

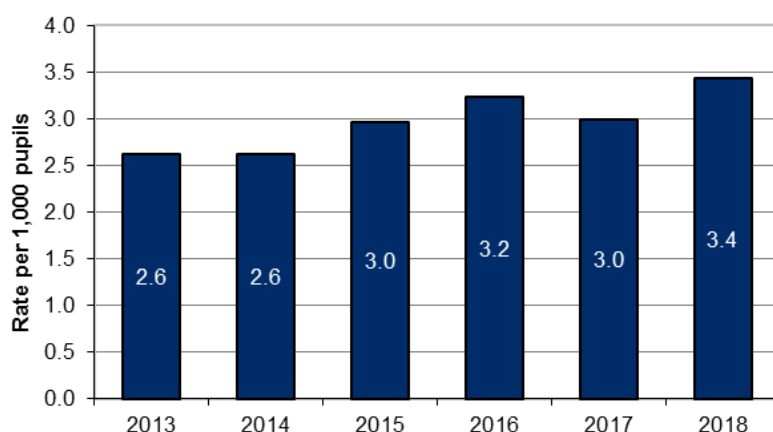


## Pupils educated other than at school, 2017/18

25 July 2018  
SFR 60/2018

This annual Statistical First Release reports on the number of pupils receiving education outside of school funded by Welsh local authorities and the number of pupils receiving elective home education in Wales. The information relates to the number of pupils receiving these forms of education during a census week in January for the academic years 2012/13 to 2017/18. During the 2017/18 academic year the census week was 15th to 19th January 2018.

**Chart 1: Rate per 1,000 pupils who are Educated Other Than At School (EOTAS), 2012/13 – 2017/18**



The rate of EOTAS pupils receiving their main education other than at school increased in 2017/18 over the year to 3.4 per 1,000 pupils. This is the highest rate since 2009/10.

**EOTAS pupils** are pupils who receive education outside of school funded by Welsh local authorities.

- **2,188** the number of EOTAS pupils.
- **1,609** the number of EOTAS pupils receiving their main education other than at school ([Table 1](#)).
- **3.4** out of 1,000 pupils in Wales received their main education other than at school ([Table 2](#)).

**Pupil referral units** were the most used type of EOTAS education ([Table 7](#)).

**7 out of 10** pupils whose main education is other than at school were **boys** ([Table 3](#)).

### About this release

This release covers data on individual pupils receiving education outside of school, including Pupil Referral Units, and includes data by age, gender and the type of provision.

Data are shown for Wales and at local authority/consortium level.

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## Introduction

The EOTAS Census covers pupils who are placed by Local Authorities (LAs) in Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) or other forms of 'alternative provision' referred to as 'Educated Other Than At School (EOTAS)'. It is equivalent of the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) for children educated other than at school.

The overriding criterion for inclusion in the EOTAS census is that it is for pupils for whom a Welsh LA has a financial responsibility and if not included in this census collection would not be picked up via PLASC. However, some pupils may legitimately be included in the EOTAS census and also on a school PLASC (for maintained primary, secondary and special schools).

The collection focuses on children receiving education funded by the LA other than at school as defined in Section 19(1) of the Education Act 1996 i.e. those children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion or otherwise may not for any period receive suitable education.

### **Pupil Referral Units (PRUs)**

Section 19 (1) of the Education Act 1996 requires LAs to make arrangements for the provision of suitable education at schools or otherwise for children of compulsory school age who, for whatever reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless suitable arrangements are made for them. Section 19 (2) states that any school established to provide education for such children and which is not a county [community] or special school, shall be known as a "Pupil Referral Unit".

### **Category of provision**

The pupil will either be placed in a PRU or another form of EOTAS provision. The categories are:

- Pupil Referral Unit
- Further education college
- Maintained primary, middle, secondary or special school
- Non-maintained special school
- Individual tuition and tuition at pupils' homes or at hospital
- Youth Gateway
- Work related education
- Training providers
- Voluntary organisations
- Brought in private sector provision
- Independent schools
- Pupil attending provision not maintained by the authority, or outside of the authority, for which the authority pays fees
- Awaiting provision or not currently in provision
- Other

