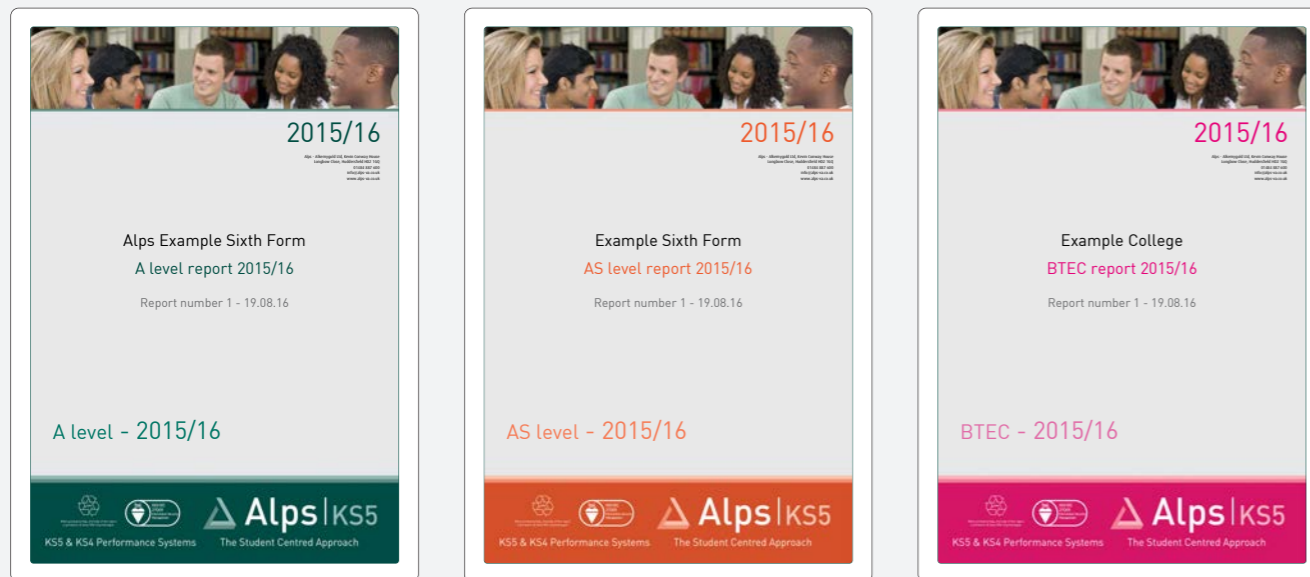


Alps and Ofsted

Alps was used as a key indicator for strong value added in our recent Ofsted inspection in November 2015. Our Alps scores demonstrate strong value added outcomes. Overall provider A2 and AS Alps have been sustained at Grade 3 (Excellent). When comparing the A2 value added results against the results from 93 sixth form colleges, Salford City College is 15th in the overall league table. Our Alps reports enable us to drill down in the following ways;

- Overall college value added
- Centre value added
- Subject value added
- Quality of teaching and learning e.g. Red and Blue teaching
- Stretch and challenge – student performance
- Case studies of learners for marketing
- Teacher performance from Alps class reports

Alps data was a very powerful tool and indicator in our recent Ofsted inspection as it demonstrated our value added scores and learner progress. It enabled us to compare ourselves nationally on how well our students were making progress against benchmarks.



Contact us

The Alps office is open Monday to Friday 9am - 5.00pm. Please feel free to contact us to discuss any aspect of Alps.

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Case Study > 2016/17

no.4

Salford City College - How we use Alps

By Michael J Walsh, Deputy Principal

This case study highlights how we use Alps at Salford City College to sustain our very good outcomes, analyse performance and support and monitor teaching, learning and assessment. The case study will highlight how we;

- Use Alps grades with students
- Use Alps to improve staff performance
- How we use Alps with Ofsted
- Alps A level – Strategic overview for Salford City College

Context

The College's mission is 'to inspire and empower people to create and take opportunities to enrich lives through learning'. Salford City College was judged good at our last Ofsted inspection in November 2015. The College has been using Alps data and reports since Salford City College was created in January 2009, following the merger of Pendleton, Eccles and Salford College. The College has five main centres: Pendleton, Eccles, Walkden, City Skills and FutureSkills in the heart of MediaCityUK. Employer responsive provision is delivered through the Apprenticeship and Work Based Learning Team. The College is lead sponsor in the Salford Academy Trust. This multi-academy trust is a partnership with Salford University and Salford Local Authority.

The College's overall effectiveness is very good. Salford City College is supported by a culture of high aspirations and expectations for learners' progress and achievement. Outcomes for learners are very high. Value added is strong which is sustained by using Alps to monitor and review performance and targets. The College's success rates and value added scores indicate the College is highly effective in ensuring its learners achieve their full potential. The Alps results evidence strong value added outcomes. Overall provider A2 and AS Alps have been sustained at Grade 3 (Excellent). When comparing the A2 value added results against the results from 93 sixth form colleges, Salford City College is 15th in the overall league table.

