

THE UNHEARD VOICES OF BLACK CARIBBEAN BOYS ON EDUCATION

Background

Caribbean children as a group are underachieving in the education system (Swan, 1985).

Black Caribbean and Pakistani pupils are the worst performing groups, with Black Caribbean pupils showing the greatest change in levels of attainment during compulsory schooling. Overall, the disparity in achievement between ethnic groups increases significantly over the course of schooling. Black Caribbean pupils make the least progress between key stages, e.g. only 48 percent of those who achieved the expected level at KS3 went on to gain five or more A*-C GCSEs (Bhattacharyya, Ison & Blair, 2003).

UK Government statistics from between ethnic