

St Thomas of Aquin's RC High School – September 2023 Insight analysis

Insight is used to help secondary schools and local authorities identify areas of success and where improvements can be made for pupils in the senior phase (S4 - S6). Its key focus is on detailed information about pupil attainment and the destinations of school leavers. Much of the attainment information is based on pupils' best awards in each subject. Insight does not include data relating to attainment in S1 - S3. Although Insight provides data on the attainment of a wide range of Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) awards from a range of providers, not all SCQF achievement awards are included. Find [further information on Insight](#) on the Scottish Government website.

The virtual comparator (VC) consists of a sample group of school leavers from schools in other local authorities who have similar characteristics to the school leavers from the school in question. For each school leaver, ten matching school leavers are randomly selected based on gender, additional support needs, stage of leaving school (S4, S5 or S6) and the social context in which they live ([Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation](#)). These characteristics were selected due to their significance in explaining differences in the attainment and destinations of school leavers in Scotland.

Please find a detailed account of 2023 Insight:

<https://insightguides.scotxed.net/support/InsightTechnicalGuide.pdf>

The national dashboard measures:

A piece of information I will be sharing with the St Thomas of Aquin's school community are the 4 main themes on the St Thomas of Aquin's Insight first page – the national dashboard measures.

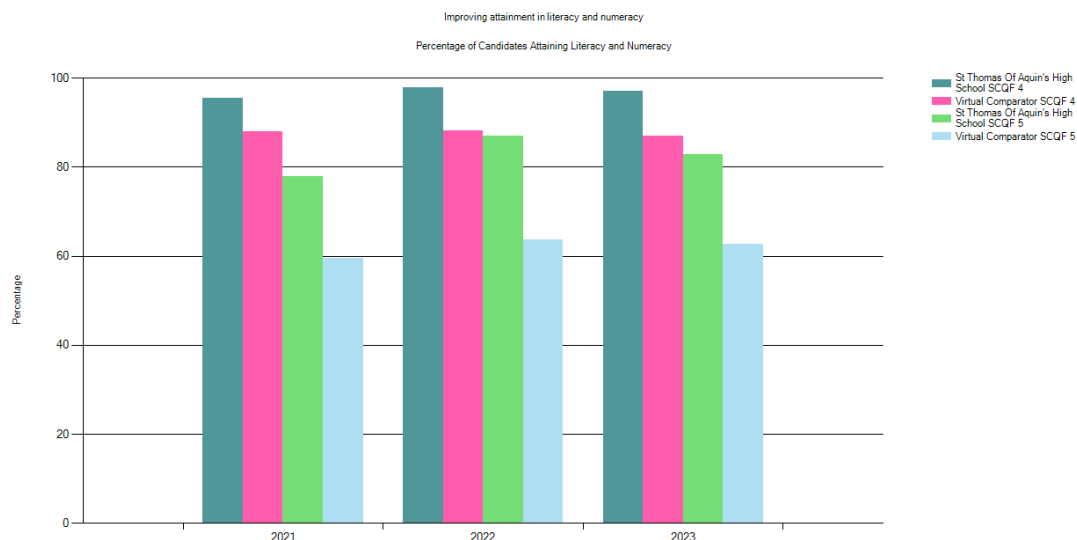
The 4 measures are:

1. Improving attainment in literacy and numeracy: Percentage of Attainers Leaving with Literacy and Numeracy.
2. Increasing post-school participation: Percentage of school Leavers in a Positive Destination.
3. Improving attainment for all: Average Total Tariff Points
4. Tackling disadvantage by improving the attainment of lower attainers relative to higher attainers: Attainment versus Deprivation

Once the 4 measures are available, I will update the September 2023 document.

Literacy and Numeracy

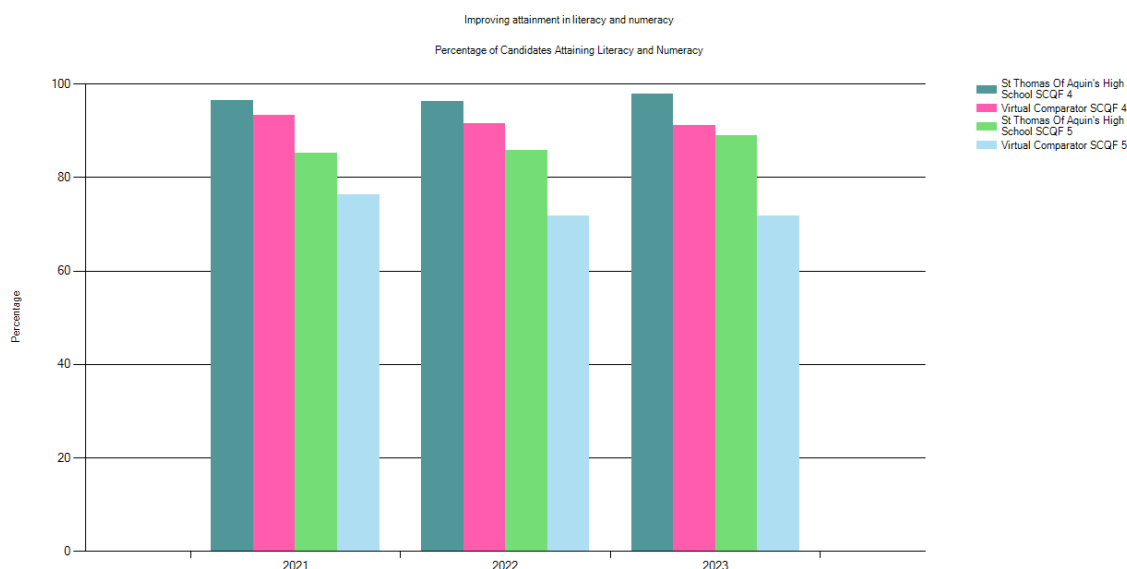
Performance of S4 candidates in Literacy and Numeracy based on S4 cohort numbers



