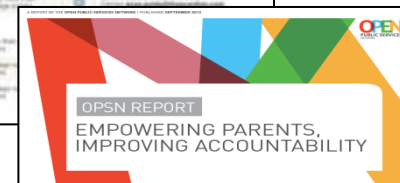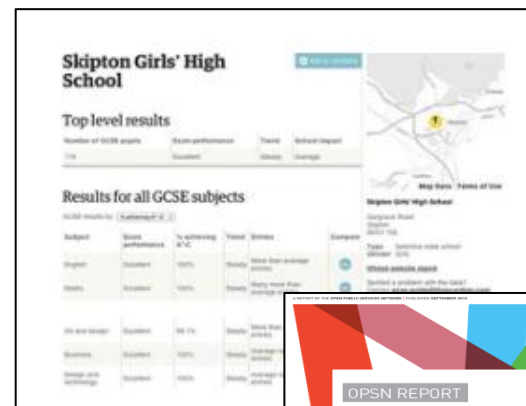# Guardian Good GCSE Guide

odug UK

The Guardian Good GCSE Guide helps users find schools by postcodes, and check for individual subjects and performance in GCSE exam results

Situation

- Parents who want to choose a secondary school can use [the Guardian Good GCSE Guide](#) to research education in their area. Users can search by postcode to find which schools offer individual subjects, and compare how they have performed in GCSE exam results.

- The guide, conceived by the Open Public Services Network launched in September 2013 and had 20,000 users on the first day alone.

- **Developed by:** Guardian in association with Open Public Services Network

- **Organization type:** Large

- **Address:**

    gcse.guide@theguardian.com.

UK

Education

Challenge/Opportunity

- Data on school performance is usually ranked league tables in newspapers. OPSN applied techniques often used in health including statistical process control. A new measure of 'value add' is also included.

Approach/Solution/Business model

- Free
- The OPSN convened an expert panel to oversee the analysis and guide the research. Funding was through sponsorship from Cambridge Assessment, RM Education and FFT.
- **Type:** Project

Open data used

- Publicly available results data from key stage exams and GCSEs. Pupil and school characteristics from the national pupil database and Ofsted inspection reports.
- Download all data from the [OPSN homepage](#).

Benefits

Parents, pupils, teachers, governors and others can find more meaningful information about school performance. The analysis is available to encourage media, schools and others to come to their own conclusions.