

Academies are 'failing' poor pupils

THE poor are being failed by two out of three academy chains, says a study.

The Sutton Trust education charity said academies – state schools free to set their curriculum and pay – were letting down disadvantaged pupils.

Some 38 of the 58 chains performed below the national average last year for all state schools.

Only 12 saw poorer pupils reach above the national average on key measures of attainment.

Angela Rayner, Shadow Education Secretary, said academies are “failing to support” the poor.

The Department for Education said the chains are “driving up standards”.