2023 S4 Level 4 in Literacy and Numeracy is at **97.14%** which is slightly down from the 2022 statistic of 97.83%. St Thomas of Aquin's Level Literacy and Numeracy combines statistic is **10.21% above the Virtual Comparator**.

2023 S4 Level 5 in Literacy and Numeracy is at **82.86%** which is 3.83% down from the 2022 statistic of 86.69%. St Thomas of Aquin's Level Literacy and Numeracy combines statistic is **20.15% above the Virtual Comparator**.

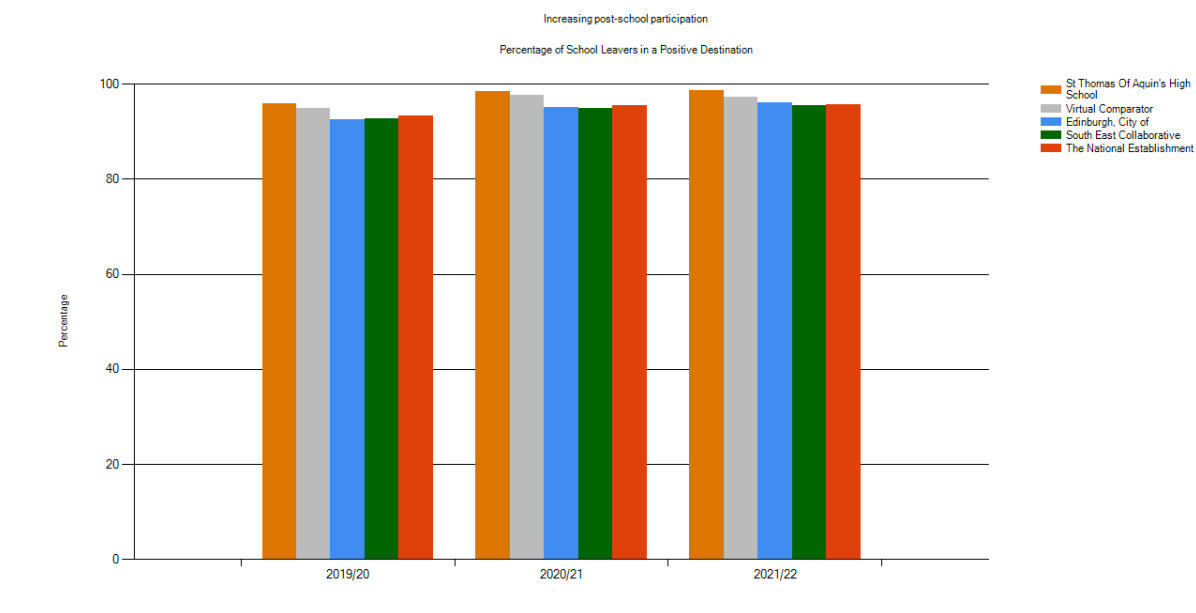
Performance of S5 candidates in Literacy and Numeracy based on S4 cohort numbers.



2023 S5 Level 4 in Literacy and Numeracy stands at **97.81%** and S5 Level 5 in Literacy and Numeracy stands at **89.05%**. The Level 4 statistic is 6.64% above the VC and the Level 5 statistic is over 17% above the VC.

Positive Destinations

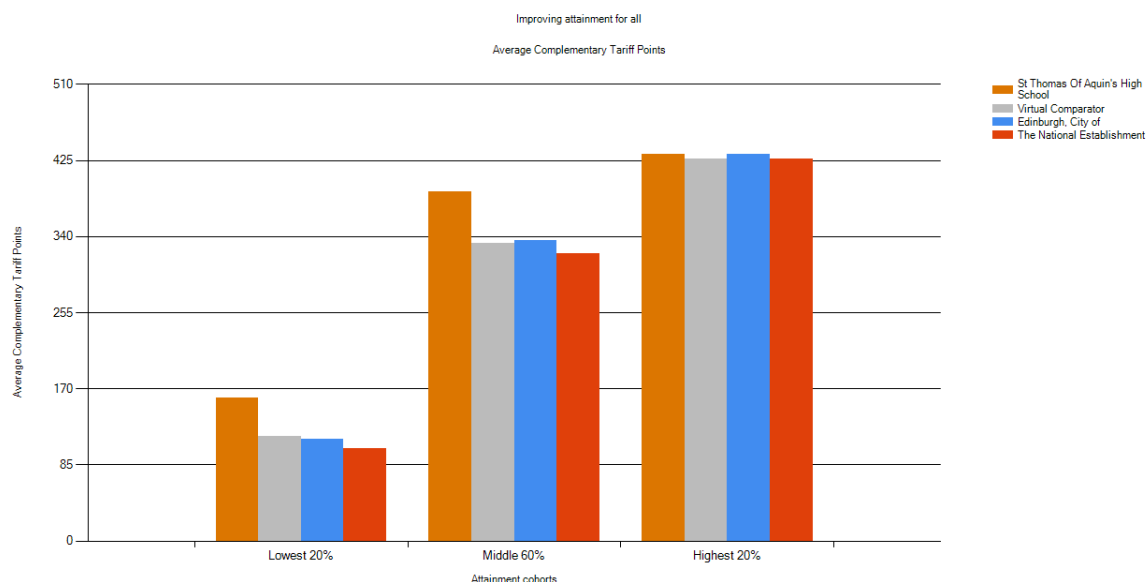
Percentage of St Thomas of Aquin's pupils moving into a positive destination (2022 February stat)



