WRITTEN QUESTION TO THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, SPORT AND CULTURE BY SENATOR B.E. SHENTON ANSWER TO BE TABLED ON TUESDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 2009

Question

Can the Minister give a detailed breakdown of grades attained at 'A' level by the students of Hautlieu School, including details of students that got unclassified grades and those that failed to attend for examinations, together with a short analysis of how the results for Hautlieu School compare with the UK national average?

Answer

My aim is to encourage schools to work together collaboratively in the best interest of pupils, not to compete with each other.

The Department's policy on the publication of results is as follows:

- Aggregate results for all schools are published. This gives some indication of how the system has performed compared to national averages.
- Individual schools are required to publish their results to parents and governors.
- As Minister, I am provided with an annual report on each school's performance against a broad range of key performance indicators including value-added data when it becomes available.

The current system

School performance is monitored by the department and value added calculations are used to place examination results into a meaningful context. Unexplained underperformance is challenged.

A system of Professional Partnership has been introduced this year to challenge and support schools

External inspectors are continually working in our system reviewing various aspects of schools performance.

If requested, I would be prepared to provide members with more detailed results across the system, broken down by subject rather than by school, when that information has been collated and is available.

I would be prepared to discuss the performance of any individual school with any States Member or indeed parent of that school. However, the policy is not to publish raw examination results for individual schools because this could lead to the publication of league tables which are divisive, crude and give a distorted view of performance.