

Written by David Watts
Sunday, 16 December 2018 21:06

Isle of Man Examiner

September 25 to October 1, 2018 90p (or 17p if you subscribe) Established 1880 News: 695697 newsdesk@iomtoday.co.im Advertising: 670000 ads@iomtoday.co.im



KFC **STARBUCKS COFFEE**

REVEALED: SITE MAP
Where exactly KFC and Starbucks drive-throughs would be page 8

FASTCRAFT COULD BE SCRAPPED
SPC shake-up page 3

School performance data published

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An MIK is pressing for parents to be given more information about how well their children's schools are performing.

Daphne Caine (Garff) was speaking after the government published data on attainment by primary schools in response to her Tynwald question.

That question saw the re-

PARENTS DESERVE TO KNOW

DATA ON EACH PRIMARY SCHOOL
SEE PAGE 2

lease of information on a new measure of attainment, the GLP, or Good Level of Development for almost every primary school in the Isle of Man.

Details are on page two.

However, in response to a question, Mrs Caine was told data for the past five years was not available because the retrieval system, known as Key-pas, was abandoned in 2013.

Mrs Caine said: 'Trends

can be seen through the data that should be openly released.

'Parents can see if there are schools that are doing less well and the department can look at putting any additional resources in place to help.

The Key Stage 1 and 2 (aged five to 11) data would give a better picture for parents.'

But when she asked the question in Tynwald, Education Minister Graham Creghan said: 'The department stopped using Key-pas in 2013.

because the assessment arrangements for schools in England were no longer comparable with those on the Isle of Man and it became increasingly difficult to extract the information needed.'

However, Mrs Caine said it

could be interesting to compare data between schools and with that for schools in England.

'A spirit of openness would be welcome, particularly in a

TURN TO PAGE 2 →

No ice rink at Xmas at Tynwald Mills

The skids have been put on the popular ice skating rink at Tynwald Mills, which will not operate over Christmas due to circumstances beyond the control of the firm.

Page 4

Still waiting for UK verdict on Paradise

Ten months after the 'Paradise Papers', the Manx government is still awaiting the UK's verdict on our VAT deals, in which Lewis Hamilton was implicated.

Page 6

Pensioner in court after delaying rally

An 80-year-old who delayed the Marx International Rally by venturing on closed roads at Santon to photograph a steam train has been to court.

Page 7

£50m investment scheme flop ditched

The UK-based company taken on to run a scheme that was meant to boost investment in the island has been ditched after the £50m scheme flopped.

Business news, page 57

Letters page 18 Property sales page 22 Terry Cringle's Times Past page 24 Final Whistle sports supplement from page 37 Business from page 57 Crossword page 79

Since the first (2017) unofficial IOM Primary School League Tables were published on the PAG website debate has been generated on this subject in the Island's media and other fora.

Following on from this, parent David Watts has written a second article (drawing on responses to a succession of Freedom of Information requests).

The Paper includes the Key Stage 2 (KS2) League Tables for the last academic year (ending July 2018). Importantly this work contains much more – notably what the author terms "Dashboards."

Here readers will find a series of pages – one dedicated to each of the Island's 32 primary schools where KS2 academic attainment, respective league table positioning, and other contextual data is tracked over a 5-year (2014-18) period.

The Great IOM Primary School League Table Postcode Lottery

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Parents can directly compare and contrast various aspects of the Island's schools to see, for example, if it is a consistently higher academic performer, a school where pupils struggle to reach Level 5 (+) or whether it is one whose KS2 results mirror that of a roller coaster, experiencing cyclical peaks and troughs of varying degrees.

Furthermore, following publication of England's Early Years Foundation Stage results on 18th October 2018 an analysis of each Island school's Reception Year performance has been conducted using the Good Level of Development (GLD) performance measure. Here the author highlights the Island's low ranking compared to the 152 Local Education Authorities (LEA) in England – if the IOM was considered as the 153

rd

LEA it would rank 126

th

.

Of course, as with KS2 results, there is dramatic variation in performance between Island schools. Full details are published in this Paper.

A pupil's choice of school is governed by geographical catchment areas (unless the lottery of an out of catchment place is granted). Thus, a parent's/guardian's address means that school choice is postcode dependent (selecting faith orientated schooling, the Manx Language school or seeking private education are potential alternatives). Accordingly, parents may well want to compare various qualities and attributes of schools.

This Paper focuses on academic results, noting of course, that other factors are of great importance to prospective parents.

The author believes that his Paper makes for thought provoking reading for anybody interested in the academic performance of the Island's Primary Schools.

To access the Paper, click on the link below.

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