St Thomas of Aquin's positive destinations statistic stands at **98.59%** for February 2022.

Improving attainment for all

S4 average complementary tariff points based on S4 cohort numbers.



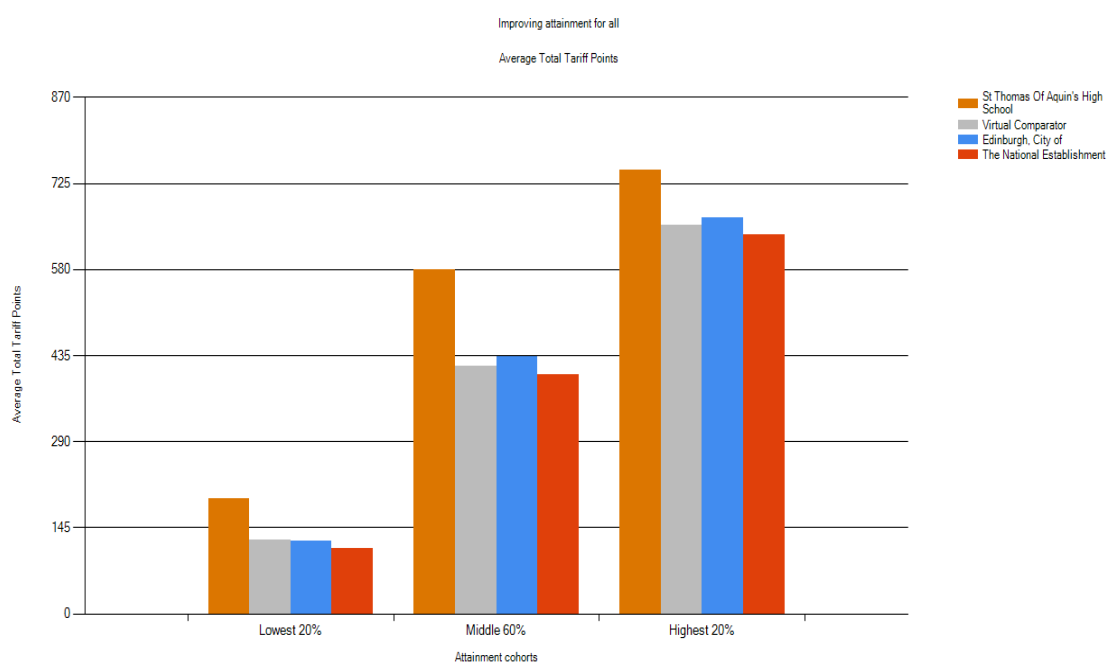
The average complementary tariff points measurement allows secondary schools to compare pupil attainment by taking a pupil's 5 "best" National Qualification subject attainment levels (combining the tariff points for subject Levels and Grades) and compare this with other pupils in different schools within a Local Authority and outwith. In Local Authorities, pupils can sit 6,7, or 8 National Qualifications. In St Thomas, a S4 pupil sits 7 National Qualifications.

The **S4** graph shows that in the lowest 20% and middle 60%, and highest 20% attainment measurements, St Thomas' outperforms almost all of the VC, City of Edinburgh, and the National Establishment attainment metrics. In the highest 20% of attainment measurement, St Thomas is only outperformed by CEC, and this is by 1 point. To support your understanding of Tariff points - 1 C Grade at National 5 has 64 tariff score points.

