The Gender Gap in attainment at GCSE

The graph shows the difference between the percentage of girls gaining grade C or above and the percentage of boys gaining grade C or above in selected GCSE subjects.¹ It shows that in all selected subjects there was a higher proportion of girls than boys gaining grades A* to C, but that the difference (‘gender gap’) was generally smaller in the EBacc subjects, particularly Mathematics and Sciences.

The subjects are listed in order of entry size with Mathematics having an entry of 511,000 and the D&T Textiles Technology having an entry of 24,000. They are distinguished by whether or not they are included in the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) measure of school performance².

Source of data: National Pupil Database (NPD).

¹ For brevity, the NPD description of some subjects has been shortened – e.g. ‘Drama & Theatre Studies’ to ‘Drama’.