St Thomas of Aquin's RC High School

September 2026 Insight analysis (September 2026 update)

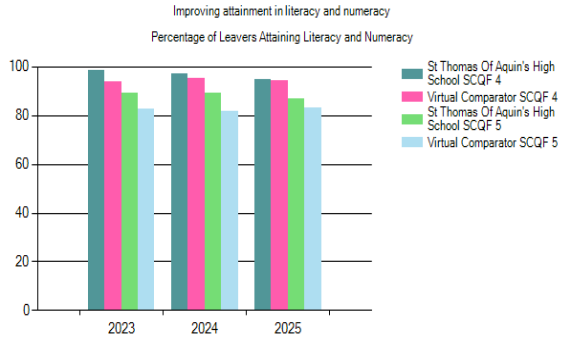
Insight supports secondary schools and local authorities to identify areas of success and where improvements can be made for pupils in the senior phase (S4 - S6). Its key focus is on detailed information about pupil attainment and the destinations of school leavers. Much of the attainment information 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.

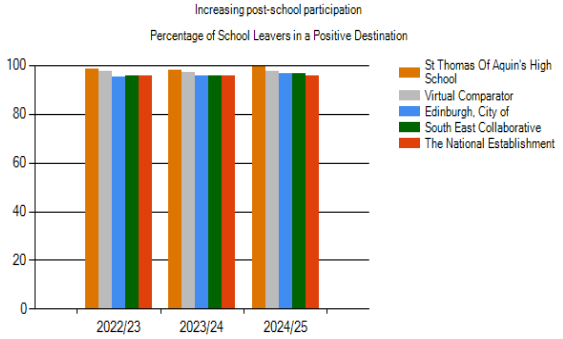
The virtual comparator (VC) consists of a sample group of school leavers from schools in other local authorities who have similar characteristics to the school leavers from the school in question. For each school leaver, ten matching school leavers are randomly selected based on gender, additional support 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.

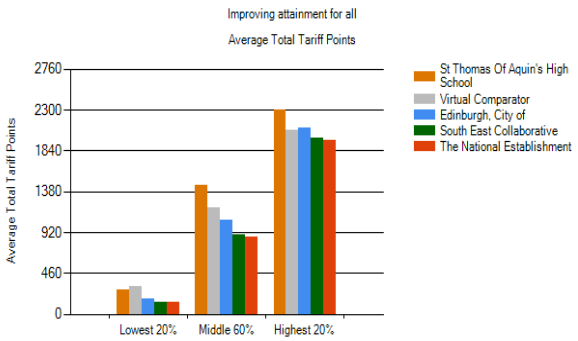
The national dashboard measures:

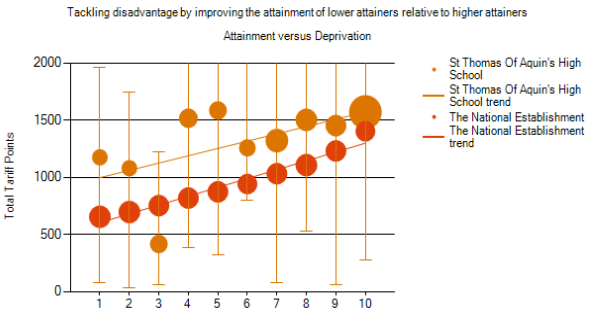
1. Improving attainment in literacy and numeracy: Percentage of Attainers Leaving with Literacy and Numeracy.
2. Increasing post-school participation: Percentage of school Leavers in a Positive Destination.
3. Improving attainment for all: Average Total Tariff Points
4. Tackling disadvantage by improving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

Once the 4 measures are updated in early 2027, I will update the September 2026 document with the national dashboard









Literacy and Numeracy

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

2026 S4 Level 4 in Literacy and Numeracy is at **82.86%.** St Thomas of Aquin's Level Literacy and Numeracy combines statistic is **8.43% below the Virtual Comparator**.

2026 S4 Level 5 in Literacy and Numeracy is at **77.86%** (above the L4 Virtual Comparator). St Thomas of Aquin's Level Literacy and Numeracy combines statistic is **5.93% above the Virtual Comparator**.

There is a 2-year trend of S4 Level 4 and Level 5 Literacy and Numeracy outperforming the Virtual Comparator. We are working with the Insight Team to understand our S4 Level 4 data.

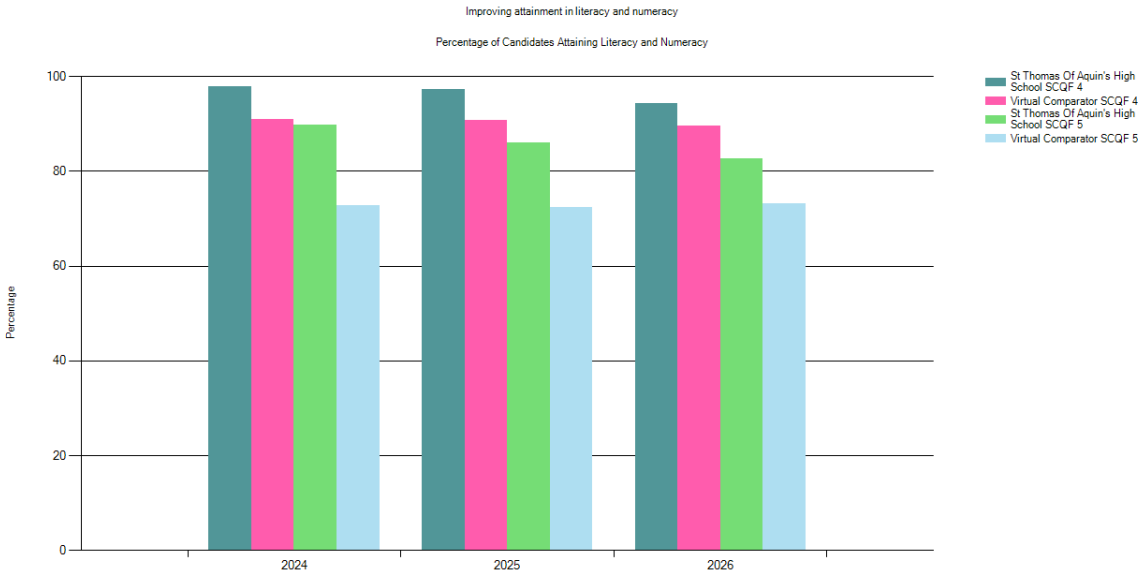
Performance of S5 candidates in Literacy and Numeracy based on S4 cohort numbers

