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Main Category: Service children

Key Words:

What are the Characteristics of Service Children and how does their Performance at Key Stage 4 compare to their Peers?

Summary

This RAN looks at the distribution and attainment of service children in comparison to other children at Key Stage 4.

Key Findings:

- The number of pupils identified as service children who undertook Key Stage 4 in 2008 was approximately 1860 (0.3% of the cohort).
- 4.0% of the Key Stage 4 cohorts live in the most deprived IDACI quartile compared to 25.5% of other children.
- 53.4% of service children achieve 5 A*-C GCSEs and equivalents including English and Maths compared to 47.5% of non service children.

Introduction

The service children field was included on the Annual School Census for the first time in 2008. This note looks at pupil numbers, types of establishment, SEN status, English as an additional language, FSM prevalence, IDACI quartiles, gifted and talented pupils, ethnicity and GCSE & equivalent attainment of service children at key stage 4. For all of these fields service children will be compared to all other children.

Pupil Numbers

The number of pupils identified as service children who undertook Key Stage 4 in 2008 was approximately 1860 (0.3% of the cohort).

Information to identify a pupil as having parents who are service personnel was refused in only a very small number of cases. This was approximately 295 from a sample of 612,005 for the entire KS4 cohort.

Type of Establishment

Over half (62.5%) of service children who undertook KS4 assessment attended community schools in comparison to 57.3% of non service children.

25.5% of service children attended Foundation schools as opposed to 21.3% of non service children.

7.3% of service children attended voluntary aided schools as opposed to 14.3% of non-service children.

FSM Eligibility

1.7% of service children were eligible for FSM at KS4. 12.7% of non service children were eligible for FSM at KS4.

English as an Additional Language

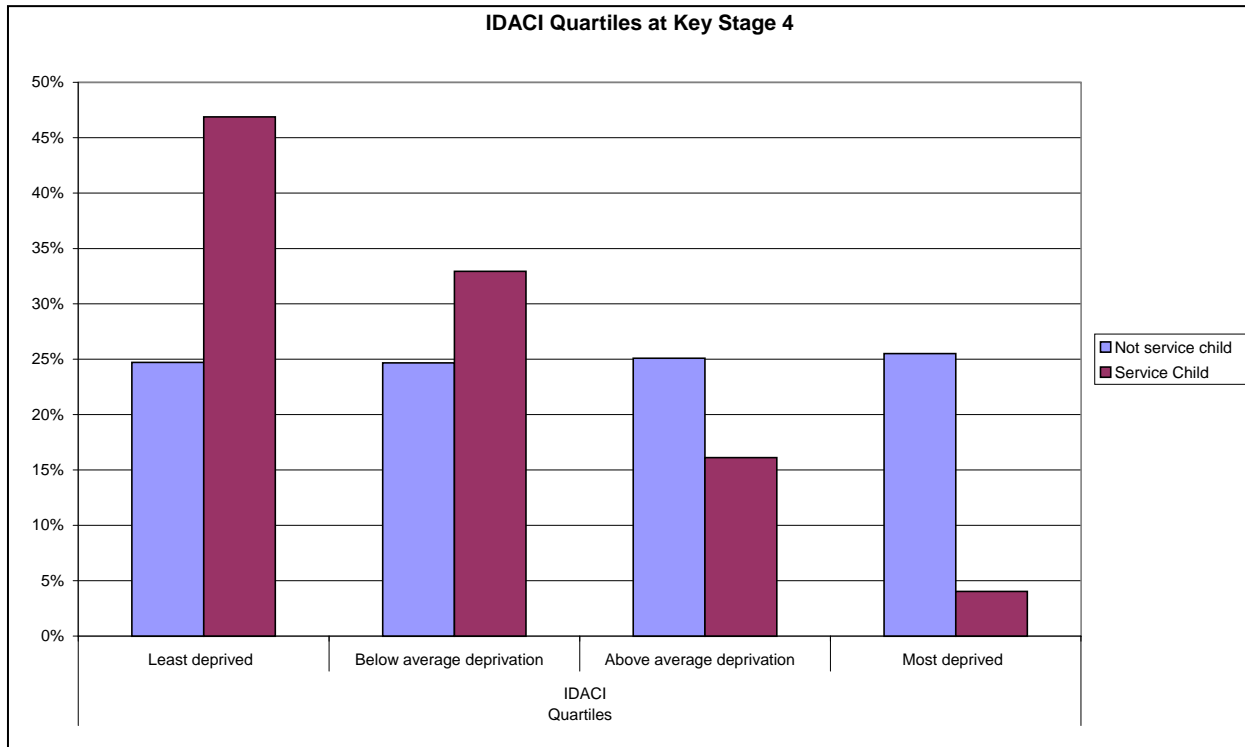
Service children are less likely to have English as an additional language than non-service children. Of the service children in Key Stage 4, 3.5% had English as an additional language compared with 10.3% of non service children.

SEN Status

A smaller proportion of service children were identified as SEN (14.3%) in comparison to 21.9% of non service children. Service children falling into each type of SEN (School Action, School Action Plus and Statement), service children had lower percentages in each as compared to non service children.

IDACI Quartile

Based on pupil postcodes around 46.9% of the service children in the Key Stage 4 cohort live in the least deprived IDACI quartile. 4.0% of the service children in the Key Stage 4 cohort live in the most deprived IDACI quartile. Overall service children are less likely to live in more deprived areas than other children.



