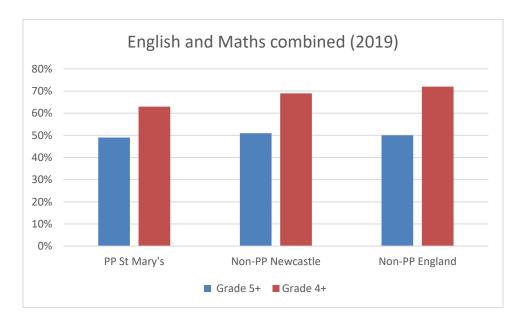


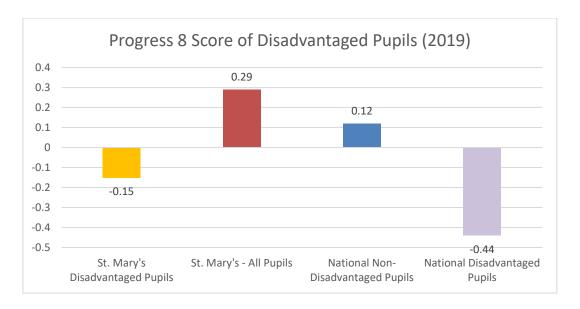
At St Mary's, we do our utmost to mitigate the effects of socio-economic disadvantage, ensuring that all our students have the opportunity to make excellent progress and achieve highly. We insist on having high expectations for all, creating a positive behaviour climate, delivering excellent lessons, making use of high-quality resources and providing outstanding pastoral care and support, so that all our pupils have the opportunity to reach their academic potential. At St Mary's, the performance of students in receipt of Pupil Premium funding is consistently among the best in the region. However, as in most schools, there exists an attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-PP students. We constantly address this issue and we are committed to narrowing this gap.

The chart below demonstrates how the GCSE English and Maths performance of our disadvantaged pupils compared to the achievement of non-PP students in Newcastle and across the rest of England in 2019. It shows that 63% of our PP students scored Grade 4 or above in English and Maths combined. The national average for non-PP students was 72%. More impressively, 49% of PP students at St Mary's scored Grade 5 or above in English and Maths. This far exceeded national averages for PP students and almost equalled the national figure of 50% for non-PP students achieving Grade 5+.

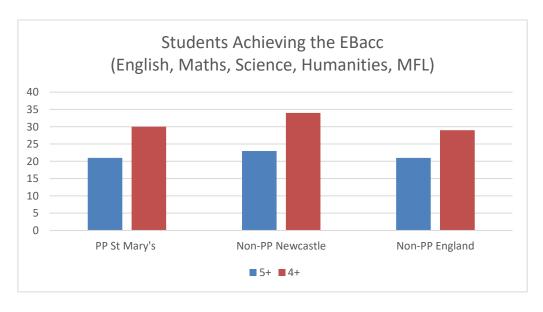




In 2019, the expected progress of PP students at St Mary's was, on average, approximately half a grade lower than non-PP students nationally and approximately a third of a grade higher than other PP students in England. In comparison to non-PP students at St Mary's, the expected progress of PP students was, on average, just under half a grade lower in each subject. As the chart below demonstrates, PP students at St Mary's made more progress than other Pupil Premium students across England, but made slightly less progress than non-disadvantaged students.

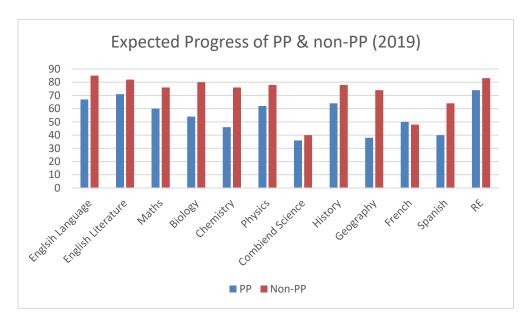


In terms of achievement in the EBacc suite of subjects, covering English, Maths, Science, the Humanities (History or Geography) and Modern Foreign Languages (French or Spanish), 30% of our PP students achieved Grade 4 or above and 21% Grade 5 or above in 2019. This is compares very favourably with national figures. Across England, 29% of non-PP students achieved 4+ and 21% secured 5+ in five of the Ebacc subjects, including English and Maths.





The progress gap between PP and non-PP students is best illustrated when looking at the performance of students across a range of GCSE subjects with larger cohorts. In 2019, for some subjects, such as English Literature, History and RE, progress was excellent and the gap between PP and non-PP students was very narrow. In other subjects, that gap was slightly wider. Improving the achievement of our most disadvantaged students, whilst ensuring excellent progress for all, is a priority for everyone at the school.



In 2020, there were no external exams and students were awarded Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs). In English and Maths combined, 63% of our PP students achieved Grade 4 or above, with 43% gaining Grade 5 or above. In comparison, 89% of non-PP secured Grade 4+ and 74% gained 5+.