2026 S5 Level 4 in Literacy and Numeracy is at **95.80%.** St Thomas of Aquin's Level Literacy and Numeracy combines statistic is **6.01% above the Virtual Comparator**.

2026 S5 Level 5 in Literacy and Numeracy is at **88.81%**. St Thomas of Aquin's Level Literacy and Numeracy combines statistic is **16.01% above the Virtual Comparator**.

There is a 3-year trend of S5 Level 4 and Level 5 Literacy and Numeracy outperforming the Virtual Comparator

Performance of S6 candidates in Literacy and Numeracy based on S4 cohort numbers



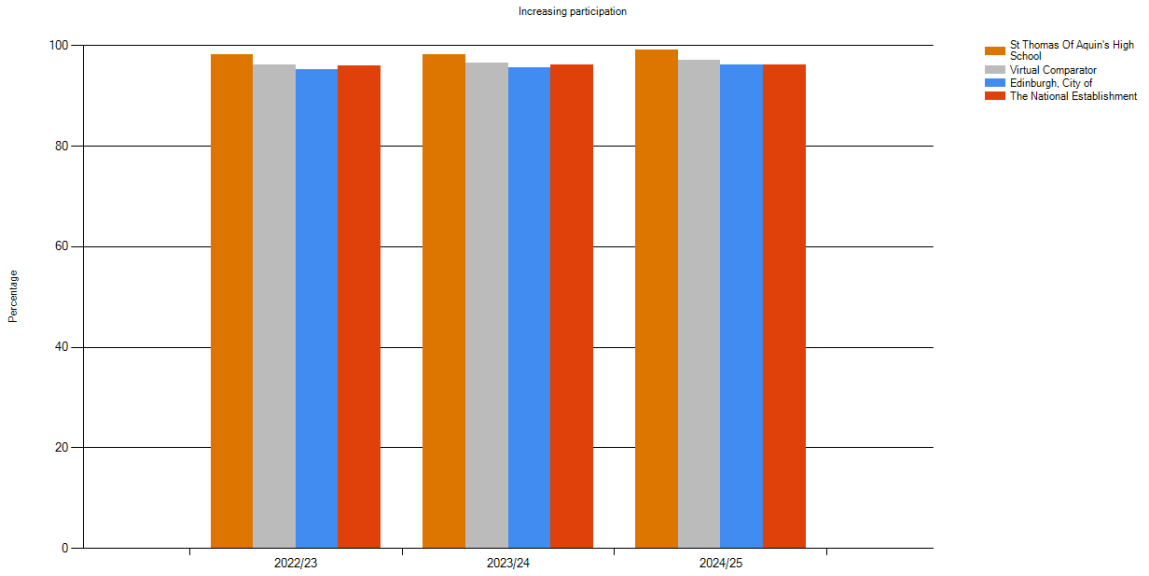
2026 S6 Level 4 in Literacy and Numeracy is at **94.24%.** St Thomas of Aquin's Level Literacy and Numeracy combines statistic is **4.60% above the Virtual Comparator**.

2026 S6 Level 5 in Literacy and Numeracy is at **82.73%**. St Thomas of Aquin's Level Literacy and Numeracy combines statistic is **9.56% above the Virtual Comparator**.

There is a 3-year trend of S6 Level 4 and Level 5 Literacy and Numeracy outperforming the Virtual Comparator