Using Alps grades with students

The College uses Alps data to set targets for students in the top 25th percentile to encourage an aspirational approach to learning.

Following enrolment all students are set an Aspirational Target Grade (ATG) and this is rigorously monitored by their personal tutors and subject tutors. This grade is both aspirational and what we are aiming for to achieve their progression goal. We use Alps as motivational dialogue with learners to discuss their ambitions and set clear targets for them to achieve. The ATG is used to monitor the quality of work produced and is recorded in their Individual Learning Plan (ILP) and is used as an ongoing dialogue between learners and their teaching staff. In addition we use Alps as an aspirational grade, which is both realistic and achievable. These grades stretch all learners and encourage a culture of high expectations and raise standards.

...continued overleaf



KS4 & KS5 Performance Systems



The Student Centred Approach



KS4 & KS5 Performance Systems



The Student Centred Approach

Learner grades are monitored by all staff and where necessary targeted support and intervention is provided to ensure all learners are on track to achieve their MTG/ATG.

Personal tutors discuss grades with learners and monitor their progress. In addition, this is reviewed further at parents' evenings and in reports informing parents of their son/daughters progress.

Teaching staff use Alps scores during induction to inform group profiles to plan and structure teaching, learning and assessment. Alps data is an integral part of curriculum planning to ensure bespoke delivery and stretch and challenge for all learners.

Learners who are not achieving their targets are monitored and offered additional support and guidance to ensure they achieve their full potential. Alps also provides a student overview of progress/profile, which is useful for progression. In addition, Alps informs departments of how learners performed across all their subject areas.

Furthermore, setting aspirational targets and using Alps data is a key driver to encourage student progress into Higher Education and a central part of the learner journey.

Using Alps to improve staff performance

Senior Managers, Curriculum Managers and teaching staff all use Alps to measure and determine performance. Alps provides accountability in that each member of staff is accountable for the performance of their individual classes. The Alps reports provide a clear breakdown of subjects, which indicate the impact of the teacher on the progress of each learner. Alps reports help to identify outstanding practitioners and staff who need further support and assistance. It also provides co-teacher accountability, if teaching is provided by a team of staff.

Alps also validates teacher's marks and tracking and provides recruitment and progression data for staff.

SAR authors monitor and analyse their Alps data to determine the effectiveness of teaching, learning and assessment. Alps grades for AS, A2 and BTEC subjects are monitored and recorded in department Self-Assessment Reports, which are then validated. In addition, SAR authors will be set Alps targets for individual subject areas to aspire to and these will be reviewed at the end of the academic year and used to sign off relevant action plans.

Alps data is used as one of the main performance indicators to demonstrate the College's overall value added. Both AS and A2 Alps scores are currently grade 3 (including the 3 year score for both programme areas.)

Alps scores are referenced in staff Performance Development Reviews and used to set aspirational individual targets for each course a member of staff is responsible for. Alps reports provide an important indication of the impact of teaching, learning and assessment.

3 year Alps trends for subject areas allows the College to determine progress over time and to highlight the areas the college needs to focus on in terms of quality improvement. Alps is also used to identify CPD needs for staff and provides a useful external validation of performance.

Alps data provides a gender breakdown, which informs curriculum planning and delivery.

Alps A level – Strategic overview for Salford City College

Alps data provides clear, accurate and external data to measure and support performance. In addition, the detailed Alps information on individual subject areas and student progress provides both managers and teaching staff with robust data to make sound and informed judgements. Alps represents a powerful tool to drive up standards and sustain improvements.

The table below is from our college A level Alps report for 2014/2015. It provides the following 4 year data which is invaluable for performance monitoring and target setting.

- Number of A level students
- Total exam entries
- Average GCSE score
- Our average T score/grade
- Our Red/Blue teaching & learning grades
- Our A level value added Quality & Breath score/grade

The table below highlights our A level strategic overview with our value added Quality & Breadth score and grade.

Alps A level - Strategic overview

Salford City College
2014/15 | A level | Report no: 5 | 10.09.15

4	Provider A level value added Quality & Breadth score	1.00	1.04	0.92	0.89
	Provider A level value added Quality & Breadth grade	3	3	3	3
5	T score - Three year score	3.67			
	T score - Three year grade	3			

The table below highlights our AS level strategic overview with our value added Quality & Breadth score and grade.

Alps AS level - Strategic overview

Salford City College
2014/15 | AS level | Report no: 4 | 10.09.15

4	Provider A level value added Quality & Breadth score	1.15	1.04	1.19	1.06
	Provider A level value added Quality & Breadth grade	2	3	2	3
5	T score - Three year score	4.00			
	T score - Three year grade	3			

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KS4 & KS5 Performance Systems



The Student Centred Approach



KS4 & KS5 Performance Systems



The Student Centred Approach