Gifted and Talented

Of the service children at Key Stage 4, 12.6% are gifted and talented, and of the non service children 15.3% are considered gifted and talented.

Ethnicity

92.6% of service children were White British in comparison to 80.5% of non service children. There were very small numbers of service children from ethnic minority groups.

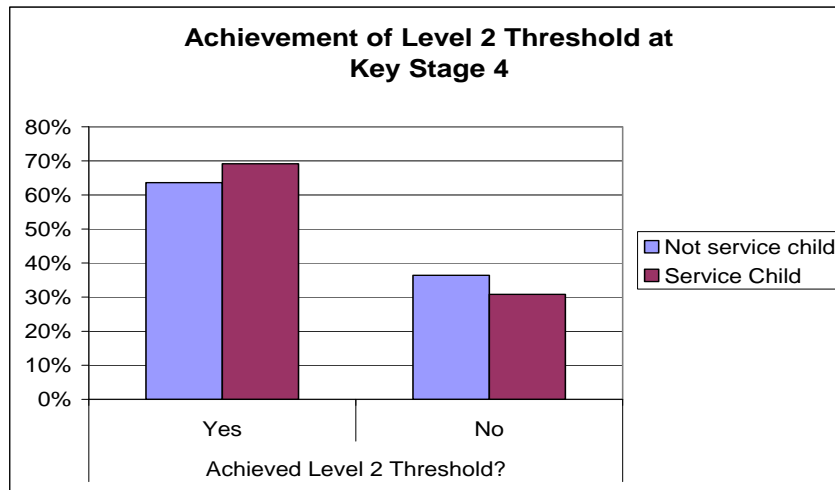
Boarders

4.6% of service children were boarders as compared to 0.2% of non service children. As expected there are a higher proportion of service children who are boarders in comparison to non service children.

Attainment

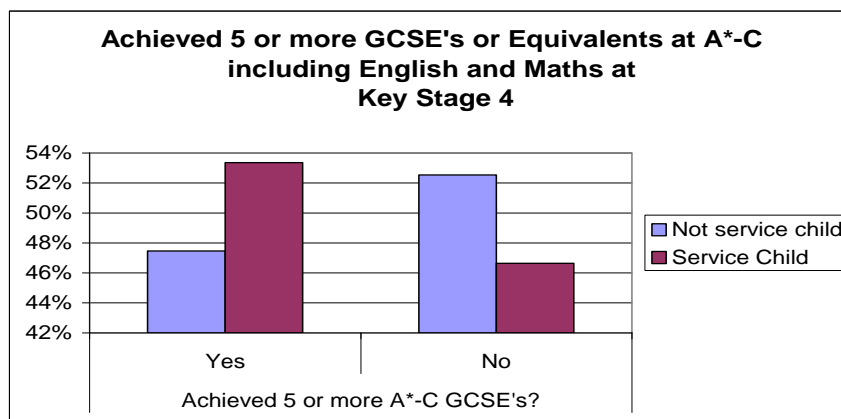
- **Level 2 Threshold (5 or more GCSE's or equivalents at A*-C)**

69.2% of service children achieve 5 or more GCSE's at Grade A*-C compared to 63.6% of non service children.



- **5 or more GCSE's or equivalents at A*-C including English and Maths**

53.4% of service children achieve 5 A*-C GCSE's and equivalents compared to 47.5% of non service children.



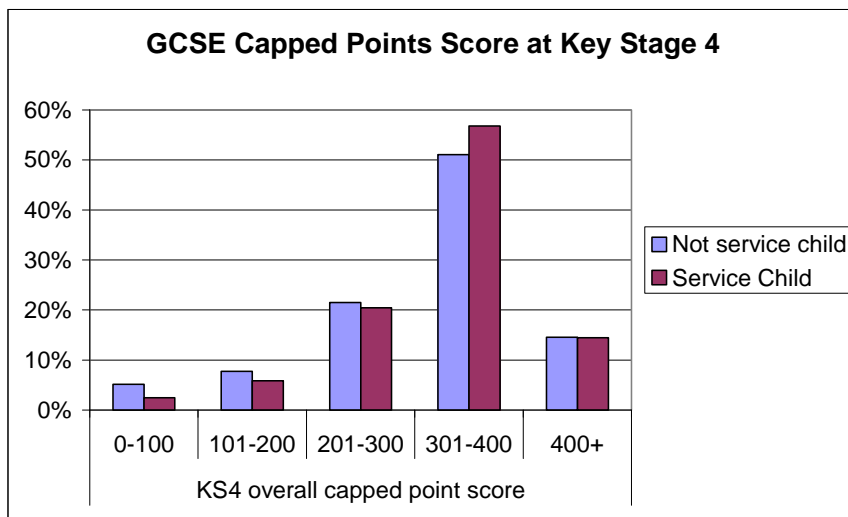
- **Capped GCSE Point Score**

Capped GCSE point score is the points awarded for a pupils best 8 GCSE's or equivalent.

The point score per GCSE:

A* = 58, A = 52, B = 46, C = 40, D = 34, E = 28, F = 22, G = 16, U, X = 0

20.4% of service children achieve 201-300 points compared to 21.5% of non service children. 56.8% of service children achieve 301-400 points compared to 51.1% of non service children.



Summary of Attainment

Overall service children perform better at Key Stage 4 than non service children and are more likely to live in less deprived areas than other children. This follows the trend that children from less deprived areas tend to do better in attainment.