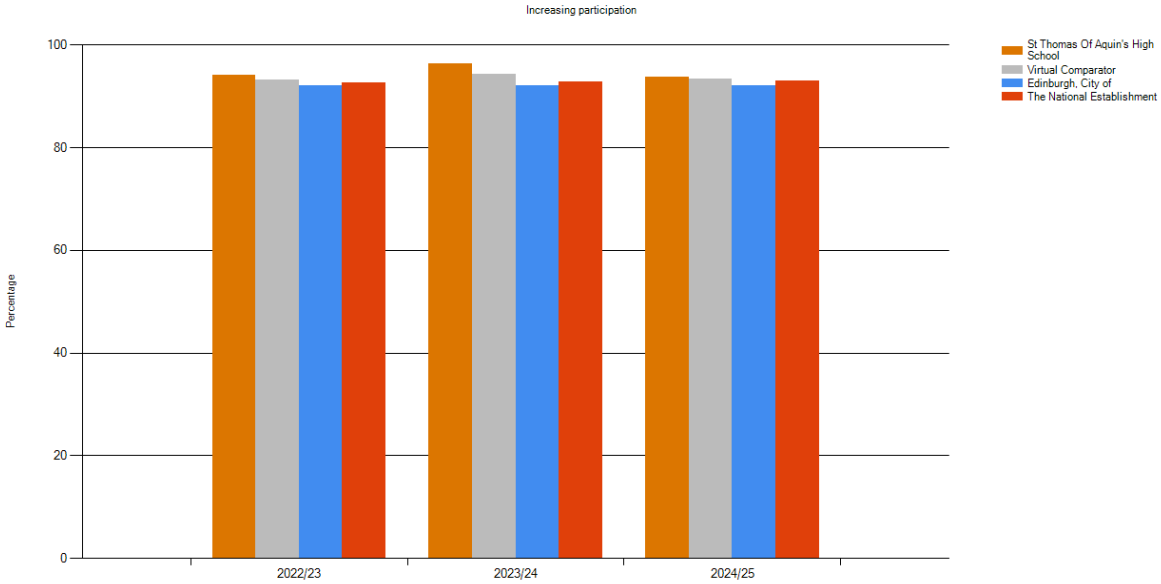
Positive Destinations

Percentage of St Thomas of Aquin's pupils moving into a positive destination (2025 February stat)



99.10 percentage of S6 school leavers from St Thomas of Aquin's moved into a positive destination (based on S6 Leavers

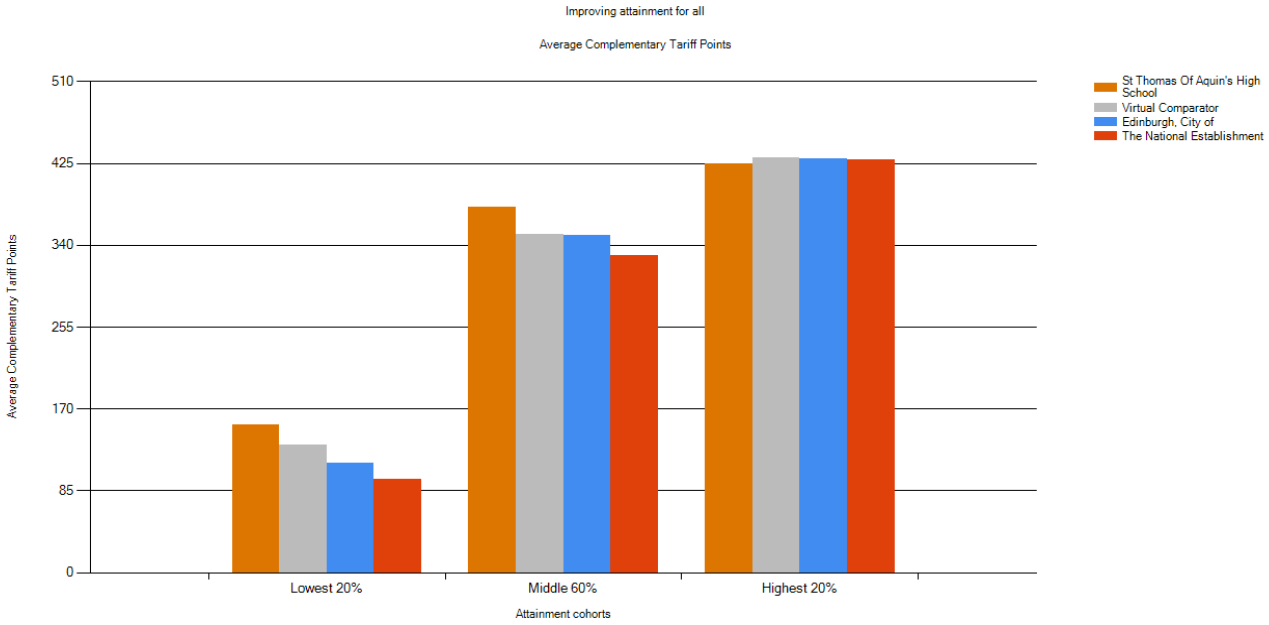
Percentage of St Thomas of Aquin's pupils moving into a positive destination (2025 February stat)



93.75 percentage of S6 school leavers from St Thomas of Aquin's moved into a positive destination (based on S4 Leavers

Improving attainment for all

S4 average complementary tariff points based on S4 cohort numbers.