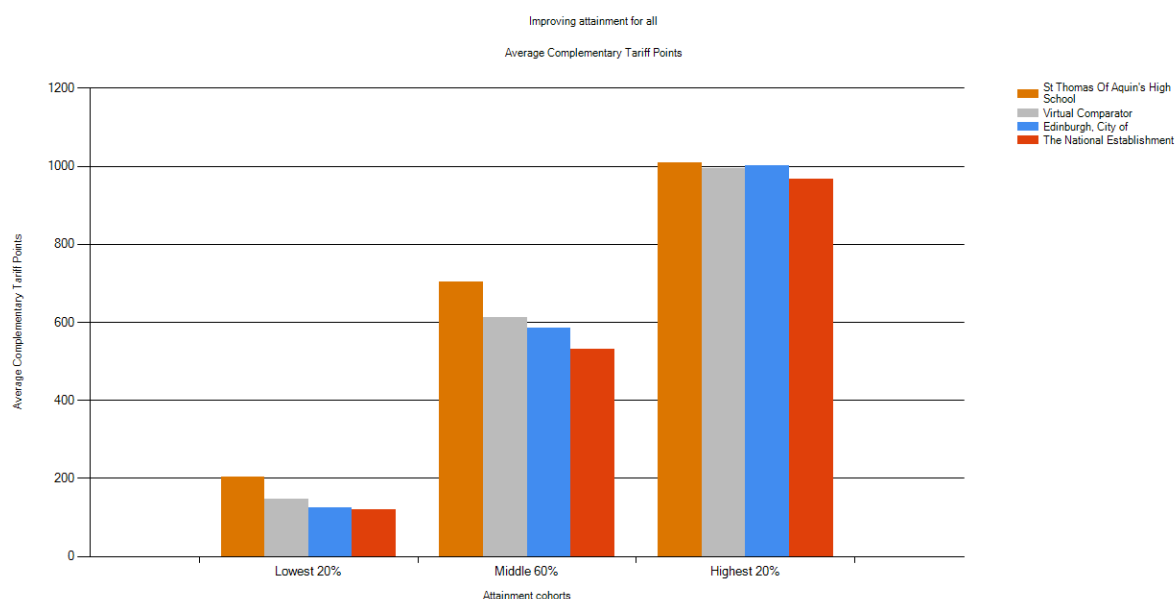
The average complementary tariff points score for the S4 middle 60% is 390 (58 points above the VC), which means that on average pupils in this measurement are achieving approximately 5 National 5 Bs. In the highest 20%, the average complementary tariff score is 431 which means that on average pupils in this measurement are achieving a blend of 5 National 5 As. In the lowest 20%, the average complementary tariff score is 159, which is 43 points above the VC.

S4 average total tariff points based on S4 cohort numbers.

The average total tariff points measurement allows secondary schools to compare pupil attainment by taking a pupil's average National Qualification subject attainment levels and comparing it with other pupils who may be presented for a different number of National Qualifications. S4 St Thomas of Aquin's average total tariff attainment, at the Lowest 20%, Middle 60%, and Highest 20% of pupils, outperforms in all the metrics it is compared to.



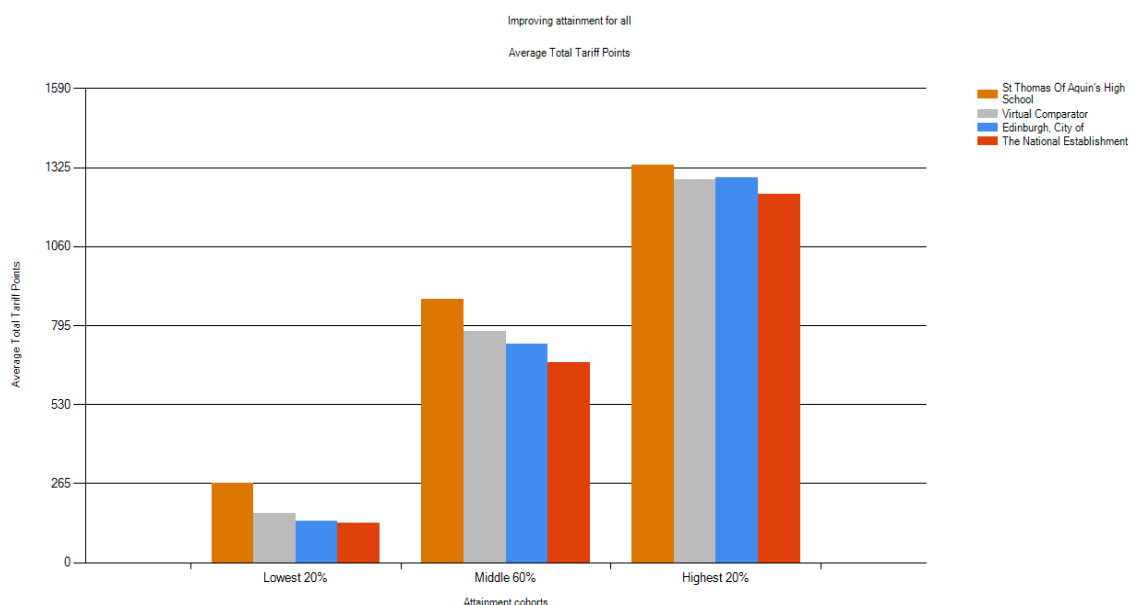
S5 average complementary tariff points based on S4 cohort numbers.



