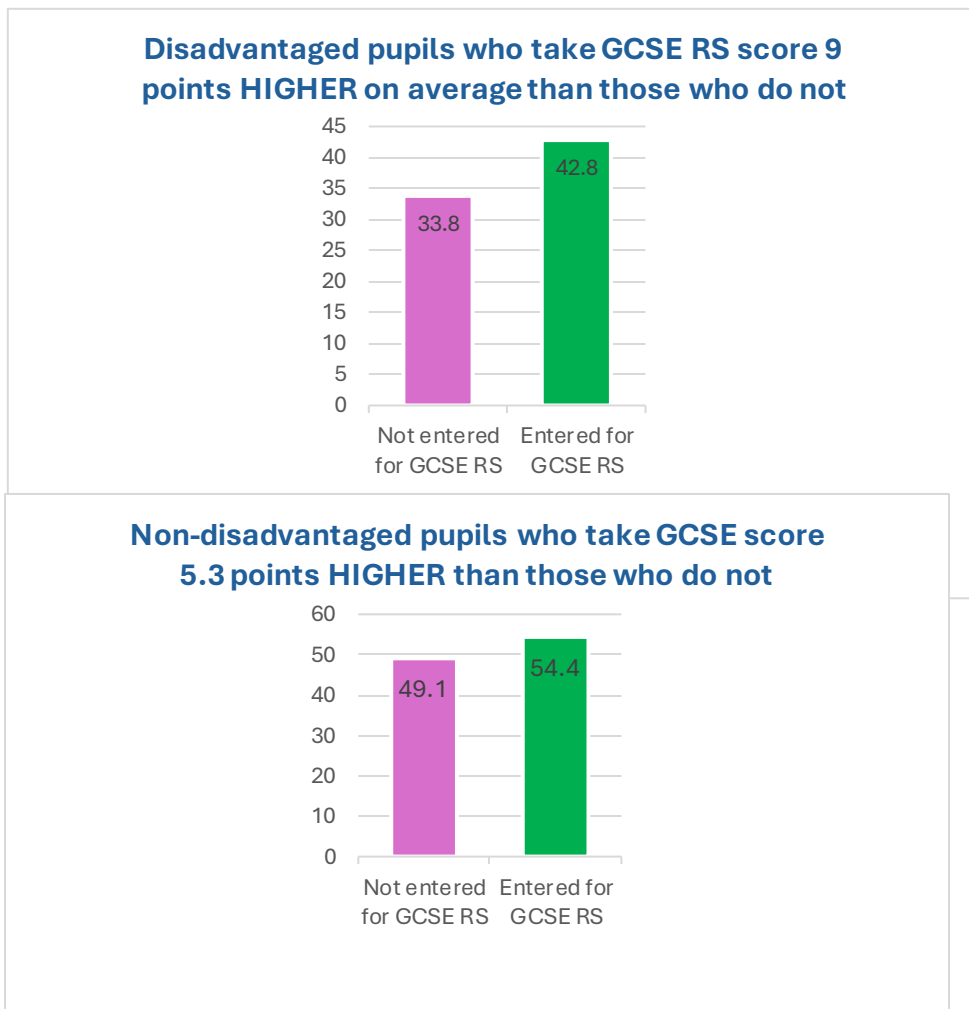


How do attainment 8 scores differ for pupils that take and do not take RS GCSE?

The data represented in the pie charts below shows, not only do non-disadvantaged pupils score more highly when they take GCSE RS, but *disadvantaged pupils score significantly higher*. We cannot show that these higher scores are caused by the addition of GCSE RS into the set of subjects studied at GCSE but an increasing number of schools including several large trusts have either moved to full cohort entry or are working towards that policy particularly because of what they see in the performance data.



What is Attainment 8?

Attainment 8 is a measure used in secondary schools to show the average academic performance. It is calculated by adding together pupils' highest scores across eight government-approved school subjects. English and Maths scores are doubled. So, a level 5 GCSE 'pass' grade is worth 5 points for most subjects or 10 for English or Maths.

Source: [Written Answers - Department for Education: Religion: GCSE](#)

On 23rd May 2024, Tan Dhesi MP asked the then Secretary of State for Education what the average Attainment 8 score was for (a) disadvantaged and (b) non-disadvantaged pupils who (i) were and (ii) were not entered for GCSE Religious Studies [2023].

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