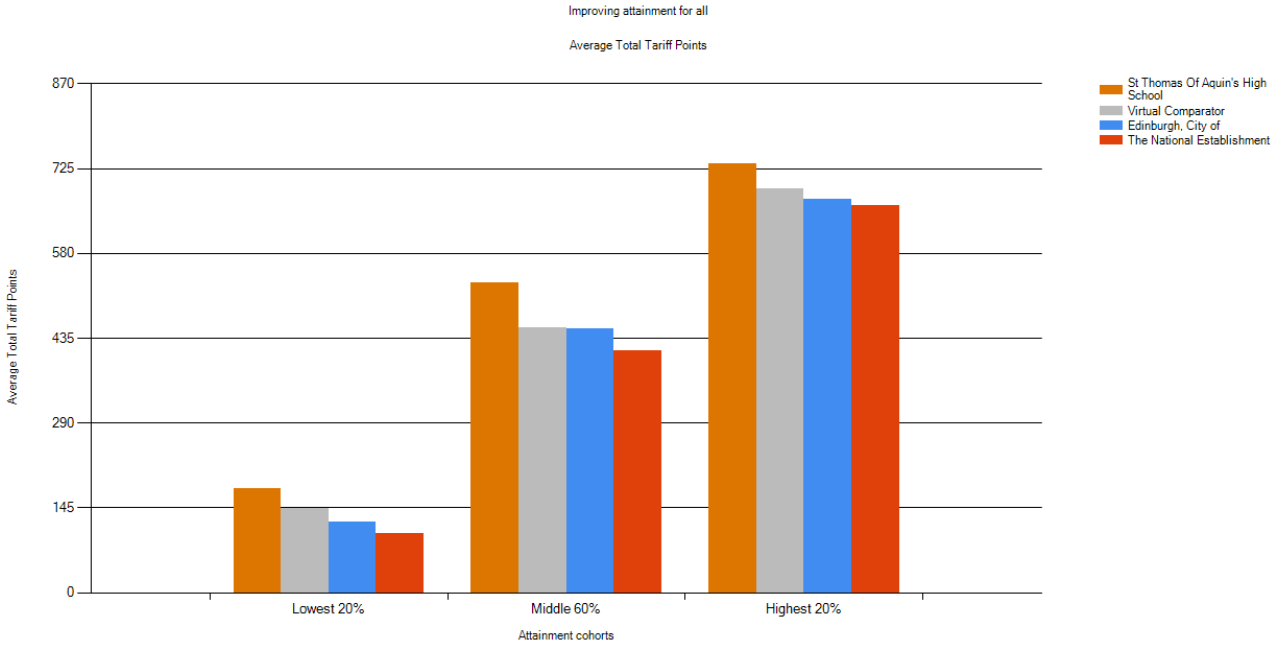


The average complementary tariff points measurement allows secondary schools to compare pupil attainment by taking a pupil's 5 "best" National Qualification subject attainment levels (combining the tariff points for subject Levels and Grades) and compare this with other pupils in different schools within and out with a Local Authority. 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' is above almost all of the VC, City of Edinburgh, and the National Establishment attainment metrics. In the highest 20% of attainment measurement (424 points), St Thomas is outperformed by The Virtual Comparator (7 points) and by CEC (6 point). To support your understanding of Tariff points - 1 C Grade at National 5 has 64 tariff score points.

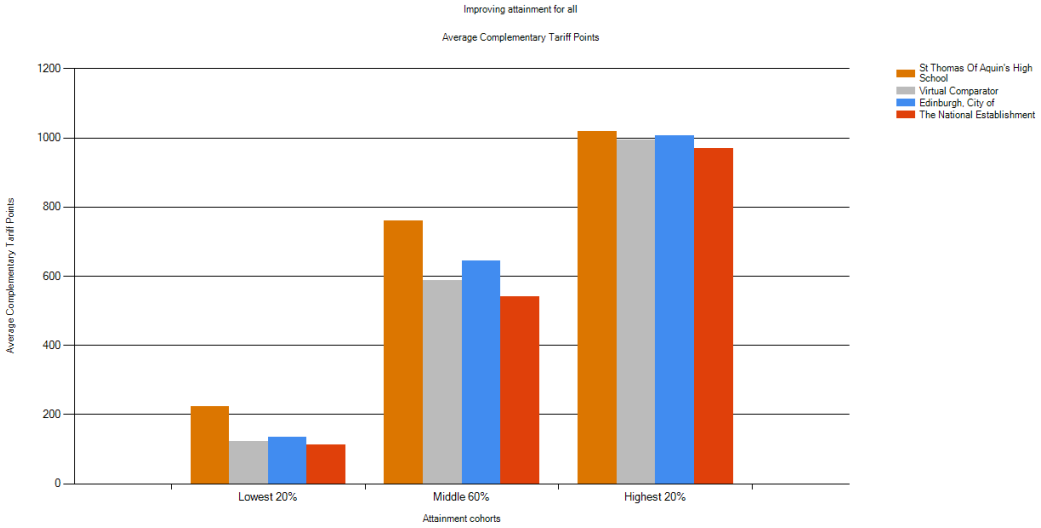
The average complementary tariff points score for the S4 middle 60% is 380 (29 points above the VC). In the highest 20%, the average complementary tariff score is 424 which means that on average pupils in this measurement are achieving a blend of 5 National 5 As. In the lowest 20%, the average complementary tariff score is 153, which is 21 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, is above all the metrics it is compared to.

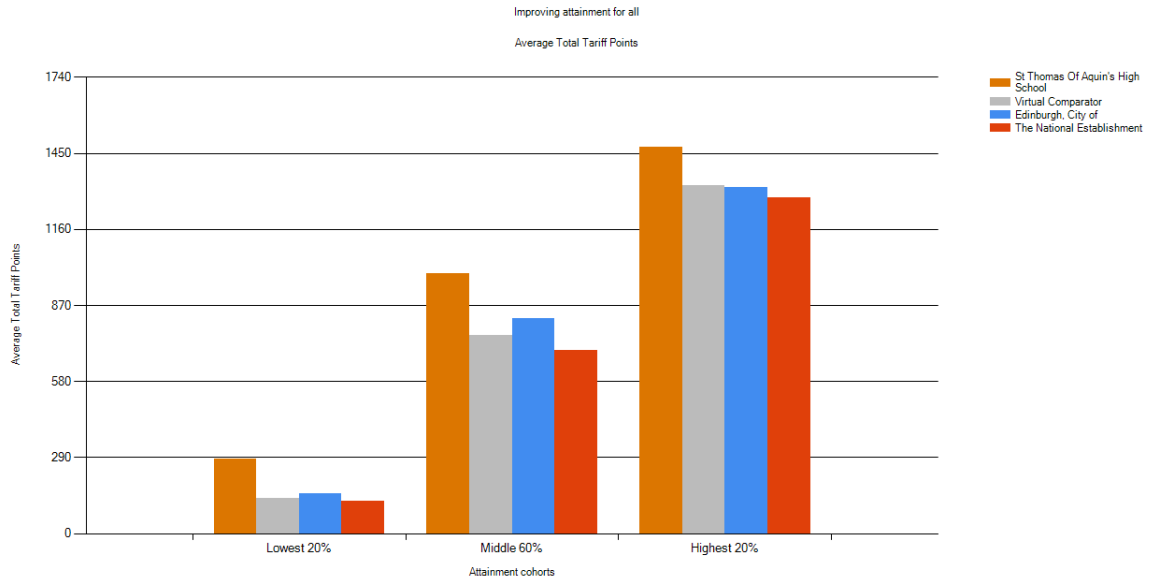
S5 average complementary tariff points based on S4 cohort numbers.



