

# Analysis of 18 Year Olds in FE Colleges – 2013/14 ILR Data

RCU ref. 13.207

Data Analysis Report January 2014

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### 1. Introduction

In December 2013 RCU produced a report for AoC evaluating the potential impact of the proposal by EFA to cut funding rates for full time students aged 18 as defined by their age at the start of the academic year. The data source used was the 2012/13 Individualised Learner Record (ILR). The report showed that the funding cut would hit GFE colleges hardest and would have a disproportionate impact on disadvantaged areas and BME learners.

This follow up report is based on the latest 2013/14 ILR data<sup>1</sup>. The ILR returns used within this report are from the R04 2013/14 (December 2014), and have been filtered to identify learners aged between 16 and 18 who are funded by the EFA, with planned hours of 540 or more. The report uses MiDES data returns from 261 colleges, which represents 77% of all FE colleges in the sector. This includes data returns from General Further Education Colleges (182), Sixth Form Colleges (58), Land Based Colleges (14) and Others (7).

### 2. Key Findings

The findings from the 2013/14 analysis are very similar to those from 2012/13. The results once again show the disproportionate effect on disadvantaged areas, BME learners, London and vocational provision in FE colleges.

- Just under a fifth of full time 16-18 year olds (18.4%) were aged 18 at the beginning of the 2013/14 academic year.
- General Further Education Colleges had a higher proportion of 16-18 year olds who were 18 (21.0%) compared to Sixth Form Colleges (8.1%) and Land Based Colleges (18.7%).
- Greater London had the highest proportion of 16-18 year olds who were 18 (26.0%) whilst the lowest proportions were in the North East and West Midlands.
- 18 year old learners were more likely to live in deprived areas than 16 or 17 year old learners. In 2013/14, 27.6% of 18 year olds lived in the most deprived areas of the country<sup>2</sup> compared to 24.3% of 17 year olds and 24.8% of 16 year olds.

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<sup>1</sup> Colleges have had problems generating a complete and valid 2013/14 ILR due to FIS software issues. This may affect the accuracy of some findings, particularly those related to Level and Qualification Type.

<sup>2</sup> Defined as the 20% most deprived super output areas as measured by the rank of Indices of Deprivation 2010.



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- 18 year old learners were much more likely to come from ethnic groups other than White British compared to 16 and 17 year olds. For example, in 2013/14, 8.6% of 18 year old learners were Asian/Asian British compared to only 5.9% of 16 year olds. Similarly 6.3% of 18 year olds were Black/African/Caribbean/Black British compared to 3.6% of 16 year olds.
- 71.8% of 18 year olds were studying at Level 3, 19.1% at Level 2 and 6.1 % at Level 1. This compares to 56.1% of 16 year olds studying at Level 3, 27.1% at Level 2 and 13.9% at Level 1. This suggests that 18 year olds have taken lower level courses at 16 and/or 17 years of age before progressing through to Level 3 at aged 18.
- 18 year old learners studying at Level 3 are much more likely to be taking vocational qualifications compared to 16 year olds and 17 year olds. Only 14.4% of 18 year olds were on academic programmes compared to 49.3% of 16 year olds and 36.2% of 17 year olds.