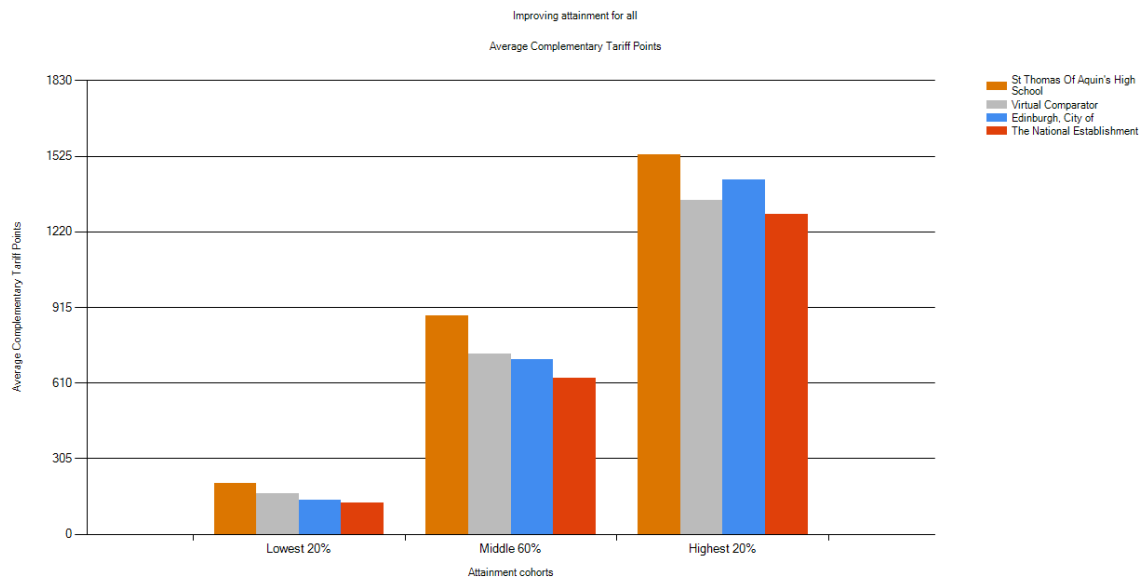
The **S5** average complementary tariff points graph continues to compare S5 pupils 5 best National Qualifications using cohort numbers from S4. The above graph shows that in all 3 measures, the lowest 20%, the middle 60%, and highest 20% attainment measures St Thomas' outperforms the VC, City of Edinburgh, and the National Establishment results. The difference between the average complementary tariff points of St Thomas of Aquin's middle 60% (703) and the City of Edinburgh schools middle 60% (585) is 118. To support your understanding of this, an A at Higher is the equivalent of 204 tariff points, a C at Higher is the equivalent of 160 tariff points. The St Thomas of Aquin's middle 60% average complementary tariff points of 703 means that on average pupils in this measurement are achieving approximately 4 Highers at B grade and that the St Thomas of Aquin's highest 20% average complementary tariff points of 1008 pupils are approximately achieving 5 Highers at A grade.

S5 average total tariff points based on S4 cohort numbers.

S5 St Thomas of Aquin's average total tariff attainment, at the Lowest 20%, Middle 60%, and Highest 20% of pupils, outperforms in all the metrics it is compared to.



S6 average complementary tariff points based on S4 cohort numbers.

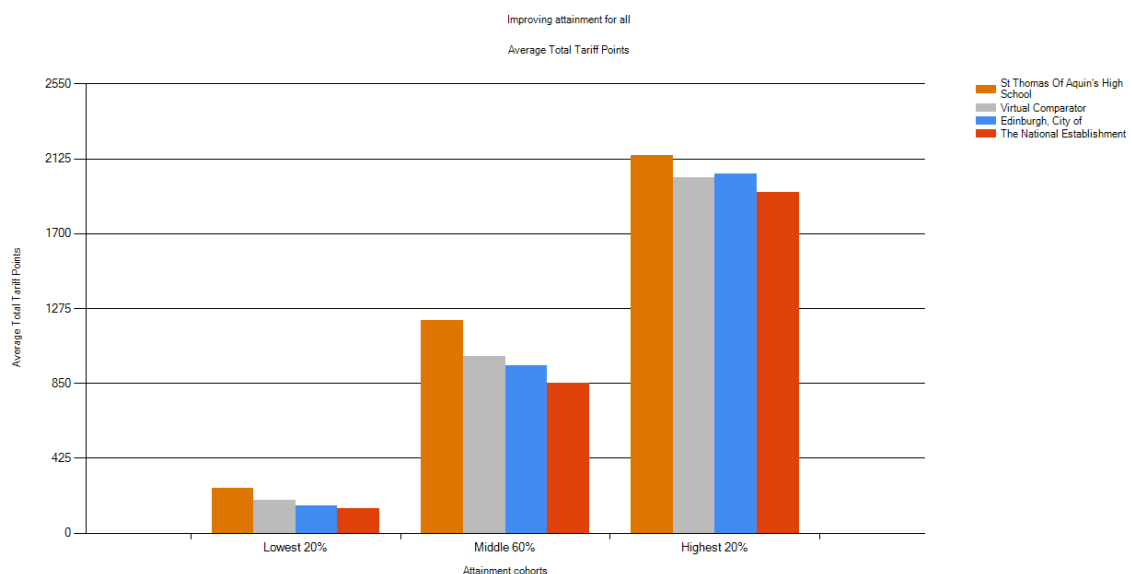


The **S6** average complementary tariff points graph shows that in all 3 measures, the lowest 20%, the middle 60%, and highest 20% attainment measures St Thomas' outperforms the VC, City of Edinburgh, and the National results. If you look at the middle 60% of S6 pupils, the average complementary tariff points are 880 compared to the VC of 728, and the National Establishment measurement of 629. To support your understanding of this, a C at Advanced Higher is the equivalent of 400 tariff points, an A at Higher is the equivalent of 204 tariff points.