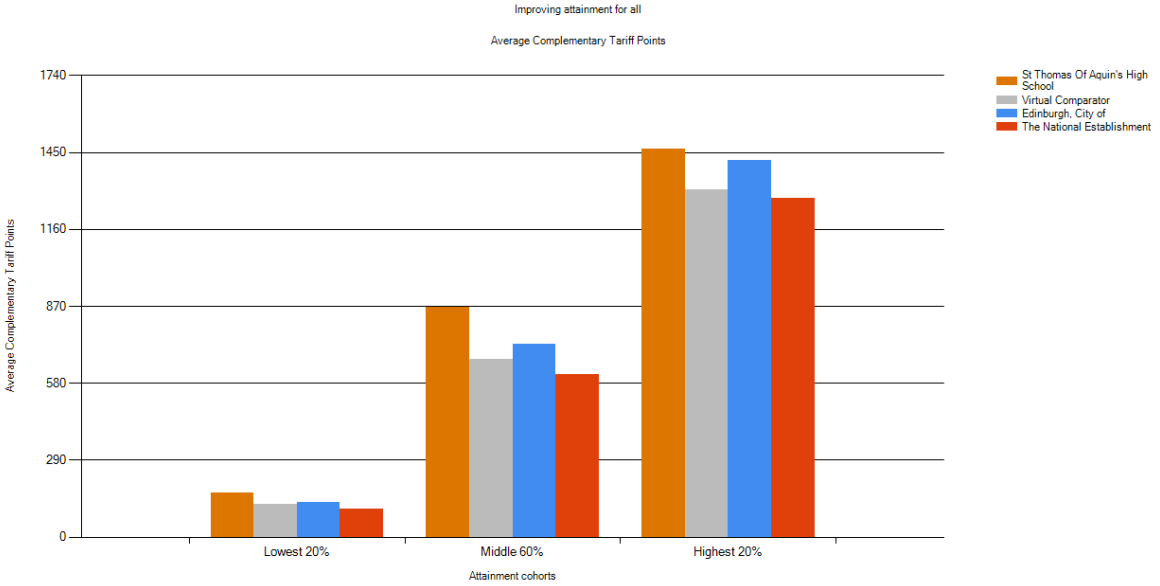
The **S5** average complementary tariff points graph continues to compare S5 pupils 5 best National Qualifications using cohort numbers from S4. The above graph shows that in all 3 measures, the lowest 20%, the middle 60%, and highest 20% attainment measures St Thomas' is above the VC, City of Edinburgh, and the National Establishment results. The difference between the average complementary tariff points of St Thomas of Aquin's middle 60% (760) and the City of Edinburgh schools middle 60% (643) is 117. 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 760 means that on average pupils in this measurement are achieving approximately 4 Highers at C grade. St Thomas of Aquin's highest 20% average complementary tariff points of 1018 pupils is approximately achieving 5 Highers at A grade. The lowest 222 of pupils is significantly above all of its comparisons.

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. The middle 60% total tariff scores of 992 is over 150 above the VC and CEC metrics.



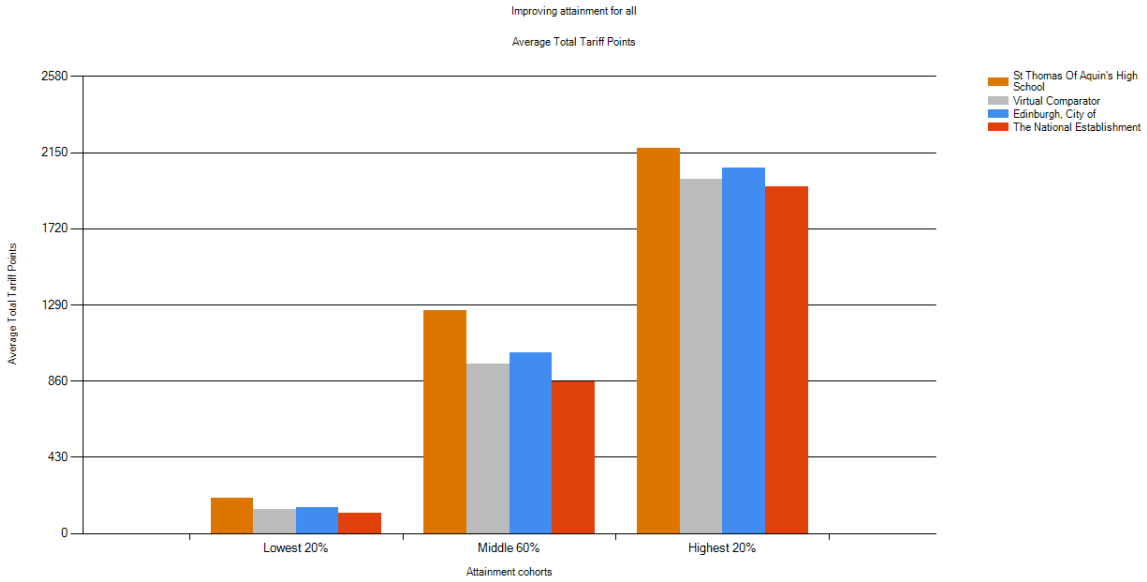
S6 average complementary tariff points based on S4 cohort numbers.



