

Information, Guidance & Resources

8 September 2023

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DfE Published Statistics - Pupil Attendance in Schools

- Information on the [levels of overall, authorised and unauthorised absence](#) in state-funded primary, secondary and special schools from September 2022 onwards is published each week. The data includes daily, weekly and year-to-date information on attendance and absence, in addition to reasons for absence.
- The figures are published as **experimental official statistics** to give an indicative figure for the absence rate during the 2022/23 academic year. They should be viewed as an early indicator for the more detailed, but less regular, [National Statistics on pupil absence](#) (which will include school level breakdowns).
- If you are a school that has not yet signed up to share your data, please visit [Share your daily school attendance data](#) for more information. This will also give you, your local authority and your multi-academy trust (if applicable) [access to daily attendance reports](#) to help identify pupils needing attendance support earlier.

This release covers the full 2022/23 academic year up to 21 July 2023, with data relating to 5-15 year olds in state funded primary, secondary and special schools in England.

- The attendance rate was 89.3% across all schools in the week commencing 17 July 2023 (attendance rate 10.7%). Across the academic year, the attendance rate was 92.5% (attendance rate 7.5%).
- There were national teacher strikes on 1 February, 15 March, 16 March, 27 April, 2 May, 5 July and 7 July and regional teacher strikes on 28 February, 1 March and 2 March. For information on attendance on these dates please refer to the section titled “National and regional teacher strikes”.

School Type	Absence Rate (w/c 17 July 23)	Absence rate year to date
State funded primary	7.5% (3.6% authorised and 3.9% unauthorised)	6.0% (4.3% authorised and 1.7% unauthorised)
State funded secondary	14.7% (6.9% authorised and 7.8% unauthorised)	9.3% (5.8% authorised and 3.5% unauthorised)
State funded special	14.2% (9.5% authorised and 4.7% unauthorised)	13.1% (10.0% authorised and 3.1% unauthorised)

Overall absence rate 10.7% during week commencing 17 July	Authorised absence rate 5.1% during week commencing 17 July	Unauthorised absence rate 5.6% during week commencing 17 July
Overall absence rate 7.5% academic year 2022/23	Authorised absence rate 5.0% academic year 2022/23	Unauthorised absence rate 2.5% academic year 2022/23
Persistent absence rate 22.3% academic year 2022/23		

Permanent Exclusions and Suspensions in England: 2021-2022

A report on [suspensions and permanent exclusions within the 2021/22 academic year](#) across state funded schools was published on 20 July 2023. The report summarises data collected from the school census on:

- Reasons schools report for suspending & excluding pupils
- Suspensions and permanent exclusions by pupil characteristics
- Permanent exclusion independent review panels.

To access the full data set, go to [Permanent exclusions & suspensions in England](#).

Permanent exclusions 6,495 Up from 3,928 in 2020/21	Permanent exclusions (rate) 0.08 Up from 0.05 in 2020/21
Suspensions 578,280 Up from 352,454 in 2020/21	Suspension (rate) 6.91 Up from 4.25 in 2020/21

Headline Facts:

- There were **6,500 permanent exclusions in the 2021-22 academic year** –this is an increase from the 2020-21 academic year of 3,900. During this period, however, schools were only open to key worker and vulnerable children during the spring term. Permanent exclusions in the 2018-19 academic year (the last full academic year before the pandemic) was 7,900 which is higher than the 2021-22 figure.
- There were **578,300 suspensions in the 2021-22 academic year** (equivalent to 691 per 10,000 pupils) – this represents an increase from the previous year (352,500) and is higher than pre-pandemic levels (438,300 in 2018-19).
- **Suspension & exclusion reasons** – data for suspension / exclusion reason changed in 2020-21 whereby up to 3 reasons may now be recorded per suspension/ exclusion. The most common reason across both permanent exclusion and suspension was persistent disruptive behaviour - recorded 3,050 times against 47% of permanent exclusions and 289,600 against 50% of suspensions.

Admissions Appeals in England: academic year 2022-2023

Annual information on the rate and result of appeals for maintained primary and secondary schools during the 2022-23 academic year was published on 17 August 2023.