The average complimentary tariff points in the highest 20% (1532) is 187 above the VC and 102 above CEC averages. In the lowest 20%, the average complimentary tariff point (203) is 39 points above the VC.

S6 average total tariff points based on S4 cohort numbers.

S6 St Thomas of Aquin's average total tariff attainment, at the Lowest 20%, Middle 60%, and Highest 20% of pupils, outperforms in all the metrics it is compared to.

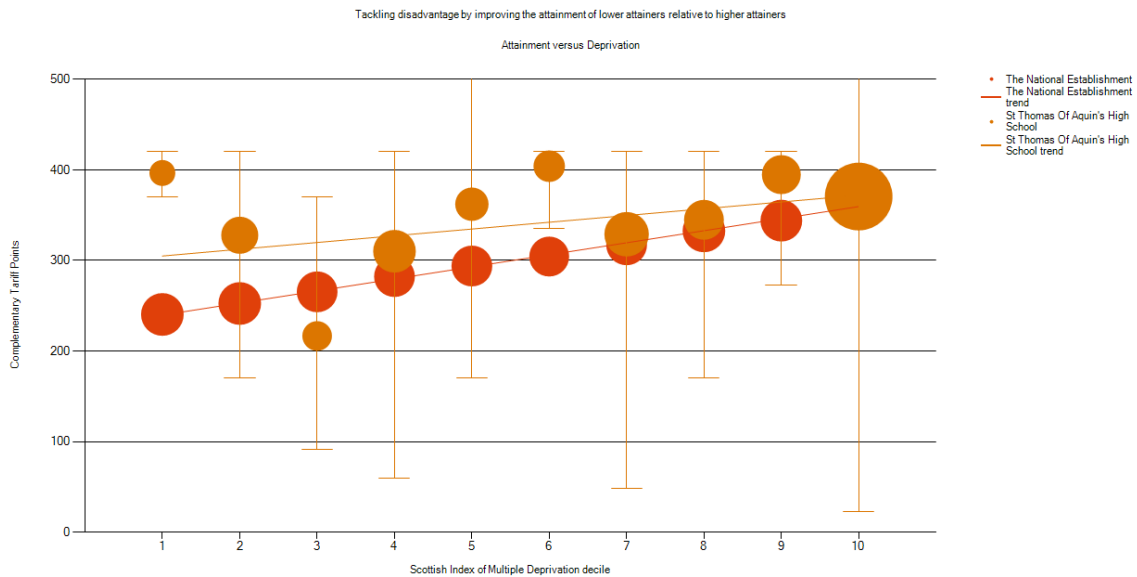


Attainment versus Deprivation

The Scottish index of multiple deprivation (SIMD) is a relative measure of deprivation across 6,976 small areas (called data zones). If an area is identified as 'deprived', this can relate to people having a low income, but it can also mean fewer resources or opportunities. SIMD looks at the extent to which an area is deprived across seven domains: income, employment, education, health, access to services, crime and housing. It can help improve understanding about the outcomes and circumstances of people living in the most deprived areas in Scotland. It can also allow effective targeting of policies and funding where the aim is to wholly or partly tackle or take account of area concentrations of multiple deprivation. SIMD is an area-based measure of relative deprivation: not every person in a highly deprived area will themselves be experiencing high levels of deprivation.

When comparing pupils in a specific SIMD measurement to that of the National Establishment average, pupils complementary tariff points are considered.

S4 candidates based on S4 cohort numbers: complementary tariff points.