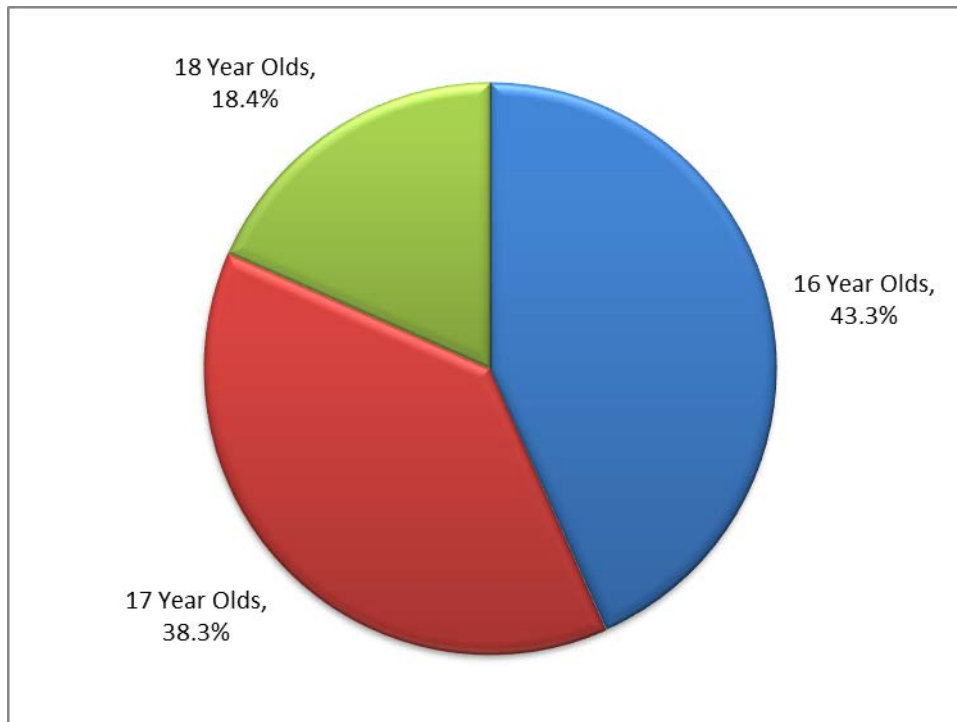
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## 3. Data Outputs

Figure 1: Age Profile of 16-18 Year Old Full Time Learners



Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14

Figure 2: Age Profile of 16-18 Year Old Full Time Learners

|                        | Number         | %             |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 16 Year Olds           | 208,332        | 43.3%         |
| 17 Year Olds           | 184,060        | 38.3%         |
| 18 Year Olds           | 88,383         | 18.4%         |
| <b>16-18 Year Olds</b> | <b>480,775</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14

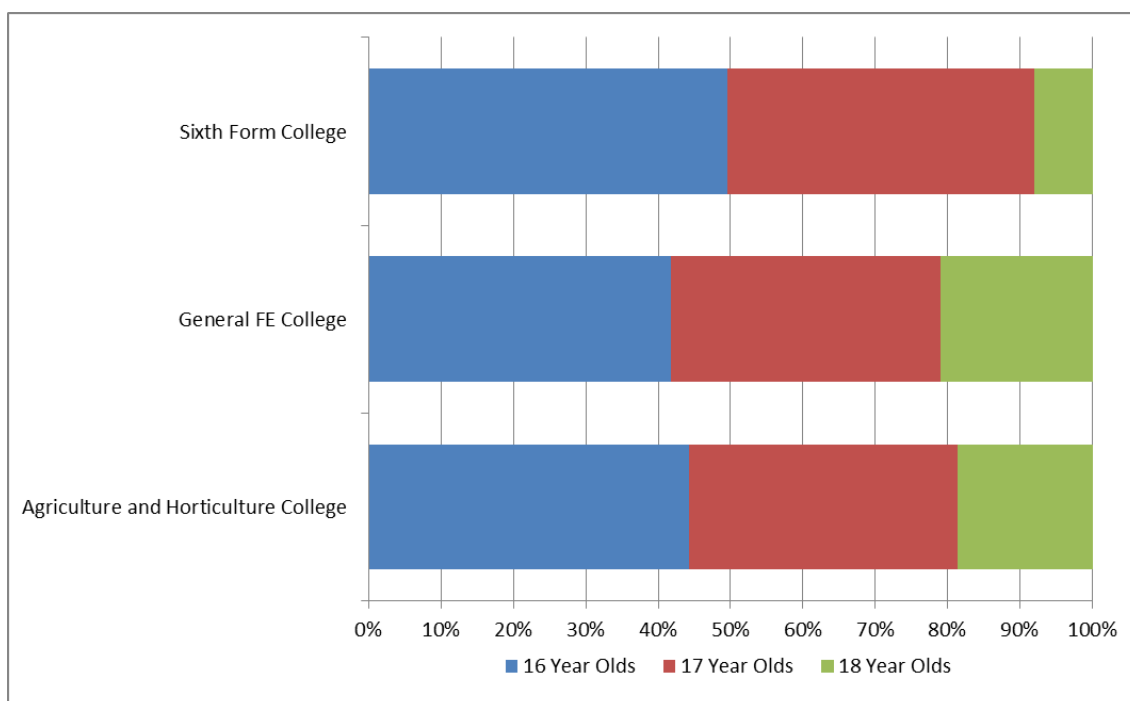


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Figure 3: Age Profile of 16-18 Year Old Full Time Learners by Provider Type



Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14

Figure 4: Age Profile of 16-18 Year Old Full Time Learners by Provider Type

| Provider Type                        | % of Learners by Age |              |              |                 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
|                                      | 16 Year Olds         | 17 Year Olds | 18 Year Olds | 16-18 Year Olds |
| Agriculture and Horticulture College | 44.3%                | 37.1%        | 18.7%        | 100.0%          |
| General FE College                   | 41.7%                | 37.3%        | 21.0%        | 100.0%          |
| Sixth Form College                   | 49.5%                | 42.4%        | 8.1%         | 100.0%          |

Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14



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Figure 5: 18 year olds as a Proportion of all Full Time 16-18 Year Olds by Region

| Provider Region          | 18 year olds as a % of 16-18 year olds |
|--------------------------|--|
| East of England          | 18.7%                                  |
| East Midlands            | 20.0%                                  |
| Greater London           | 26.0%                                  |
| North East               | 16.7%                                  |
| North West               | 17.0%                                  |
| South East               | 17.3%                                  |
| South West               | 17.9%                                  |
| West Midlands            | 16.0%                                  |
| Yorkshire and the Humber | 17.3%                                  |

Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14

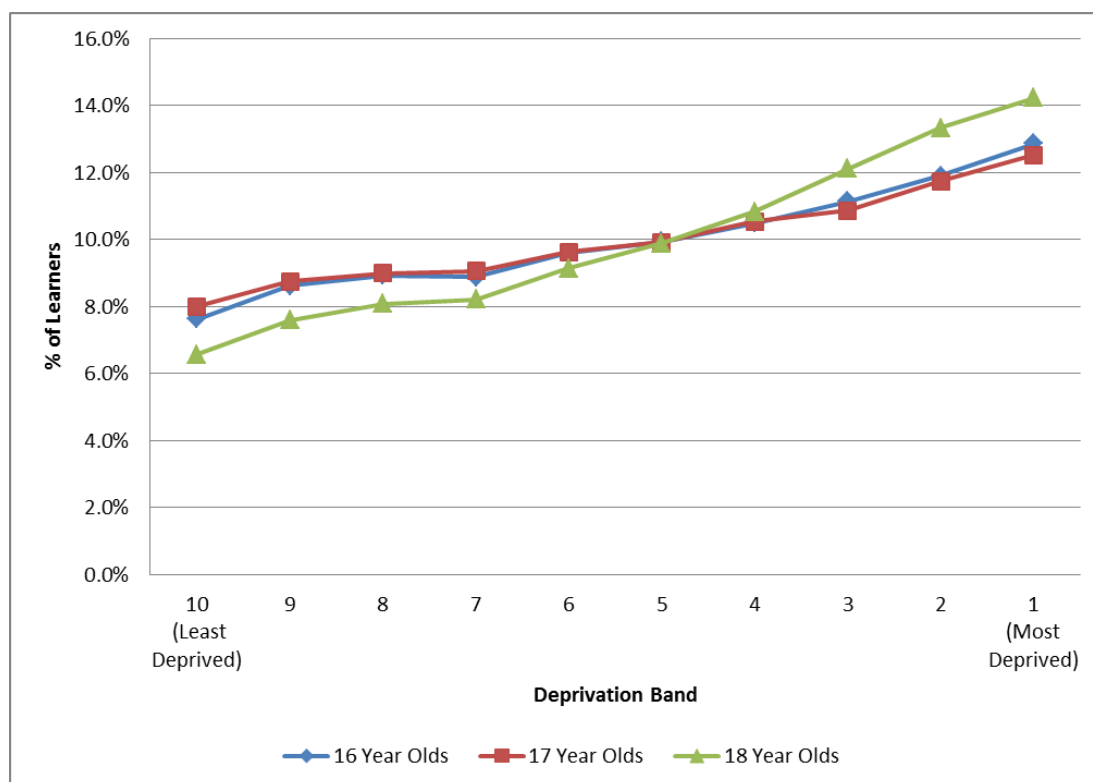


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Figure 6: Percentage of Learners in Deprivation Band<sup>3</sup> by Age



Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14

Figure 7: Profile of Deprivation by Age

| Deprivation Profile    | % of Learners in each Deprivation Band |               |               |                 |
|------------------------|--|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
|                        | 16 Year Olds                           | 17 Year Olds  | 18 Year Olds  | 16-18 Year Olds |
| 1<br>(Most Deprived)   | 12.9%                                  | 12.5%         | 14.2%         | 13.0%           |
| 2                      | 11.9%                                  | 11.7%         | 13.3%         | 12.1%           |
| 3                      | 11.1%                                  | 10.9%         | 12.1%         | 11.2%           |
| 4                      | 10.5%                                  | 10.5%         | 10.8%         | 10.6%           |
| 5                      | 9.9%                                   | 9.9%          | 9.9%          | 9.9%            |
| 6                      | 9.6%                                   | 9.6%          | 9.1%          | 9.5%            |
| 7                      | 8.9%                                   | 9.1%          | 8.2%          | 8.8%            |
| 8                      | 8.9%                                   | 9.0%          | 8.1%          | 8.8%            |
| 9                      | 8.6%                                   | 8.8%          | 7.6%          | 8.5%            |
| 10<br>(Least Deprived) | 7.6%                                   | 8.0%          | 6.6%          | 7.6%            |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>100.0%</b>                          | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b>   |

Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14

<sup>3</sup> Deprivation Bands measured by the Rank of Indices of Deprivation 2010.

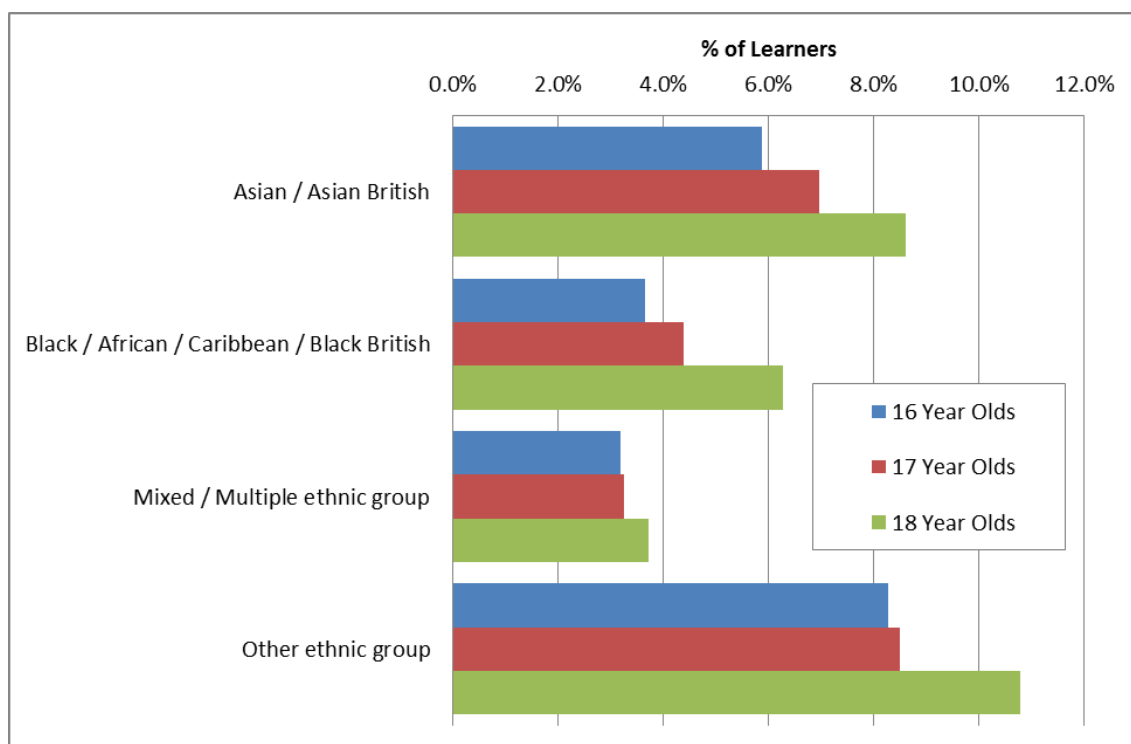


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Figure 8: Ethnicity (Broad Groups) by Age



Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14

Figure 9: Ethnicity (Broad Groups) by Age

| Ethnicity Profile                           | % of Learners in each Ethnic Group |               |               |                 |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
|   | 16 Year Olds                       | 17 Year Olds  | 18 Year Olds  | 16-18 Year Olds |
| Asian / Asian British                       | 5.9%                               | 7.0%          | 8.6%          | 6.8%            |
| Black / African / Caribbean / Black British | 3.6%                               | 4.4%          | 6.3%          | 4.4%            |
| Mixed / Multiple ethnic group               | 3.2%                               | 3.3%          | 3.7%          | 3.3%            |
| Other ethnic group                          | 8.3%                               | 8.5%          | 10.8%         | 8.8%            |
| White                                       | 79.0%                              | 76.9%         | 70.6%         | 76.7%           |
| <b>Total</b>                                | <b>100.0%</b>                      | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b>   |

Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14



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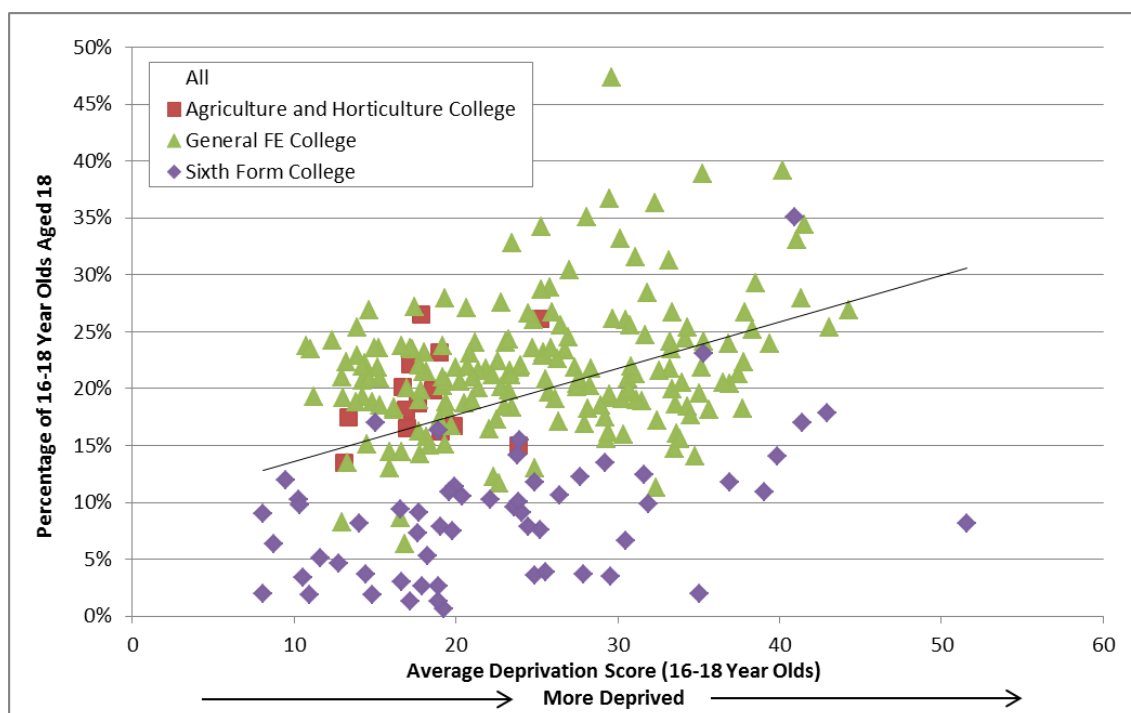
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Figure 10: Ethnicity (Detailed Groups) by Age

| All Providers   | 16 Year Olds | 17 Year Olds | 18 Year Olds | 16-18 Year Olds |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British | 76.1%        | 73.6%        | 66.6%        | 73.4%           |
| Irish   | 0.2%         | 0.2%         | 0.2%         | 0.2%            |
| Gypsy or Irish Traveller                              | 0.1%         | 0.1%         | 0.0%         | 0.1%            |
| Any Other White background                            | 2.6%         | 3.0%         | 3.7%         | 2.9%            |
| White and Black Caribbean                             | 1.4%         | 1.3%         | 1.5%         | 1.4%            |
| White and Black African                               | 0.4%         | 0.4%         | 0.5%         | 0.4%            |
| White and Asian                                       | 0.7%         | 0.7%         | 0.8%         | 0.7%            |
| Any Other Mixed / multiple ethnic background          | 0.7%         | 0.8%         | 0.9%         | 0.8%            |
| Indian  | 1.2%         | 1.5%         | 1.7%         | 1.4%            |
| Pakistani   | 2.6%         | 2.9%         | 3.3%         | 2.8%            |
| Bangladeshi   | 0.9%         | 1.1%         | 1.2%         | 1.1%            |
| Chinese   | 0.2%         | 0.3%         | 0.4%         | 0.3%            |
| Any other Asian Background                            | 0.9%         | 1.2%         | 2.0%         | 1.2%            |
| African   | 1.9%         | 2.5%         | 3.7%         | 2.5%            |
| Caribbean   | 1.2%         | 1.2%         | 1.7%         | 1.3%            |
| Any other Black / African / Caribbean background      | 0.5%         | 0.6%         | 0.8%         | 0.6%            |
| Arab  | 0.3%         | 0.3%         | 0.4%         | 0.3%            |
| Any other ethnic group                                | 0.8%         | 0.9%         | 1.2%         | 0.9%            |
| Not provided  | 7.2%         | 7.3%         | 9.2%         | 7.6%            |

Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14

Figure 11: Percentage of 16-18 Year Olds Aged 18 by Provider Average Deprivation



Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14



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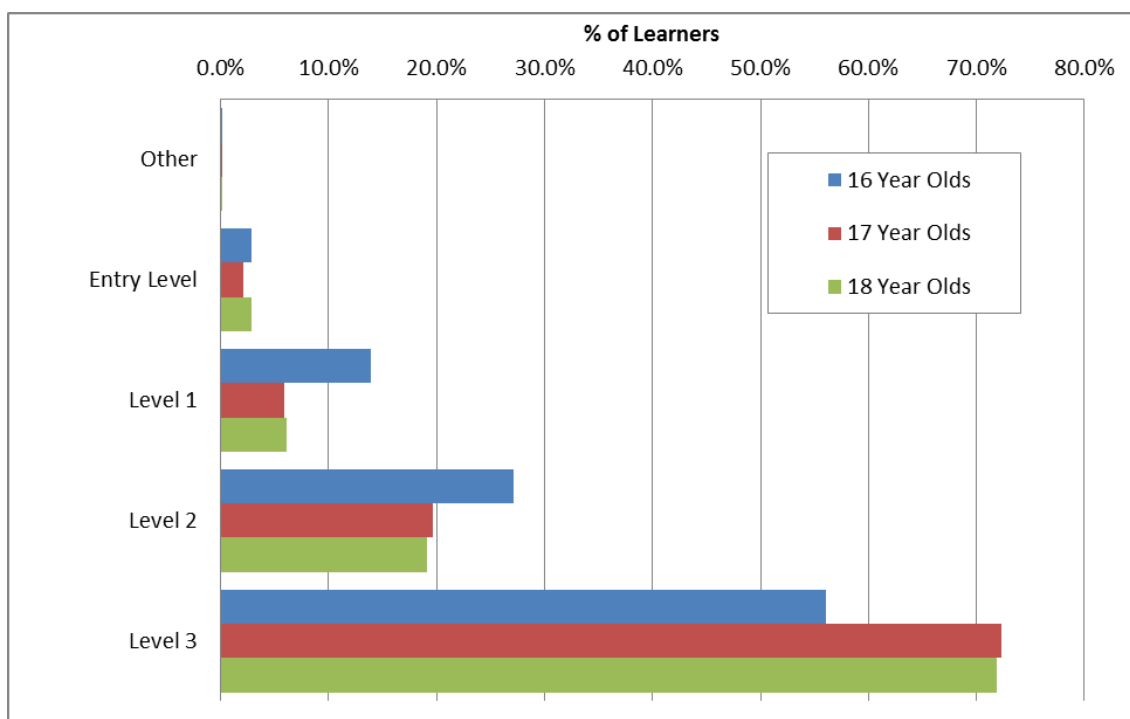


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Figure 12: Percentage of 16-18 Year Olds Aged 18 by Highest NVQ Level



Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14

Figure 13: Percentage of 16-18 Year Olds Aged 18 by Highest NVQ Level

| Highest NVQ Level Profile | % of Learners at each NVQ Level |               |               |                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
|                           | 16 Year Olds                    | 17 Year Olds  | 18 Year Olds  | 16-18 Year Olds |
| Other                     | 0.0%                            | 0.0%          | 0.0%          | 0.0%            |
| Entry Level               | 2.9%                            | 2.1%          | 2.9%          | 2.6%            |
| Level 1                   | 13.9%                           | 5.9%          | 6.1%          | 9.4%            |
| Level 2                   | 27.1%                           | 19.6%         | 19.1%         | 22.8%           |
| Level 3                   | 56.1%                           | 72.3%         | 71.8%         | 65.2%           |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>100.0%</b>                   | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b>   |

Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14



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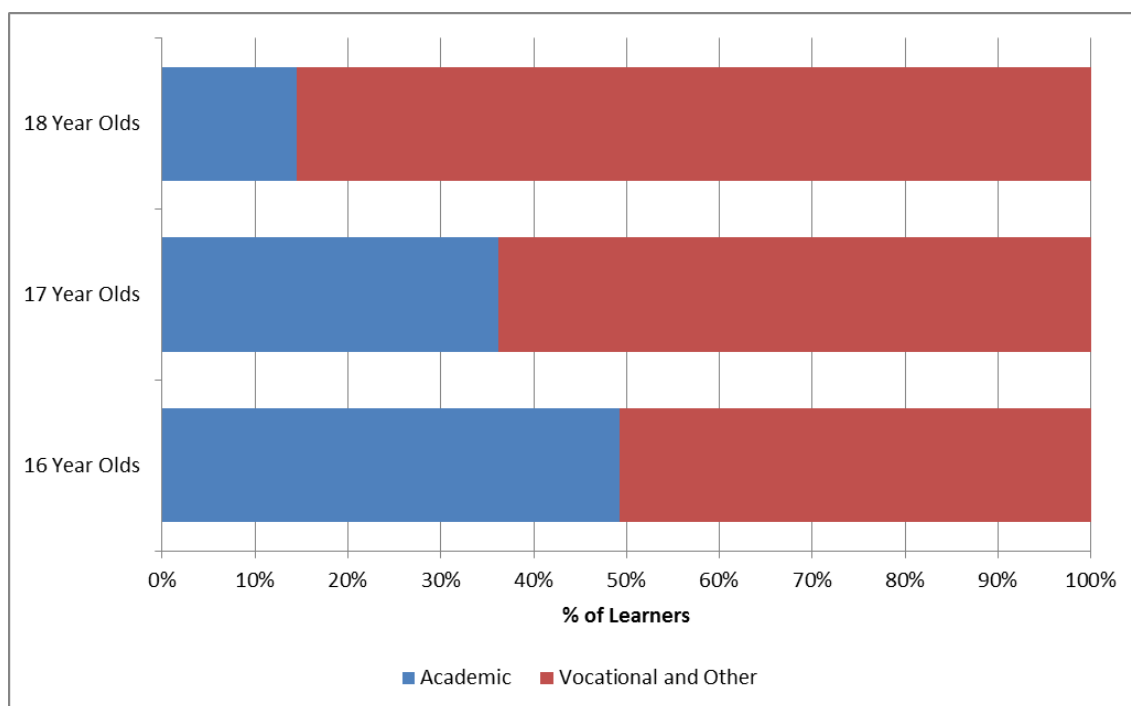
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Figure 14: Percentage of Level 3 Learners on Academic and Vocational / Other Programmes by Age



Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14

Figure 15: Percentage of Learners on Academic and Vocational & Other Programmes by Age

| Learning Type        | % of Learners |               |               |                 |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
|                      | 16 Year Olds  | 17 Year Olds  | 18 Year Olds  | 16-18 Year Olds |
| Academic             | 49.3%         | 36.2%         | 14.4%         | 36.7%           |
| Vocational and Other | 50.7%         | 63.8%         | 85.6%         | 63.3%           |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>100.0%</b>   |

Source: MiDES Dataset 2013/14



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