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 865 compared to the VC of 672, and the National Establishment measurement of 728. 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% (1461) is 43 points above CEC averages. In the lowest 20%, the average complimentary tariff point (166) is 44 points above the VC.

S6 average total tariff points based on S4 cohort numbers.



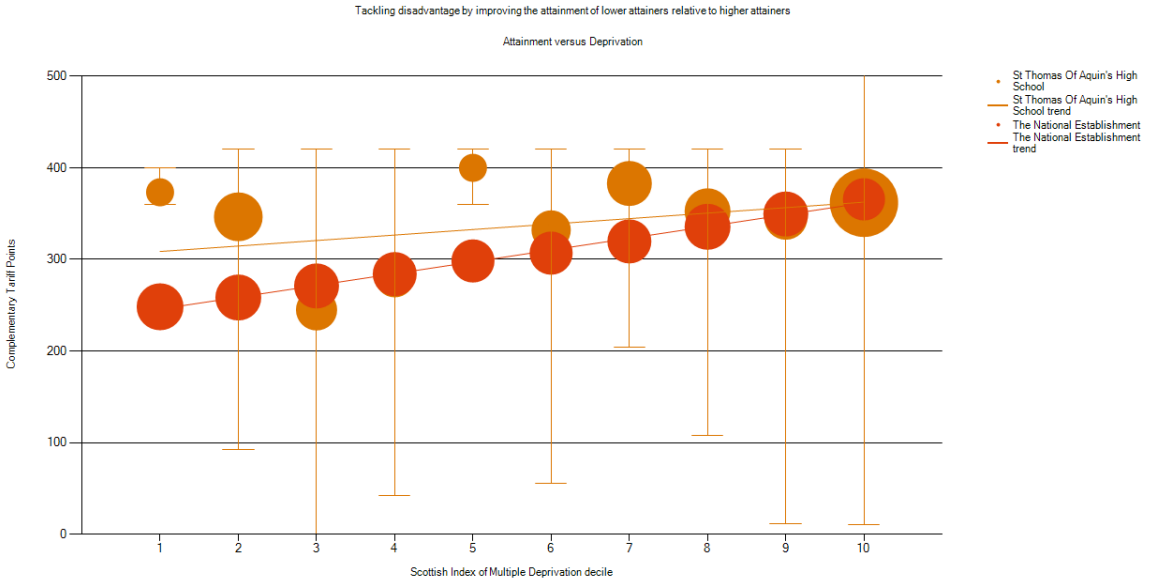
S6 St Thomas of Aquin's average total tariff attainment, at the Lowest 20%, Middle 60%, and Highest 20% of pupils, outperforms all of the metrics it is compared to. There is a significant difference between the middle 60% St Thomas metric compared to the VC, CEC, and National establishment metrics.

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.

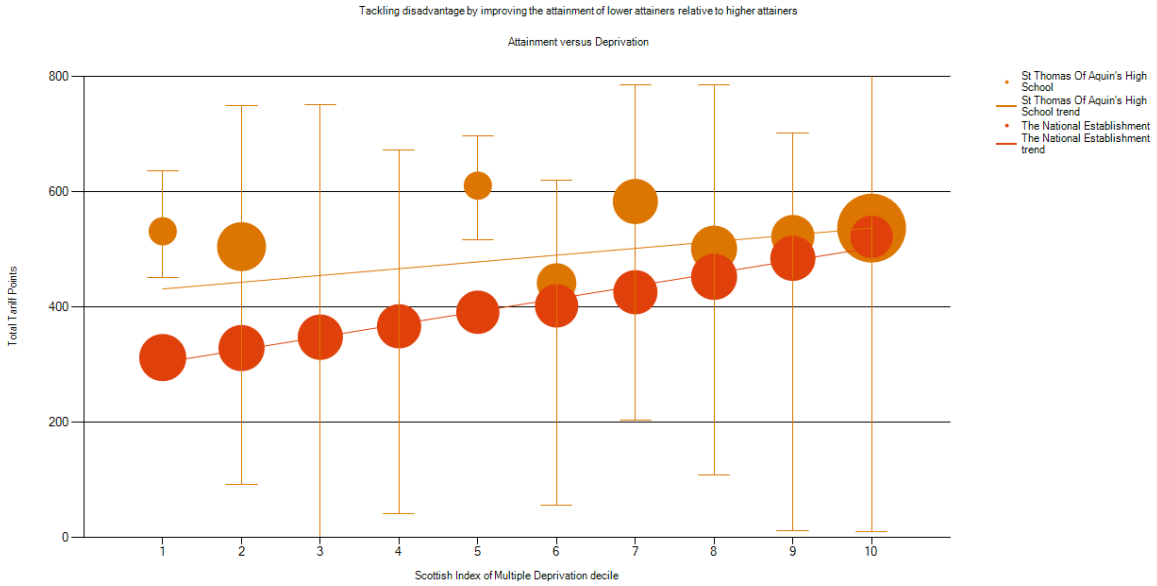
S4 candidates based on S4 cohort numbers: complementary tariff points.



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 (373)** and **SIMD 2** (18 pupils) 347 points to that of pupils (43) in **SIMD 10 (362)** shows that there is an attainment gap deficit of 11 points (SIMD1) and a gap of 15 points (SIMD 2)**.** The gradient of the lines show that St Thomas is closing the attainment gap compared to the National Establishment averages.

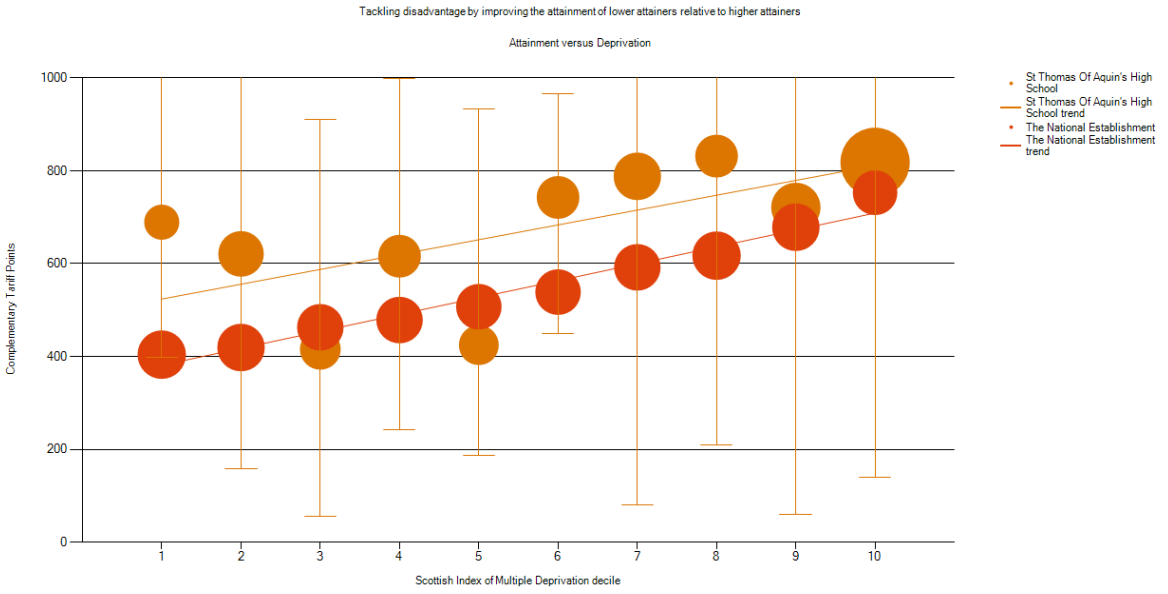
In SIMD **1,2,5, 6,7,8, and 10** St Thomas is notionally above or above the National establishment averages in those specific metrics, with SIMD 3 (11 pupils) and below the National establishment averages. St Thomas of Aquin's uses the CEC Data suite to identify and plan for these pupils and our focus is to support pupils in their S5 attainment with appropriate coursing and levels.

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



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. St Thomas of Aquin's is closing the attainment gap compared to the National establishment.

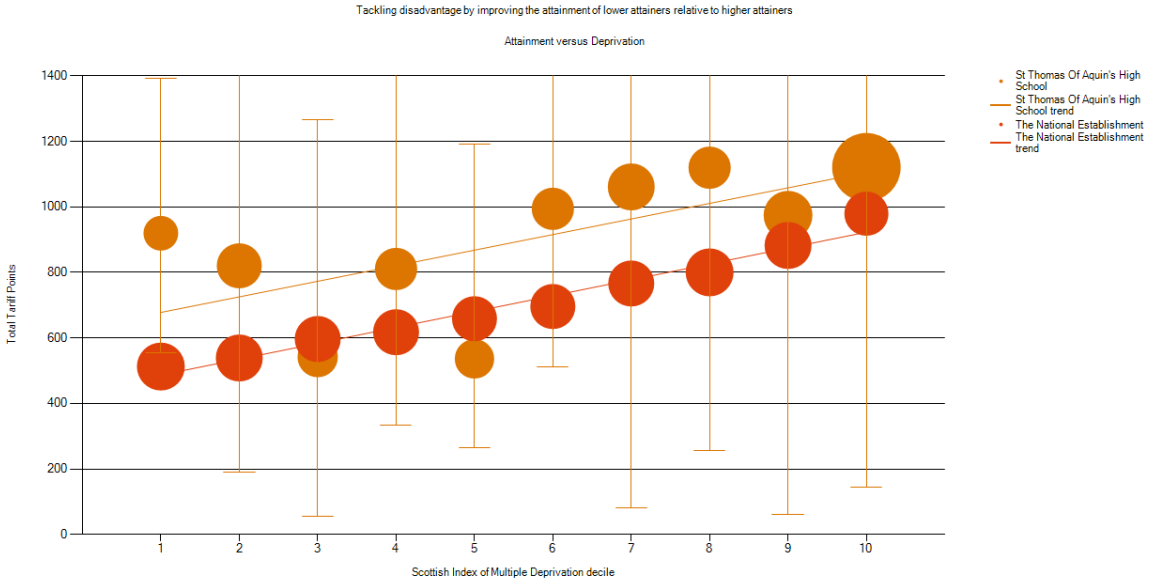
S5 candidates based on S4 cohort numbers: complementary tariff points.



St Thomas of Aquin's complementary tariff attainment gap in S5 pupils in **SIMD 1 of 6 pupils (689)** and **SIMD 2 of 13 pupils (621)** to that of **SIMD 10 (818)** is a gap of **129** and 189 respectively which can be compared to the approximate National Establishment gap between SIMD 1 to 10 of **349**. The gradient of the lines show that St Thomas is closing the attainment gap compared to the National Establishment averages.