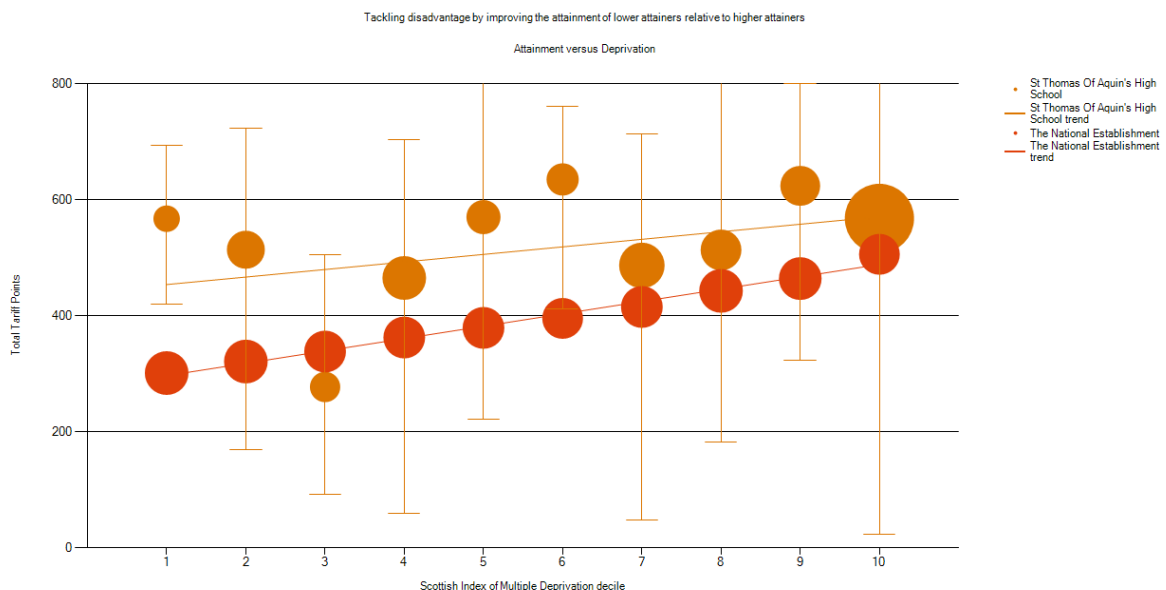


The above S4 graph compares St Thomas of Aquin's (**orange**) complementary tariff points to the National establishment tariff points (**red**). The St Thomas of Aquins attainment gap of pupils (3) in **SIMD 1 (397)** to that of pupils (52) in **SIMD 10 (371)** shows that there is no attainment gap. The gradient of the lines show that St Thomas is closing the attainment gap compared to the National Establishment averages.

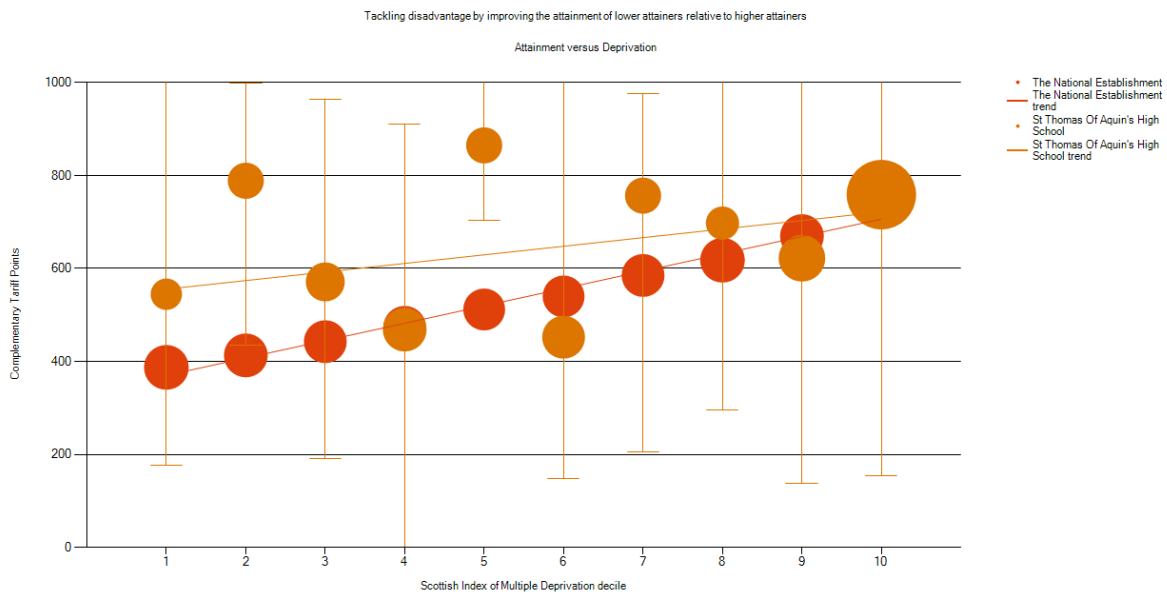
In **SIMD 1,2,4, 5,6, 7,8,9, and 10** St Thomas outperforms the National establishment averages in those specific metrics, with only SIMD 3 (5 pupils) below the National establishment averages. St Thomas of Aquin's knows these pupils and our job is to support pupils in their S5 attainment.

S4 candidates based on S4 cohort numbers: total tariff points.

The closing the attainment gap line in the below graph is more horizontal than the above graph and you could argue that St Thomas of Aquin's is delivering excellence and equity in terms of attainment.



S5 candidates based on S4 cohort numbers: complementary tariff points.