**Table 1: Number of pupils educated other than at school, by local authority, 2017/18**

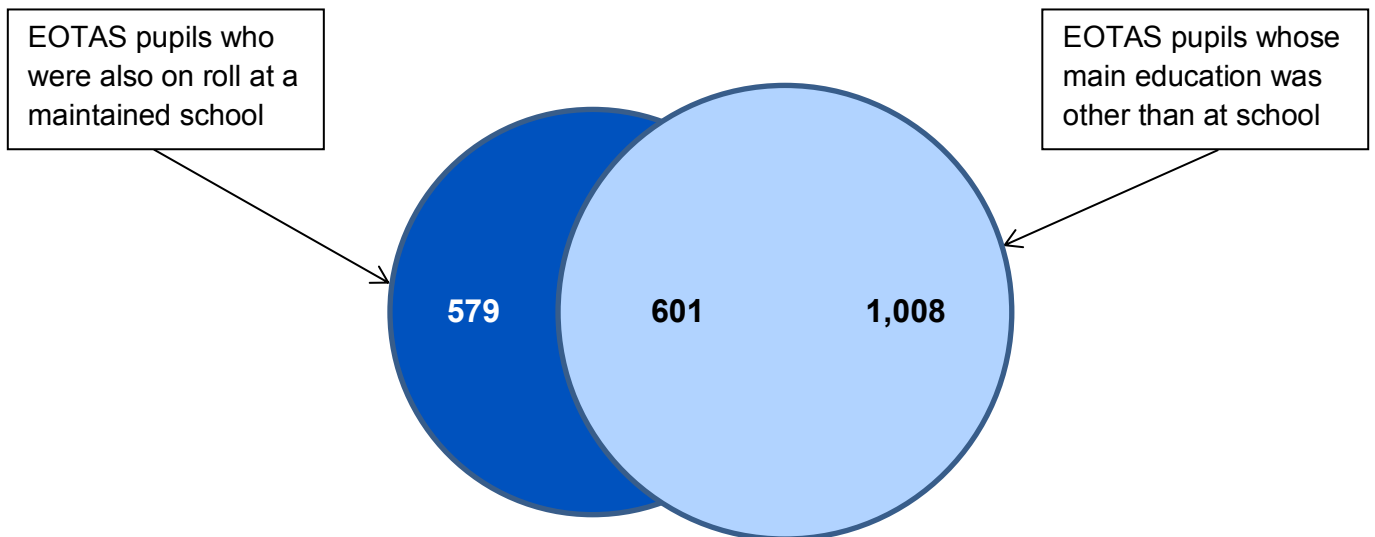
Local Authority	EOTAS pupils whose main education is outside of school and who			EOTAS pupils who	
	are not on roll at a maintained school	have subsidiary enrolment status at a maintained school	Total	have main or current enrolment status at a maintained school	All pupils receiving EOTAS provision
Isle of Anglesey	29	0	29	0	29
Gwynedd	33	0	33	*	*
Conwy	64	0	64	0	64
Denbighshire	98	0	98	60	158
Flintshire	73	38	111	5	116
Wrexham	20	36	56	0	56
Powys	55	7	62	6	68
Ceredigion	15	0	15	10	25
Pembrokeshire	11	22	33	69	102
Carmarthenshire	7	61	68	22	90
Swansea	63	106	169	19	188
Neath Port Talbot	42	0	42	*	*
Bridgend	0	51	51	17	68
The Vale of Glamorgan	48	68	116	0	116
Rhondda Cynon Taf	71	105	176	17	193
Merthyr Tydfil	11	37	48	*	*
Caerphilly	16	43	59	129	188
Blaenau Gwent	*	0	*	0	*
Torfaen	*	*	*	37	77
Monmouthshire	*	*	22	14	36
Newport	80	8	88	41	129
Cardiff	217	10	227	126	353
Wales:					
2017/18	1,008	601	1,609	579	2,188
2016/17	892	510	1,402	570	1,972
2015/16	909	603	1,512	602	2,114
2014/15	909	478	1,387	770	2,157
2013/14	958	267	1,225	1,142	2,367
2012/13	995	225	1,220	1,357	2,577

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government  
Pupil Level Annual School Census, Welsh Government

### Key points for 2017/18

- 2,188** the number of EOTAS pupils, down 15% since 2012/13.
- 1,609** the number of EOTAS pupils receiving their main education other than at school, up 32% since 2012/13.
- 73.5%** the percentage of EOTAS pupils receiving their main education other than at school, up from 47% in 2012/13.

- In 2017/18, 2,188 pupils were reported to be receiving education other than at school funded by their local authority during the census week (15th to 19th January 2018). In this statistical release such pupils will be referred to as 'EOTAS pupils'.
- Not all EOTAS pupils receive their education solely outside of the maintained school environment. In fact, many of them are still on roll at maintained schools. Of the 2,188 EOTAS pupils:
  - 1,008 EOTAS pupils were not on roll at a maintained school in the January 2018 Pupil-Level Annual School Census (PLASC), so they only received education 'other than at school';
  - 601 EOTAS pupils had 'subsidiary' enrolment status in maintained schools in the January 2018 PLASC, meaning that their main education was 'other than at school'; and;
  - 579 EOTAS pupils had 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in maintained schools in the January 2018 PLASC, which means that their main education was in a maintained school.
- This breakdown can be seen in the following diagram. The circle on the left represents the EOTAS pupils who were on roll at a maintained school, while the circle on the right shows the EOTAS pupils whose main education was other than at school. The section where the circles overlap shows the number of EOTAS pupils whose main education was other than at school and had 'subsidiary' enrolment status in a maintained school.



- Since pupils with 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in the January 2018 PLASC are included in the Schools' Census publication, the main focus of this statistical release will be on the EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school – the 1,609 pupils represented by the circle on the right.

**Table 2: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by local authority, 2012/13-2017/18 (a)**


	Number						Rate (a)					
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Isle of Anglesey	40	23	23	20	40	29	4.2	2.4	2.4	2.1	4.1	3.0
Gwynedd	47	31	29	69	38	33	2.7	1.8	1.7	4.0	2.2	1.9
Conwy	60	75	70	55	63	64	3.7	4.7	4.4	3.4	4.0	4.0
Denbighshire	68	66	45	62	75	98	4.3	4.2	2.8	3.9	4.8	6.2
Flintshire	111	137	145	119	95	111	4.7	5.7	6.1	5.0	4.0	4.7
Wrexham	62	59	47	41	36	56	3.2	3.0	2.4	2.1	1.8	2.9
Powys	50	59	58	59	52	62	2.6	3.2	3.2	3.3	2.9	3.6
Ceredigion	20	16	15	31	15	*	2.1	1.7	1.6	3.2	1.6	*
Pembrokeshire	10	8	10	18	30	33	0.6	0.4	0.6	1.0	1.7	1.9
Carmarthenshire	23	30	50	72	59	68	0.8	1.1	1.8	2.6	2.2	2.5
Swansea	138	128	178	168	140	169	3.9	3.6	5.0	4.7	3.9	4.7
Neath Port Talbot	63	92	80	76	56	42	3.1	4.4	3.9	3.6	2.7	2.0
Bridgend	34	29	39	45	30	51	1.5	1.3	1.7	2.0	1.3	2.2
The Vale of Glamorgan	93	96	80	108	103	116	4.2	4.4	3.6	4.8	4.6	5.1
Rhondda Cynon Taf	84	87	102	160	149	176	2.1	2.2	2.6	4.1	3.8	4.5
Merthyr Tydfil	6	0	*	40	29	48	0.7	0.0	*	4.6	3.3	5.4
Caerphilly	45	16	142	70	30	59	1.6	0.6	4.9	2.4	1.1	2.1
Blaenau Gwent	13	43	33	43	57	*	1.3	4.5	3.5	4.6	6.1	*
Torfaen	19	20	26	24	14	40	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.6	0.9	2.7
Monmouthshire	5	6	*	12	12	22	0.4	0.5	*	1.0	1.0	1.9
Newport	78	67	68	87	96	88	3.2	2.7	2.7	3.4	3.8	3.4
Cardiff	151	137	139	133	183	227	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.5	3.4	4.1
Wales	1,220	1,225	1,387	1,512	1,402	1,609	2.6	2.6	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.4


Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government School Census, Welsh Government

(a) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full- and part-time pupils in maintained nursery, primary, secondary and special schools and pupils whose main education is other than at school as in the January School Census and EOTAS Pupil Census.

### Key points in 2017/18

**3.4** out of every 1,000 pupils received their main education other than at school.

 The rate of pupils whose main education is other than at school increased during 2017/18

 **Denbighshire** had the highest rate of pupils whose main education is other than at school.

- In 2017/18, 3.4 out of every 1,000 pupils in Wales received their main education other than at school, which is up from 3.0 out of every 1,000 in 2016/17.
- The rate of EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school in 2017/18 is 31 per cent higher than it was in 2012/13.
- **Cardiff, Rhondda Cynon Taf and Swansea** had the highest numbers of EOTAS pupils in 2017/18, but **Denbighshire** had the highest rate of EOTAS pupils in 2017/18 at 6.2 per 1,000 pupils.

**Table 3: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by age and gender, 2012/13 - 2017/18 (a)**

	Number						Rate (a)					
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<b>Gender</b>												
Boys	841	858	990	1,060	979	1,139	3.5	3.6	4.2	4.4	4.1	4.8
Girls	379	367	397	452	423	470	1.7	1.6	1.7	2.0	1.8	2.0
Pupils	1,220	1,225	1,387	1,512	1,402	1,609	2.6	2.6	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.4
<b>Age (b)</b>												
19 or over	*	0	*	0	0	*	21.0	0.0	*	0.0	0.0	*
18	20	23	25	18	22	27	12.8	14.9	17.6	12.2	19.9	24.1
17	45	36	47	49	56	28	3.6	2.9	3.7	4.1	4.9	2.6
16	65	65	75	80	59	73	4.2	4.1	4.9	5.5	4.4	5.8
15	493	546	609	718	596	705	13.7	15.8	18.2	22.2	18.9	23.0
14	233	213	262	243	211	266	6.7	6.4	8.1	7.6	6.8	8.4
13	120	120	132	150	148	151	3.6	3.7	4.1	4.9	4.7	4.7
12	77	68	83	90	69	103	2.4	2.1	2.7	2.8	2.1	3.1
11	47	40	48	42	52	51	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.5
10	23	32	19	35	47	50	0.7	1.0	0.6	1.1	1.4	1.5
9	27	18	29	21	44	47	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.6	1.3	1.3
8	14	22	17	15	36	34	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4	1.0	1.0
7	15	9	10	19	15	17	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.5
6	11	7	10	7	18	22	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.6
5	*	9	*	7	9	*	0.2	0.3	*	0.2	0.2	*
Under 5	19	17	14	18	20	17	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Total	1,220	1,225	1,387	1,512	1,402	1,609	2.6	2.6	3.0	3.2	3.0	3.4

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government  
School Census, Welsh Government

(a) Rate per 1,000 pupils. Full- and part-time pupils in maintained nursery, primary, secondary and special schools and pupils whose main education is other than at school as in the January School Census and EOTAS Pupil Census.

(b) Age as on 31 August at the start of the academic year.

### Key points in 2017/18

For pupils whose main education is other than at school:

- 7 in every 10 pupils were boys.
  - 6 in every 10 were aged 14 or 15.
  - Pupils aged 15 had the highest rate of EOTAS pupils of all pupils of compulsory school age.
- Since 2012/13 there have been more boys whose main education is other than at school than girls and this continues to be the case in 2017/18. Around 7 in every 10 pupils whose main education is other than at school were boys.
  - The rate of boys whose main education is other than school has increased from 4.1 out of 1,000 in 2016/17 to 4.8 in 2017/18. The rate of girls has increased from 1.8 out of 1,000 in 2016/17 to 2.0 in 2017/18.
  - 18 year olds had the highest rate of pupils receiving their main education other than at school overall in 2017/18, with 24 in every 1,000 pupils of this age educated other than at school.
  - Of those pupils aged 11-15, the age group with the highest rate of pupils receiving their main education other than at school was 15-year-olds. Over 4 in every 10 EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school were aged 15.
  - The rate of pupils aged 11-15 whose main education is other than at school increases as the pupils' ages increase. In 2017/18, 1.5 out of every 1,000 pupils aged 11 were receiving their main education other than at school and as pupils' ages increase, this rate also increases, to 23.0 out of every 1,000 pupils at age 15.

**Table 4: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by special educational need (SEN) provision, 2012/13 - 2017/18 (a)**

SEN provision	Number of pupils						Percentage of pupils (a)					
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Statement of SEN	443	424	463	472	468	545	36.3	34.6	33.4	31.2	33.4	33.9
School Action Plus	553	594	645	705	694	729	45.3	48.5	46.5	46.6	49.5	45.3
School Action	36	41	87	123	79	122	3.0	3.3	6.3	8.1	5.6	7.6
No SEN	188	166	192	212	161	213	15.4	13.6	13.8	14.0	11.5	13.2
Total	1,220	1,225	1,387	1,512	1,402	1,609	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

(a) Percentage of pupils whose main education is other than at school.

**86.8%** of pupils whose main education is other than at school in 2017/18 have special educational needs.

- In 2017/18 the percentage of pupils whose main education is other than at school with special educational needs decreased since 2016/17.
- Since 2012/13, School Action Plus has been the most common SEN provision for pupils whose main education is other than at school.
- The percentage of pupils with special educational needs decreased in 2017/18.

**Table 5: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by free school meal (FSM) entitlement, 2012/13-2017/18 (a)**

Free school meal entitlement	Number of pupils						Percentage of pupils (a)					
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Entitled to FSM	379	407	484	629	462	632	31.1	33.2	34.9	41.6	33.0	39.3
Not entitled to FSM	841	818	903	883	940	977	68.9	66.8	65.1	58.4	67.0	60.7
Total	1,220	1,225	1,387	1,512	1,402	1,609	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

(a) Percentage of pupils whose main education is other than at school.

### Key points

- Of pupils whose main education is other than at school;
- Around 4 out of 10 pupils were entitled to free school meals.

- 39.3 per cent (just under 4 in 10) pupils whose main education is other than at school were entitled to free school meals in 2017/18.
- The percentage of pupils whose main education is other than at school who were entitled to free school meals increased in 2017/18, but remained lower than in 2015/16.



**Table 6: Pupils aged 5 and over whose main education is other than at school, by ethnic background, 2012/13-2017/18 (a)**

Ethnic background	Number of pupils						Rate (a)					
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
<b>White</b>	<b>1,076</b>	<b>1,106</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>1,402</b>	<b>1,291</b>	<b>1,463</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>
White - British	1,036	1,075	1,225	1,371	1,262	1,430	2.9	3.0	3.5	3.9	3.6	4.1
Any other white background	40	31	38	31	29	33	4.9	3.4	3.7	2.8	2.4	2.6
Mixed	34	25	32	32	34	45	3.8	2.7	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.8
Asian	4	*	7	10	8	11	*	*	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.1
Black	5	*	*	*	*	*	1.7	*	*	*	*	*
Chinese or Chinese British	1	*	0	0	0	0	*	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Any other ethnic group	14	5	*	*	*	*	3.5	1.2	*	*	*	*
<b>Total with valid category</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>1,143</b>	<b>1,307</b>	<b>1,450</b>	<b>1,344</b>	<b>1,529</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Unknown or not stated	67	65	66	44	38	63	23.6	25.9	29.1	20.7	19.3	31.6
<b>All pupils</b>	<b>1,201</b>	<b>1,208</b>	<b>1,373</b>	<b>1,494</b>	<b>1,382</b>	<b>1,592</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

(a) Rate per 1,000 pupils of this ethnic minority. Full- and part-time pupils in maintained nursery, primary, secondary and special schools and pupils whose main education is other than at school as in the January School Census and EOTAS Pupil Census.

(b) Age as at 31st August at the start of the academic year.

(c) "." means data item is not applicable

- 4 out of 1,000 pupils with a “White” ethnic background are receiving their main education other than at school.
- In 2017/18, the number of pupils with a “White”, “Mixed”, or “Asian” ethnic background being educated other than at school is the highest it has been since 2012/13.

**Table 7: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by educational provision, 2017/18**

Since pupils may attend more than one educational provision in a week, some pupils may be counted against more than one provision. That is why the number of enrolments is higher than the number of pupils whose main education is other than at school (1,609 pupils) in Table 1.

Educational provision	Number of enrolments	Percentage of enrolments	Average number of hours a pupil is scheduled to attend in a week
Pupil referral unit (a)	740	43.8	23.8
Further education college	174	10.3	23.6
Maintained school	68	4.0	12.8
Non-maintained special school	83	4.9	25.2
Individual tuition	204	12.1	9.8
Youth Gateway	0	0.0	.
Work-related education	9	0.5	11.1
Training provider	95	5.6	22.6
Voluntary organisation	0	0.0	.
Bought in private sector provision	29	1.7	22.4
Independent school	228	13.5	25.7
Provision not maintained by, or is outside of, authority	8	0.5	25.0
Awaiting provision or not currently in provision	32	1.9	.
Other	20	1.2	25.2
Total	1,690	100.0	21.4

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

(a) The pupils who are enrolled at a PRU but have zero hours of provision recorded are excluded from this table.  
 "." data item is not applicable.

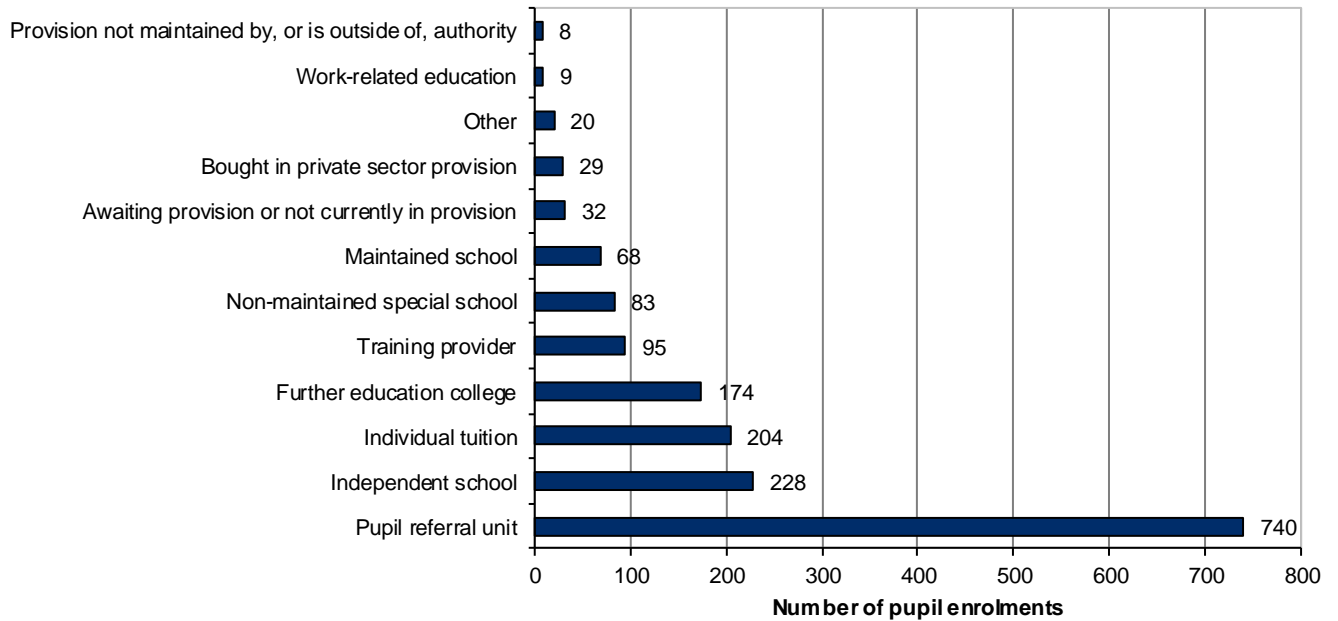
### Key points

Pupils whose main education is other than at school:

- **43.8%** - Percentage of pupil enrolments were at pupil referral units.
- **32** - Number of pupils not receiving educational provision during the census week.

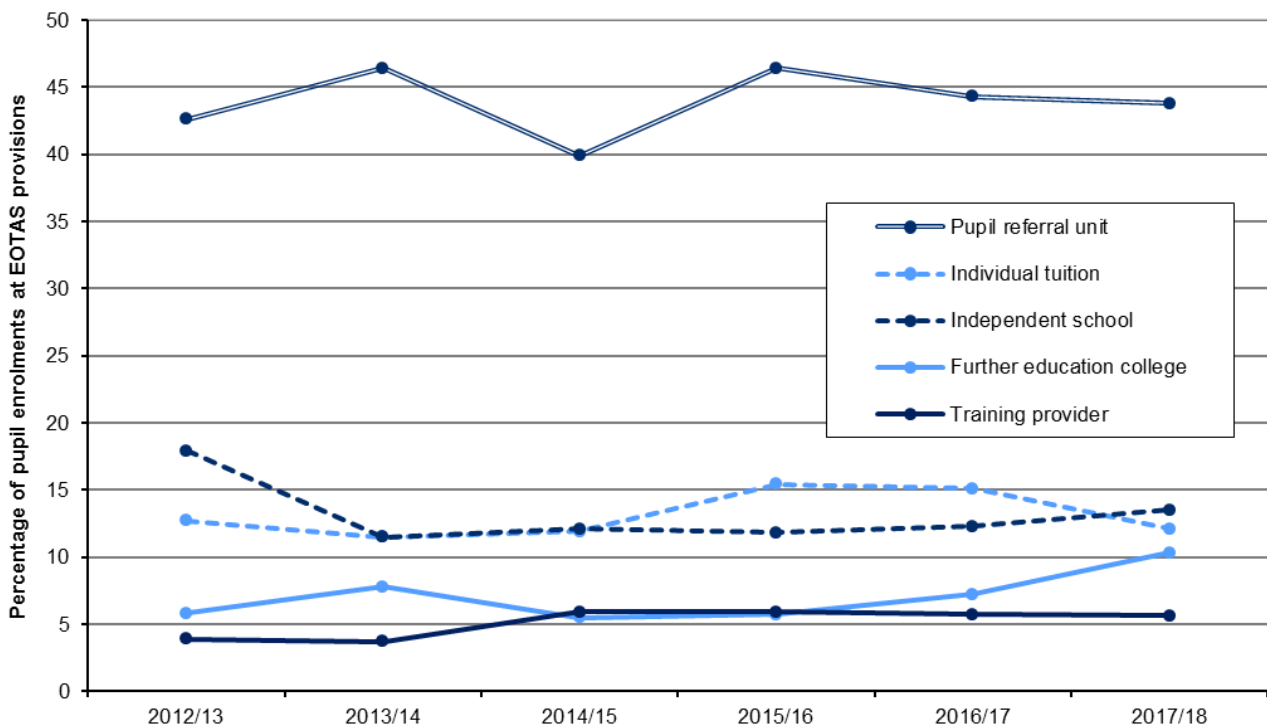
- In 2017/18 there were 740 enrolments at pupil referral units, which accounted for 43.8 per cent of all EOTAS educational enrolments. Looking at Chart 2, you can see that pupil referral units were used much more frequently to educate EOTAS pupils than other provisions.
- Independent Schools were the next most popular educational provision, accounting for 13.5 per cent of EOTAS educational enrolments. Both individual tuition and further education colleges also account for over 10% of EOTAS provision.
- Although the EOTAS data collection refers to pupils educated other than at school, in some circumstances EOTAS pupils are placed into a maintained school as part of their provision. 68 pupils received EOTAS education in a maintained school.
- The average number of hours of education provided to pupils whose main education is outside of school was 21.4 hours during the census week. Pupils enrolled at independent schools received the highest average number of hours of provision during the census week, with an average of 25.7 hours provided per pupil.

**Chart 2: Number of pupil enrolments, by educational provision, 2017/18**



**Chart 3: Percentage of pupil enrolments, by educational provision, 2012/13 - 2017/18**

Chart 3 shows how the percentages of pupil enrolments in EOTAS provision have changed since 2012/13.



- Pupil referral units have been the most frequently-used EOTAS provision since 2012/13. Their usage peaked in 2015/16. Pupil referral unit usage decreased slightly during 2017/18.
- In 2017/18 the use of individual tuition decreased, while the use of independent schools as EOTAS provision increased. In 2017/18, Independent Schools were the second most used provision for EOTAS pupils.
- In 2017/18, the use of further education colleges increased whilst remaining the fourth most used EOTAS provision. Training providers were the fifth most popular education provisions used for EOTAS pupils, as was the case in 2016/17.

**Table 8: Number of pupils attending pupil referral units in Wales, by age, 2017/18**

Age (a)	Pupils who are registered at a single PRU (b)			Pupils who are dually registered at a PRU (c)		
	Boys	Girls	Pupils	Boys	Girls	Pupils
19 or over	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	0	*	*	0	0	0
16	*	0	*	0	0	0
15	242	124	366	16	14	30
14	99	46	145	46	20	66
13	55	23	78	39	12	51
12	39	11	50	25	6	31
11	15	0	15	*	*	20
10	*	*	29	*	*	20
9	*	*	29	*	*	22
8	*	*	23	*	*	12
7	12	0	12	9	0	9
6	*	*	15	7	0	*
5	7	0	7	*	0	*
Under 5	*	*	6	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>269</b>

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government  
Pupil Level Annual School Census, Welsh Government

(a) Age as at 31 August 2017.

(b) Figures relate to pupils educated at only one PRU and include pupils receiving other EOTAS provisions or being recorded as having 'subsidiary' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2017/18 Pupil-Level Annual School Census (PLASC), but exclude those with 'main' or 'current' enrolment in a maintained or special school in PLASC.

(c) Figures relate to pupils educated at more than one PRU or educated at a PRU while having 'main' or 'current' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2017/18 PLASC.

### Key points

EOTAS pupils registered at PRUs:

- 778 pupils were registered at one PRU only.
- 269 pupils were dually registered at a PRU.

- During the 2017/18 census week 778 EOTAS pupils were registered at a single pupil referral unit (PRU). A little more than 7 in 10 of these pupils were boys.
- The number of pupils registered at PRUs increases with each age group from age 11 up to age 15.
- 269 pupils were dually registered at a PRU during the 2017/18 census week. This means that they were either attending more than one PRU or were on roll at one PRU but receiving their main education in a maintained school.

**Table 9: Number of pupils attending pupil referral units in Wales, by local authority, 2017/18**

Local Authority (a)	Pupils who are registered at a single PRU (b)			Pupils who are dually registered at a PRU (c)		
	Boys	Girls	Pupils	Boys	Girls	Pupils
Isle of Anglesey	*	*	13	0	0	0
Gwynedd	17	6	23	*	0	*
Conwy	29	21	50	0	0	0
Denbighshire	*	*	20	45	10	55
Flintshire	50	17	67	*	0	*
Wrexham	35	21	56	0	0	0
Powys	*	*	16	0	0	0
Ceredigion	7	5	12	9	0	9
Pembrokeshire	17	6	23	53	10	63
Carmarthenshire	37	25	62	7	0	7
Swansea	58	25	83	*	*	9
Neath Port Talbot	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bridgend	19	13	32	12	5	17
The Vale of Glamorgan	49	12	61	0	0	0
Rhondda Cynon Taf	92	10	102	*	*	14
Merthyr Tydfil	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caerphilly	44	15	59	0	0	0
Blaenau Gwent	0	0	0	0	0	0
Torfaen	*	*	9	20	12	32
Monmouthshire	9	5	14	*	*	6
Newport	38	16	54	33	8	41
Cardiff	13	9	22	6	8	14
<b>Wales</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>269</b>

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government  
Pupil Level Annual School Census, Welsh Government

(a) Refers to the local authority in which pupils attended PRUs, not the local authority funding the provision.

(b) Figures relate to pupils educated at only one PRU and include pupils receiving other EOTAS provisions or being recorded as having 'subsidiary' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2017/18 Pupil-Level Annual School Census (PLASC), but exclude those with 'main' or 'current' enrolment in a maintained or special school in PLASC.

(c) Figures relate to pupils educated at more than one PRU or educated at a PRU while having 'main' or 'current' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2017/18 PLASC.

- Rhondda Cynon Taf had the most pupils registered at only one pupil referral unit (102 pupils).
- Neath Port Talbot, Merthyr Tydfil, and Blaenau Gwent had no pupils on roll at a pupil referral unit during the 2017/18 census week.
- Pembrokeshire had the most dually registered pupils at a pupil referral unit (63 pupils).

**Table 10: Number of pupils of compulsory school age educated at home, by local authority, 2012/13-2017/18 (a)**

	Number						Rate (b)					
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Isle of Anglesey	27	23	21	23	36	37	3.6	3.0	2.8	3.0	4.7	4.7
Gwynedd	55	69	55	64	53	45	3.9	5.0	4.0	4.6	3.8	3.2
Conwy	58	40	62	108	76	101	4.6	3.2	5.0	8.6	6.1	8.0
Denbighshire	43	58	55	47	51	65	3.5	4.7	4.4	3.8	4.0	5.1
Flintshire	51	39	46	59	71	63	2.7	2.1	2.5	3.1	3.8	3.3
Wrexham	21	20	30	47	72	68	1.4	1.3	1.9	3.0	4.5	4.2
Powys	101	120	112	122	133	131	6.7	8.0	7.6	8.4	9.1	9.0
Ceredigion	122	112	111	113	139	151	15.9	14.7	14.9	15.1	18.4	19.6
Pembrokeshire	92	92	106	123	132	195	6.5	6.5	7.6	8.9	9.5	13.8
Carmarthenshire	74	122	160	209	..	..	3.4	5.7	7.4	9.6	..	..
Swansea	69	81	104	128	153	157	2.5	2.9	3.7	4.5	5.4	5.4
Neath Port Talbot	41	34	58	91	117	147	2.5	2.0	3.5	5.4	6.8	8.5
Bridgend	38	43	67	74	88	103	2.2	2.5	3.9	4.2	4.9	5.8
The Vale of Glamorgan	32	30	35	32	33	45	1.9	1.8	2.1	1.9	1.9	2.6
Rhondda Cynon Taf	51	55	63	83	118	119	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.8	3.9	3.9
Merthyr Tydfil	14	13	17	20	31	42	2.0	1.8	2.4	2.8	4.3	5.8
Caerphilly	..	31	29	42	61	78	..	1.4	1.3	1.8	2.7	3.4
Blaenau Gwent	12	19	14	15	30	51	1.5	2.5	1.8	2.0	4.0	6.7
Torfaen	21	32	36	50	51	67	1.7	2.7	3.0	4.2	4.2	5.5
Monmouthshire	28	24	27	31	49	52	3.0	2.6	2.9	3.3	5.2	5.5
Newport	24	26	33	36	42	59	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.8	2.1	2.9
Cardiff	129	142	158	165	188	188	3.3	3.5	3.9	4.0	4.4	4.4
Wales (r)	1,103	1,225	1,399	1,682	1,724	1,964	3.2	3.4	3.8	4.6	4.9 (r)	5.6

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

(a) Data relate to pupils aged 5 to 15 on 31 August before the start of the academic year. Where local authorities do not know a pupil's age they were asked to provide an estimate.

(b) Rate per 1,000 pupils aged 5-15 on 31 August before the start of the academic year. The denominator includes pupils whose main education is other than at school, pupils who had 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in the January PLASC and pupils who are known to be electively home educated.

".." means that the data item is not available.

(r) There is a revision for the Wales total for the 2016/17 rate. (See Key Quality Information for more detail)

### Key points

- The number of children (pupils) whose parents have elected to educate them at home has been rising for the past 6 years.
- 1,964 pupils were electively home educated in 2017/18.
- Ceredigion had the highest rate of elective home educated pupils in 2017/18.

- In the 2017/18 academic year 1,964 children were known to be electively home educated in Wales. This means that the parents of these pupils decided to educate their children at home instead of sending them to school.
- The rate of elective home educated pupils has increased in 2017/18 to 5.6 out of 1,000 from 4.9 out of 1,000 in 2016/17. The rate has increased in all local authorities with the exception of Gwynedd.
- In 2012/13, 3.2 out of 1,000 pupils were electively home educated. This rate has increased each year since then.

- The Vale of Glamorgan had the lowest rate of electively home educated children (2.6 per 1,000 pupils) while Ceredigion had the highest rate (19.6 per 1,000 pupils). Ceredigion has consistently reported the highest rate of electively home educated children since 2012/13.
- As parents notify their local authority that they are home educating their children on a voluntary basis (unless they have withdrawn their child from school), these data may not include all electively home educated children.

## Notes

### Context

#### Policy/operational

Local authorities are required to provide suitable education at school or otherwise than at school for those children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless such arrangements are made for them.

In practice, local authorities respond to that duty in widely varying ways, relating to their individual circumstances, such as their geography, socio-economic situation and educational policies. In September 2015 the Welsh Government established an Educated Other Than At School (EOTAS) Task and Finish Group, chaired by former Estyn Chief Inspector Ann Keane. The EOTAS Task and Finish Group developed the framework, with engagement from the sector, as a response to reports by Estyn, the Children's Commissioner for Wales and the University of Edinburgh.

The "[Education otherwise than at school \(EOTAS\) Framework for Action](#)" was last updated on 3 January 2018.

### Key quality information

This section provides information about the quality of the statistics in this release in five areas: Relevance, accuracy, timeliness and punctuality, accessibility and clarity, and comparability and coherence.

#### Data source and coverage

The EOTAS Pupil Census is carried out annually and collects data on pupils educated other than at school from local authorities electronically via a secure website. The collection is carried out by the school statistics team in Knowledge and Analytical Services within the Welsh Government.

The information in this Statistical First Release relates to pupils receiving local authority-funded education outside of the mainstream school environment during a census week each January and the number of pupils of compulsory school age (aged 5 to 15 on 31 August before the start of the academic year) known by local authorities to be electively home educated. For the 2017/18 academic year the census week was 15 to 19 January 2018.

In 2017/18, data were received on 2,188 pupils receiving education other than at school from all 22 local authorities in Wales. Of the 2,188 pupils receiving EOTAS provision 579 were recorded in the January 2018 Pupil-Level Annual School Census as having 'main' or 'current' enrolment status

in maintained primary, secondary or special schools and were therefore considered to be receiving their main education in a maintained school. The remaining 1,609 pupils were considered to be receiving their main education other than at school. The focus of this Statistical First Release is on pupils mainly educated other than at school, but to give a complete picture it was necessary to include all pupils receiving EOTAS provision in [Tables 1, 8 and 9](#).

Local authorities reported that in 2017/18, 2,043 pupils were known to be electively home educated. Of these pupils 79 were known to not be of compulsory school age so they were excluded from the figures contained in this release, leaving a total of 1,964 pupils.

Data on electively home educated pupils is not mandatory for the local authority to provide. In some years, there is not full coverage from all local authorities for this data (presented in table 10).

Known under-coverage includes:

- In 2012/13 Caerphilly did not submit data for home educated pupils.
- In 2016/17 and 2017/18 Carmarthenshire did not submit data for home educated pupils.

## **Users and uses**

The statistics are used both within and outside the Welsh Government to monitor educational trends and as a baseline for further analysis of the underlying data. Some of the key users are:

- Ministers and the Members Research Service in the National Assembly for Wales
- other government departments
- local authorities and schools
- Estyn, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Education and Training in Wales
- The Department for Education and Skills in the Welsh Government
- other areas of the Welsh Government
- the research community
- students, academics and universities
- individual citizens, private companies and the media.

These statistics are used in a variety of ways. Some examples of these are:

- to advise Ministers
- to inform the education policy decision-making process in Wales
- to inform Estyn during inspections
- to assist in research in educational attainment.

## **Accuracy**

The Welsh Government works closely with local authorities in order to ensure all data are validated before tables are published. Data are collated into an electronic return and submitted to the Welsh Government through DEWi, a secure online data transfer system developed by the Welsh Government. Various stages of automated validation and sense-checking are built into the process to ensure a high quality of data.



Starting in 2011/12, following the collection of the data an additional validation period was carried out in which local authorities were sent summary tables of their data and asked to check that they were correct. While most of the data were confirmed to be correct, these checking periods highlighted problems with several local authorities' data which were resolved, further improving the accuracy of the data.