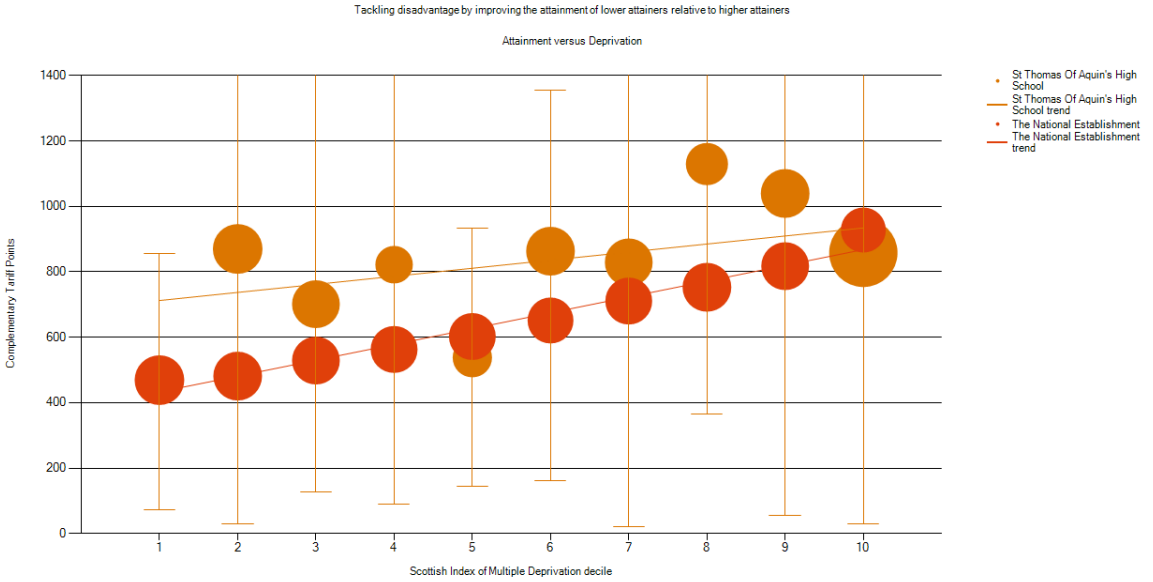
In SIMD **1, 2,4,6,7,8,9, and 10** St Thomas is above the National Establishment averages in those specific metrics, while SIMD 3 (10 pupils) and SIMD 5 (9) has the measurements slightly below the National Establishment average.

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



. St Thomas of Aquin's is slightly closing the attainment gap compared to the National establishment although pupils are achieving more tariff points in almost all SIMD areas.

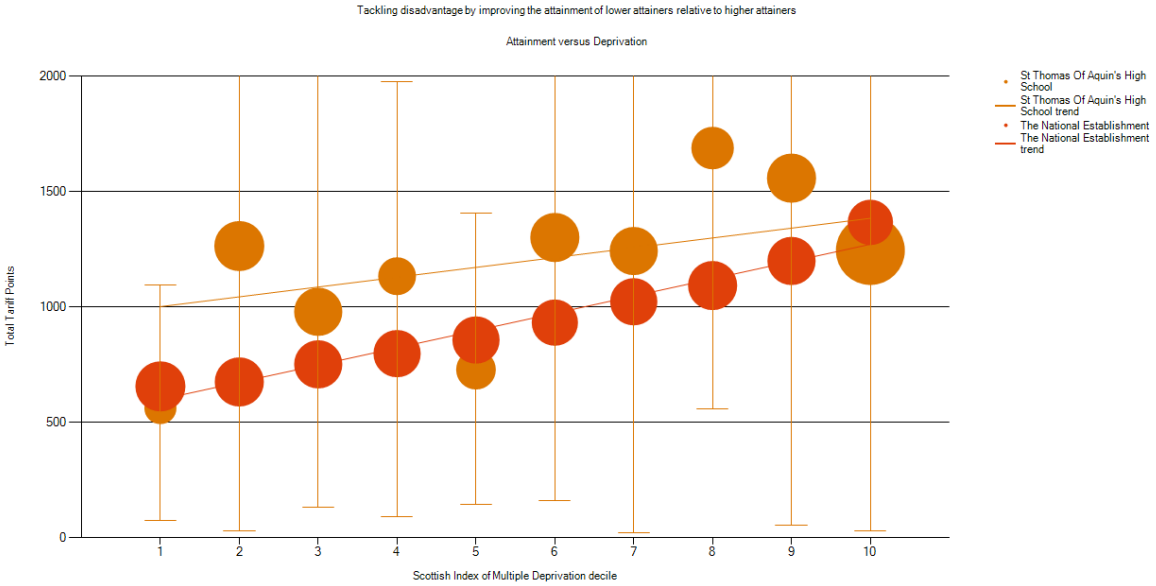
S6 candidates based on S4 cohort numbers: complementary tariff points.



The attainment gap of S6 St Thomas of Aquin's pupils in **SIMD 1 (469)** and **SIMD (870)** to that of **SIMD 9 (1040) and SIMD 10 (858)** at St Thomas of Aquin's is a smaller compared to the National Establishment gap. The gradient of the lines shows that at St Thomas the attainment gap is less when compared to the National establishment averages.

In SIMD **2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10** St Thomas is above the National Establishment averages in those specific metrics, while SIMD 3 (8 pupils) has measurements slightly below the National Establishment average.

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



St Thomas of Aquin's is closing the attainment gap compared to the National establishment.