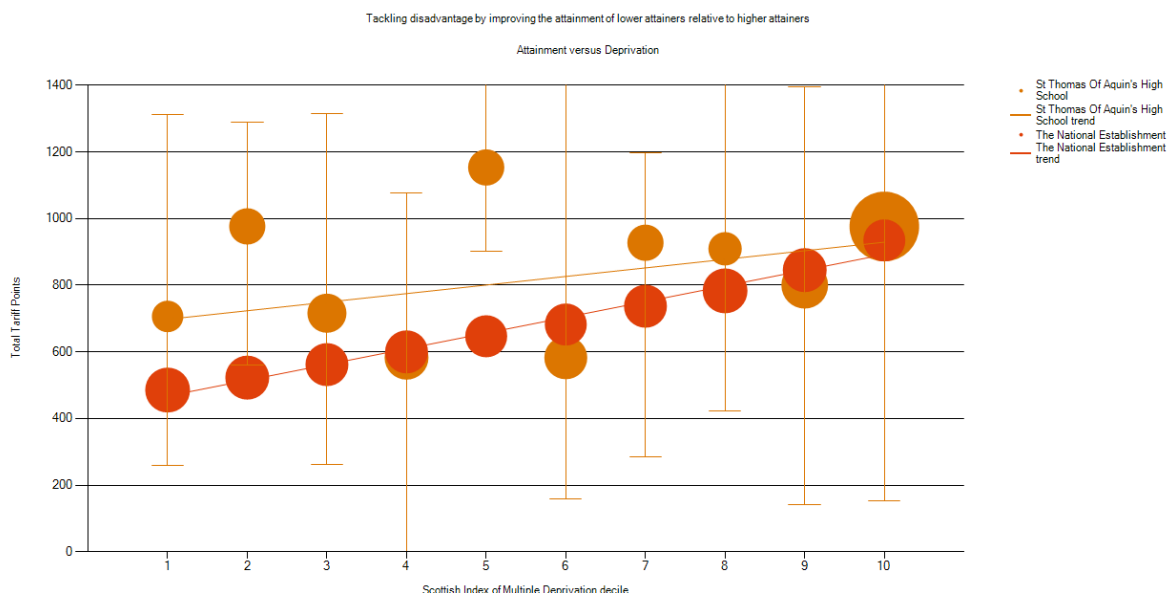


St Thomas of Aquin's complementary tariff attainment gap in S5 pupils in **SIMD 1 (545)** to that of **SIMD 10 (759)** is a gap of **214** which can be compared to the approximate National Establishment gap between SIMD 1 to 10 of **371**. The gradient of the lines show that St Thomas is closing the attainment gap compared to the National Establishment averages.

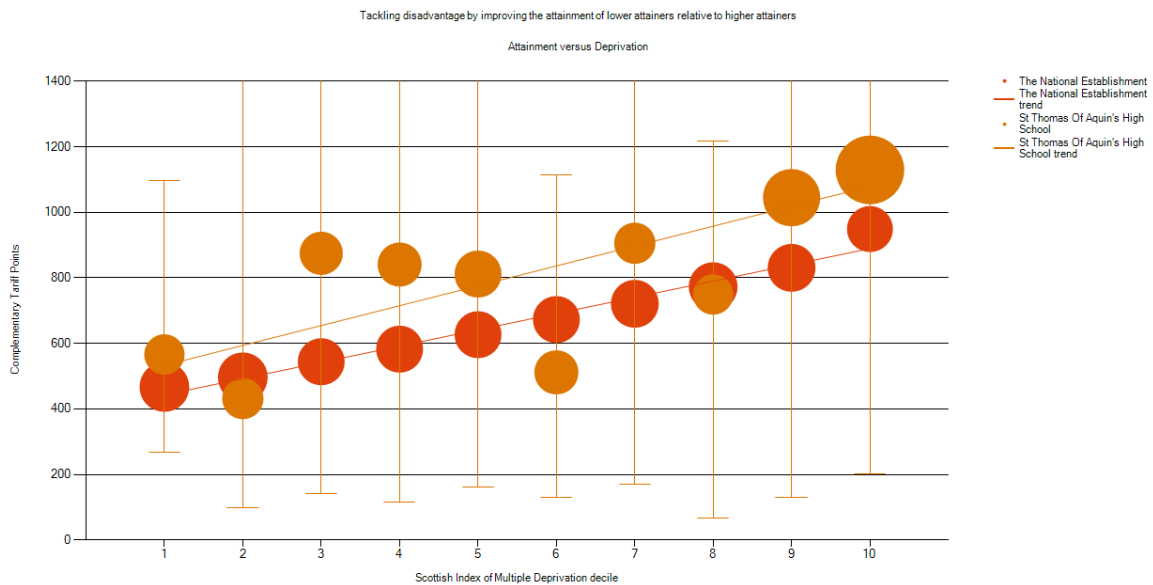
In SIMD **1,2,3,4,5,7,8, and 10** St Thomas outperforms the National Establishment averages in those specific metrics, while SIMD 6 (13 pupils) and SIMD 9 (17 pupils) are the measurements below or slightly below the National Establishment average. St Thomas of Aquin's knows these pupils and our job is to support pupils in their S6 attainment.

S5 candidates based on S4 cohort numbers: total tariff points.

The closing the attainment gap line in the graph below is more horizontal than the above graph and you could argue that St Thomas of Aquin's is delivering excellence and equity in terms of attainment.



S6 candidates based on S4 cohort numbers: complementary tariff points.



The attainment gap of S6 St Thomas of Aquin's pupils in **SIMD 1 (566)** to that of **SIMD 10 (1129)** at St Thomas of Aquins is a gap of **563** compared to the National Establishment gap between SIMD 1 to 10 of **482**. The gradient of the lines show that at St Thomas the attainment gap is bigger when compared to the National establishment averages.

In SIMD 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 10 St Thomas outperforms the National Establishment averages in those specific metrics, while SIMD 2 (9 pupils), SIMD 6 (11 pupils) and SIMD 8 (8 pupils) are the measurements below the National Establishment average.

S6 candidates based on S4 cohort numbers: total tariff points.

