

Schools are top of league table

THREE primary schools located in one of Rotherham's most deprived areas have topped the borough's league table for pupil progression in reading, writing and maths.

St Ann's Junior and Infant School, Eastwood Village School and Coleridge Primary have come out first, second and third respectively in the new government table, which examines pupils' overall progress between Years 2 and 6.

The ranking is based on how 11-year-olds in each school performed in National Curriculum tests — or Sats — taken at the end of primary school compared with the results of their Sats at age 7.

Three schools all located less than a mile away from each other topped the league table for having well above average progress in reading, writing

and maths.

St Ann's in Eastwood, which is Rotherham's most diverse school, with 27 languages spoken, was ranked as having the borough's top writing progress score at +8.8, where zero is the average.

The 48 pupils who took Sats last spring also had Rotherham's top progress scores of 6.8 in maths and 4.9 in English.

Joint headteachers Sharon Blagden and Lee Rowan said they were delighted with the results, which they said reflected staff and pupils' hard work.

Sharon said: "We are so proud of all our dedicated staff and want to thank them for their tireless efforts to make a difference to the lives of the children in school", while Lee praised pupils, saying: "They come to



DELIGHTED:
St Ann's
Junior and
Infant School
joint heads
Sharon
Blagden and
Lee Rowan
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school, they are enthusiastic to learn, and our ethos is to make sure every child develops to their very best potential."

Lee told the Advertiser earlier this year that the majority of school starters had little or no English and "accelerating their progress" was paramount to give them a chance of being ready for secondary school.

Newly-formed 180-pupil Eastwood Village School and Coleridge are part of the same academy trust.

At Eastwood Village, Roma Slovak children make up around 80 per cent of the roll and around 15 languages are spoken at the school.

Wickersley Northfield Primary was ranked fourth in overall performance and Laughton All Saints CofE Primary

came fifth.

Laughton was also ranked as having the borough's top attainment score — with 92 per cent of its 12 Year 6 pupils meeting the expected standard in reading, writing and maths.

Anston Hillcrest Primary had the highest percentage of pupils achieving at a higher standard in all three areas at the end of Year 6.

The Department for Education tables aim to give a snapshot of how well schools are performing but do not consider activities like sport and drama, or, for example, how well a school tackles bullying.

● For a full breakdown and to find out the scores for your child's school, visit www.gov.uk.



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Mr L Rowan
Headteacher
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7 February 2019

Dear Mr Rowan,

We would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on the very high level of progress that pupils in your school demonstrated in the reading, writing and mathematics Key Stage 2 assessments last year.

Your school's results, as published on 13 December, show progress scores of 3.7, 7.7 and 7.6 in English reading, writing and mathematics respectively. This means that in terms of the progress your pupils make between Key Stage 1 and the end of Key Stage 2, your school is amongst the top 3% of schools in England.

We want to equip every child with the fluency in reading, writing and mathematics necessary to prepare them for a successful secondary education and beyond, and your school has provided this.

Thank you for producing such high standards through your hard work and professionalism, and congratulations again to you and your staff for all you have achieved.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP
Secretary of State for Education

Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards