



**Rt Hon David Laws MP**  
Minister of State for Schools

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tel: 0370 000 2288 [www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus](http://www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus)

Mr Christopher Baines  
Howden-le-Wear Primary School  
School Street  
County Durham  
DL15 8HJ

19 December 2012

*Dear Mr. Baines,*

**2012 PRIMARY SCHOOL (KS2) SCHOOL PERFORMANCE TABLES**

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on the excellent performance of your pupils in the 2012 national Key Stage 2 tests as published on the 13 December 2012.

The overall percentage of your pupils achieving Level 4+, combined with excellent rates of progress in both English and mathematics place you amongst the top performing primary schools this year.

Mastery of English and mathematics is critical to success at secondary school and beyond, so these pupils now have a really good start for the next stage of their education.

I would like to congratulate your staff, governors and pupils for their hard work and success, and to thank you for your leadership in continuing the drive towards the highest standards of educational achievement.

Yours sincerely,

**David Laws MP**



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Mr Christopher Baines  
Howden-le-Wear Primary School  
School Street  
Howden-le-Wear  
Crook  
DL15 8HJ

9 September 2013

Dear Mr. Baines,

### **2012 SIMILAR SCHOOLS PERFORMANCE TABLES**

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you on your excellent performance in the new similar schools measure in the 2012 School Performance Tables. You are one of the 105 top performing primary schools in England on this measure.

These tables compare schools with those with near identical intakes, as judged by their key stage 1 attainment. Your school stood out in two ways. First, you were ranked number one in your table. Second, over 20 per cent more of your pupils achieved a level 4 or above in English and maths than is typical of a school with your intake. This is a fantastic achievement that you should be very proud of.

I congratulate your staff, governors and pupils for their hard work and thank you for your leadership. I would, however, make one request of you. Please try to think about how you can work with other schools, in your area or further away, so that all children get the chance to go to a school which is as good as yours.

Yours sincerely

**David Laws MP**