For the full data set go to [Admission appeals in England](#)

Headline facts and figures 2022-23

Appeals heard by an appeals panel (percentage) 1.2 Primary - Unchanged from 2022, representing 9,628 appeals heard	Successful appeals (percentage) 16.4 Primary - Down from 17.2% in 2022
Appeals heard by an appeals panel (percentage) 4.1 Secondary - Up slightly from 3.9% in 2022, representing 30,379 appeals heard	Successful appeals (percentage) 20.9 Secondary - Down very slightly from 21.2 in 2022

- 9,628 appeals were heard relating to primary school places for 2022/23. This represented 1.2% of new admissions.
- The rate is unchanged from last year. Prior to 2021/22, the number and rate have been gradually dropping since 2015/16, when 22,820 primary appeals were heard (2.6% of new admissions).
- Of those heard in 2022/23, 1,580 primary appeals were successful, a rate of 16.4%. This is a 0.8 percentage point increase on 2021/22 (and is the second lowest success rate since 2015/16).
- 30,379 appeals were heard relating to secondary school places for 2022/23. This represented 4.1% of new admissions.
- This a slight increase on last year, when 28,687 (3.9% of new admissions) appeals were heard. The number of secondary appeals shows more variation than at primary level, with the number heard rising as high as 35,648 in 2019/20 before dropping for the two subsequent years. This year is therefore the first rise for three years.
- Of those heard in 2022/23, 6,358 secondary appeals were successful, representing 20.9% of the number heard. This is just a 0.2 percentage point decrease on 2021/22. Overall success rates are notably lower than the first year of this collection timeseries, 2015/16, when 26.3% of secondary appeals were successful.

Ofsted Published Statistics & information

State-funded school inspections and outcomes: management information

- Ofsted publish aggregated management information on a monthly basis detailing state-funded inspections and outcomes from 2005 to 2015 and 2015 to 2019.
- Each release contains information where inspections have been completed and the report has been published by the given date; for this release, by 31 July 2023.
- The majority of information reflects the national position as 31 July 2023. There is, however, a breakdown by local authority & region and phase for the overall effectiveness of schools at their most recent inspection.
- There is also summary information, by school, for published and most recent inspections held between September 2022 and 31 July 2023.
- See [here](#) for access to the data set and for more information.

Published subject reports

Ofsted published 2 subject reports in July –

- “[Coordinating mathematical success](#)” looking at factors that influence the quality of mathematics education in schools in England and
- “[Rich encounters with the past](#)” looking at how history is being taught in England’s schools.

Evaluating the education inspection framework (EIF)

- Ofsted are carrying out a programme of evaluation of the [EIF](#), spanning 2-3 years. The process will start with evaluation in 2023 and be followed by an impact evaluation.
- The evaluation programme covers early years, schools (including provision for pupils with SEN) and further education & skills (including provision for learners with high needs).
- Through evaluation, Ofsted are looking to understand:
 - The impact of the EIF on those they inspect (childminders, nurseries, schools, colleges and other education providers)
 - The value the EIF has for parents, central and local government, academy trusts, governing bodies and other education sector stakeholders.
 - Whether they are implementing the EIF as they intended.
- Ofsted have also developed a theory of change that identifies how they expect the EIF to work and the impact they expect to have.

Government Consultations

Changes to Ofsted's post-inspection arrangements and complaints handling: proposals 2023

Ofsted have launched a consultation on proposed changes to their post-inspection arrangements, including how they handle complaints about their work.

The proposals will:

- enhance on-site professional dialogue during inspections to help address any issues before the end of the inspection visit
- introduce a new opportunity for providers to contact Ofsted the day after an inspection if they have any unresolved concerns
- introduce new arrangements for finalising reports and considering formal challenges to inspection outcomes
- replace the current internal review process with a direct escalation to the [Independent Complaints Adjudication Service for Ofsted \(ICASO\)](#) and add a new periodic review of closed complaints, using external representatives from the sectors we inspect.

See [here](#) for more information and to complete the survey which closes on Friday, 15 September 2023.

School registers & national thresholds for legal intervention – consultation outcome

The consultation held in June / July 2022 made 2 proposals:

1. a proposed replacement for the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006 which govern the keeping of attendance and admission registers, access to and sharing of register data and the rules for granting leaves of absence; and
2. the thresholds for the national framework for the use of fixed penalty notices for absence and excluded pupils being in public places during the first 5 days of an exclusion that the Government, intends to introduce, subject to Parliament.

Following consultation, the response,, "[Modernising school attendance & admission registers and setting national thresholds for legal intervention](#)" sets out the following

- The DfE will proceed with Proposal 1, adapting its approach in various ways in response to the comments received, and to reflect the Government's intention to drive a 'support first' approach.
- The DfE will not proceed with requiring schools to record participation in remote education in the attendance register or requiring LA consent before a school deletes the name of a pupil with an education health and care plan from a school roll
- Proposal 2 was linked to the legislative provisions introduced in the Schools Bill last year, which did not proceed. Whilst the Government sets out that it remains committed to improving the consistency of approach to fixed penalty notices, the responses received will help inform work as it develops, including any future legislative change

Updates to National Guidance

Report on improving multi-agency information sharing

- The report, [improving multi-agency information sharing](#), was published on 6 July 2023. In response to a legislative commitment in the [Health and Care Act 2022](#), the report sets out the government's policy on information sharing and the use of a consistent child identifier, as well as next steps for improving the way information is shared among agencies working with children and families