### **Revisions**

In table 10, in 2016/17, the total published rate for Wales included pupils in the local authority where there were no electively home educated pupils. For consistency, the calculation for the Wales rate should not include the number of pupils in local authorities where there are no children electively home-educated. Therefore, the 2016/17 Wales rate has been revised.

### **Timeliness and punctuality**

This release is published each year in July. The local authorities are provided with a period to upload data and respond to validation queries prior to the publication of results.

### **Accessibility and clarity**

This Statistical First Release is pre-announced and then published on the Statistics section of the Welsh Government's website. It is accompanied by more detailed tables on [StatsWales](#), a free-to-use service that allows visitors to view, manipulate and download data.

### **Comparability and coherence**

Tables and charts in this statistical first release contain data about different groups of EOTAS pupils as defined in the 'Definitions' section below. Whether the tables and charts are referring to EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school, whose main education is at a maintained school or all EOTAS pupils is clearly indicated, so before comparing two tables or charts please check that they are referring to the same group of EOTAS pupils.

Pupils by age ([Table 3](#)) and by SEN ([Table 4](#)) can be set in context by comparing to the general school population. The relevant data can be found in the publication of final school census results here: [Schools' census results](#)

From 2017/18, [StatsWales tables](#) are published to accompany this statistical first release.

England publishes the number of pupils on roll at Pupil Referral Units and Alternative Provision in the statistical release entitled 'Schools, pupils and their characteristics: January 2018'. The latest available statistics can be found here: [School, pupils and their characteristics: January 2018](#)

Related statistics for Northern Ireland can be found here: [Education Outside of School](#)

## Definitions

### Definitions of pupils educated other than at school

In the context of this statistical release:

- a pupil being educated other than at school (EOTAS) was recorded as receiving or awaiting education provision funded by the local authority otherwise than in a maintained school setting during the census week of the EOTAS Pupil Census. A pupil may also be included in this category if:
  - they attend an independent or non-maintained special school for which the local authority is responsible for paying all or part of the tuition fees;
  - they are placed in a maintained school as part of their education funded by the local authority.
- the phrase EOTAS pupil is used to refer to a pupil educated other than at school as defined above.
- an EOTAS pupil whose main education is other than at school is a pupil being educated other than at school who is either not on roll at a maintained school or is recorded as having a 'subsidiary' enrolment status at a maintained school in the January Pupil-Level Annual School Census.
- an EOTAS pupil whose main education is in a maintained school is a pupil being educated other than at school with a 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in the January Pupil-Level Annual School Census.
- pupils being electively home educated are children whose parents have decided to educate at home rather than at school and are not classed as EOTAS pupils in this publication. Although by definition they are educated other than at school, education for these pupils is not funded by the local authority and there is no legal basis under which the local authority can collect personal data about them. Data on electively home educated pupils are restricted to headcounts by local authority and are provided voluntarily by the local authority. Figures related to pupils electively home educated have been reported in separate tables to those relating to EOTAS pupils.

### Free school meal (FSM) eligibility

Children whose parents receive the following support payments are eligible to receive free school meals in maintained schools in Wales:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income does not exceed £16,190

- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on'- the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit.

Children who receive income related employment and support allowance, Universal Credit, Income Support or Income Based Job Seekers Allowance in their own right are also eligible to receive Free School Meals.

Pupils should only be recorded as eligible if they have applied for free school meals to the local authority and (1) the relevant authority has confirmed their eligibility, or (2) final confirmation of eligibility is still awaited but the school has seen documents that strongly indicate eligibility.

### **Special educational needs (SEN)**

Pupils known to have special educational needs can be in one of the following categories:

- **School Action:** When a class or subject teacher identifies that a pupil has special educational needs they provide interventions that are additional to, or different from, those provided as part of the school's usual curriculum.
- **School Action Plus:** When the class or subject teacher and the SEN Co-ordinator are provided with advice or support from outside specialists, so that alternative interventions additional to, or different from, those provided for the pupil through 'School Action' can be put in place.
- **Statement:** Pupils for whom the local authority maintains a statement of special educational needs under Part IV of the Education Act 1996. A statement may be issued by the local authority after assessment of a child's needs.

### **Rounding and symbols**

In tables where figures have been rounded to the nearest final digit, there may be an apparent discrepancy between the sum of the constituent items and the total shown.

The following symbols have been used throughout this publication:

- . data item is not applicable.
- .. data item is not available.
- data item is not zero, but would be rounded to zero because less than half the final digit is shown.
- \* data item is disclosive.

## **National Statistics status**

The [United Kingdom Statistics Authority](#) has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#).

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the UK Statistics Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is Welsh Government's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

## **Well-being of Future Generations Act (WFG)**

The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act puts in place seven well-being goals for Wales. These are for a more equal, prosperous, resilient, healthier and globally responsible Wales, with cohesive communities and a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language. Under section (10)(1) of the Act, the Welsh Ministers must (a) publish indicators ("national indicators") that must be applied for the purpose of measuring progress towards the achievement of the Well-being goals, and (b) lay a copy of the national indicators before the National Assembly. The 46 national indicators were laid in March 2016.

Information on the indicators, along with narratives for each of the well-being goals and associated technical information is available in the [Well-being of Wales report](#).

Further information on the [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#).

The statistics included in this release could also provide supporting narrative to the national indicators and be used by public services boards in relation to their local well-being assessments and local well-being plans.

## Further details

The document is available at:

<https://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/pupils-educated-other-than-school/?lang=en>

## Accessing the data electronically

The data behind some of the charts and tables in this release can be found on [StatsWales](#) (a free-to-use internet service that allows visitors to view, manipulate, create and download tables and charts).

Further data relating to these tables or attendance data for individual schools is available on request; please email [school.stats@gov.wales](mailto:school.stats@gov.wales).

## Next update

July 2019 (provisional)

The next update will cover the 2018/19 academic year.

## We want your feedback

We welcome any feedback on any aspect of these statistics which can be provided by email to [school.stats@gov.wales](mailto:school.stats@gov.wales).

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