammar schools to those of pupils who went to school in non-selective local authorities.

In that blogpost, I used the cohort which turned 16 in the 2008/09 academic year.

I've now repeated the analysis for the cohort which turned 16 in 2004/05, with the results shown below. The results are much the same. There is a slight advantage in terms of educational outcomes to attending grammar school but there doesn't seem to be much of an earnings differential, particularly when compared to pupils who attended schools with similar (low) rates of free school meals eligibility.

Outcomes of those who attend grammar schools versus those in local authorities without grammar schools
Pupils turning 16 in 2005

	Pupils attending grammar school	Pupils in local authorities without grammar schools	Matched pupils (pupil characteristics)	Matched pupils (pupil characteristics and school FSM rate)
Number of pupils	20,787	359,037	20,787	20,787
Achieving A*-C in GCSE English and maths (%)	97%	44%	88%	90%
Achieving five or more A*-A grades at GCSE (%)	53%	11%	42%	47%
Two or more A-Levels or equivalent by age 19 (%)	90%	51%	82%	86%
Achieving three A-Levels by age 19 (%)	80%	29%	66%	72%
Achieving a first degree by 2015/16 (%)	72%	31%	62%	65%
Achieving a first degree at a top third university by 2015/16 (%)	45%	10%	34%	38%
Achieving a first degree at a Russell Group university by 2015/16 (%)	36%	8%	26%	29%
In higher education or in employment for at least 180 days in 2015/16 (%)	82%	74%	81%	82%
Mean earnings of those in employment in 2015/16	£26,083	£19,689	£24,921	£25,987
Those in employment earning £35k+ in 2015/16 (%)	24%	9%	20%	23%
Included in the earnings measure (%)	77%	73%	78%	78%
Attrition (not observed in any data source in 2015/16) (%)	10%	13%	11%	10%

Outcomes of those who attend non-selective schools in grammar school areas versus those in local authorities without grammar schools
Pupils turning 16 in 2005

	Pupils attending non-selective schools in grammar school areas	Pupils in local authorities without grammar schools	Matched pupils (pupil characteristics and school FSM rate)
Number of pupils	24,695	217,514	217,514
Achieving A*-C in GCSE English and maths (%)	31%	43%	35%
Achieving five or more A*-A grades at GCSE (%)	3%	10%	7%
Two or more A-Levels or equivalent by age 19 (%)	40%	50%	44%
Achieving three A-Levels by age 19 (%)	18%	28%	22%
Achieving a first degree by 2015/16 (%)	20%	29%	23%
Achieving a first degree at a top third university by 2015/16 (%)	4%	10%	7%
Achieving a first degree at a Russell Group university by 2015/16 (%)	2%	7%	5%
In higher education or in employment for at least 180 days in 2015/16 (%)	71%	74%	71%
Mean earnings of those in employment in 2015/16	£19,413	£19,372	£19,373
Those in employment earning £35k+ in 2015/16 (%)	9%	8%	9%
Included in the earnings measure (%)	71%	74%	71%
Attrition (not observed in any data source in 2015/16) (%)	15%	13%	15%