School sport and activity action plan

- The cross government [School sport and activity action plan](#) aims to provide more pupils with increased opportunities to play sport and take physical exercise during their time in school.
- The action plan was updated in July 2023 and:
 - Aims to improve the quality of PE and school sport provision
 - Encourages 2 hours of PE a week
 - Helps to ensure equality of access to sport for girls and boys
 - Helps to increase the number of children playing sport in school and meeting curriculum expectations, including for swimming and water safety.
- Primary schools may also want to see updated guidance, [PE and sport premium for primary schools](#)

Searching, screening and confiscation in schools

- This guidance, "[Searching, screening and confiscation in schools](#)", sets out how to safely search or screen children in schools as well as detailing the prohibited items schools can search for and their powers to confiscate items found during searches.
- The guidance was recently updated to remove references to guidance that has since been updated.

Working together to improve school attendance

- [This guidance](#) to help schools, academy trusts, governing bodies and local authorities maintain high levels of school attendance, including roles and responsibilities was updated on 1 August. The revised version includes a link to guidance on school attendance for parents.

National Tutoring Programme: guidance for schools 2022-2023

- The [National Tutoring Programme guidance](#) provides information for school leaders on how to access subsidised tuition for pupils through the NTP for the 2022-2023 academic year. Guidance has been updated to include more information about the grant recovery process and the mandatory year-end statement (available from 4 September until 29 September 2023). For the academic year 2023 to 2024, the subsidy figure has been adjusted to 50% and a link to the allocations has been added.

School Inspection Handbook

- Updates have been made to Ofsted's guidance on inspecting maintained schools and academies in England under the education inspection framework. For full details see the summary of changes sections on the guidance webpage [here](#).
- For information, all Ofsted handbooks and frameworks for the remits Ofsted inspects and/or regulates can be found [here](#).

Parental responsibility: guide for schools and local authorities

- Guidance on "[Understanding & dealing with issues relating to parental responsibility](#)" has been updated to include guidance on the role of the 'corporate parent', releasing GCSE results to a parent and notifying separated parents about a child moving school.

Resources

National Profession Qualification (NPQ) for SENCOs

- As announced in the [SEND and alternative provision improvement plan](#), the NPQ for SENCOs will replace the existing national award for SEN coordination (NASENCO) as the mandatory qualification for SENCOs
- New information on the NPQ for SENCOs was published at the end of the summer term, with teaching commencing in Autumn 2024.
- Further [information](#) on what this means for schools and SENCOs is available. We will update this page with further details soon

Free financial education training for teachers & School leaders

- The [Money and Pensions Service](#) is working with partners to offer free financial education training for teachers and school leaders between now and March 2024.
- A range of options are available to help education settings deliver quality learning about money - Follow the links below to find out more:
 - LifeSavers' flexible [financial education programme for primary schools](#)
 - young money's financial education professional learning for [school leaders and teachers in primary & secondary schools](#)
 - financial education training and resources for alternative provision settings from LifeSavers and the National Literacy Trust – for [primary](#) and for [secondary](#) ages

Education Endowment Fund - SEN in Mainstream Schools

- The EEF have published [a guidance report](#) offering 5 evidence-based recommendations to support pupils with SEND, providing a starting point for schools to review their current approach and practical ideas they can implement.

National Tutoring Programme (NTP) webinar

- Due to demand, additional sessions of this webinar are being run in the autumn term to support schools deliver tutoring in the new academic year.
- The webinar will discuss the [2023 to 2024 NTP guidance](#) and advise schools how to make the most of NTP funding to support pupils.
- Please register using one of the links below (both webinars will contain the same content, so you only need to attend one):
 - [Wednesday 13 September – 12:30pm to 1:15pm](#)
 - [Friday 15 September – 12:30pm to 1:15pm](#)
- Throughout the webinar, there will be the chance to ask questions. If you would like to submit a question in advance, please email ntp.engagement@education.gov.uk

Attendance data webinar for schools and local authorities

- Join this free webinar on **Wednesday, 20 September** (11.00 to 11.45am) to find out how you can share your daily school attendance data and access attendance reports.
- Please [register](#) to join the webinar

Action for schools: register for maths continuing professional development (CPD) starting September 2023

- Maths hubs serve all state-funded schools in England and offer over 30 different maths-specific CPD opportunities to teachers in all phases.
- This ranges from subject and pedagogical knowledge, to leadership and whole-school maths improvement. There are places available in 2023 to 2024, and all CPD is fully-funded.
- Learn more about the [opportunities](#), then [find and contact your local maths hub](#)