

Statistical Bulletin 2/2019

Annual enrolments at schools and in funded pre-school education in Northern Ireland, 2018/19

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This bulletin was revised on the 25th March to correct the number of pupils in years 8-12/sixth form (Fig 3b) and the number of pupils in nursery units/reception (Fig 1, Table 2a, Table 2c, Table 3, Table 7).

The purpose of this statistical release is to present final enrolment figures for schools and for children in funded pre-school education for 2018/19.

Key points:

- There are 174,523 pupils in **primary** schools (years 1-7), and this has risen by nearly 800 pupils this year to the highest total since 1999/00.
- In total 142,239 pupils are enrolled in **post-primary** schools, increasing by nearly 1,700 pupils from 2017/18. There are approximately 28,000 pupils in **sixth forms** in schools, 63% of all 16-17 year olds in Northern Ireland.
- There are 23,576 pupils in **funded pre-school education**, a slight increase on last year. This is 92% of three year olds in the population.
- More than 99,000 pupils in Northern Ireland are entitled to **free school meals** and this represents three in ten of all pupils.

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Introduction

Provisional enrolment data from the 2018/19 annual school census was released in December 2018. The purpose of this statistical release is to present the final enrolment figures, and a more detailed analysis of this information.

The data are taken from the school census exercise, which ran in October 2018. Data collected through the school census exercise are used by the Department of Education (DE) to inform a wide range of policy areas, including finance allocations, school estate development and planning, special education, school improvement, area based planning, extended schools, additional educational needs, early years and integrated and Irish medium education. Other users include the Education Authority, the Education and Training Inspectorate and to inform responses to Assembly questions and requests from academic researchers, journalists, lobby groups and the public.

Statistics relating to school numbers and enrolments can be found on the Statistics and Research section of the DE website¹. Analysis is provided at Northern Ireland and school level.

This is an annual publication. Provisional data relating to the 2019/20 academic year will be released in December 2019, with a 2019/20 update of this publication being released in February/March 2020.

¹ <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-research/statistics>

Section 1: Funded pre school education

1.1. Number of institutions

- There are a total of 771 institutions in Northern Ireland providing funded pre-school education (Table 1a). The total number of institutions offering pre-school education has dropped by two this year.
 - Half of all funded pre-school providers are funded voluntary and private pre-school centres, that is, playgroups and day nurseries. There are 386 funded centres this year.
 - Compared to last year, there are three more funded voluntary and private pre-school centres. There are also eight fewer primary schools that have reception provision compared to last year². However, there are an additional three primary schools with nursery provision.

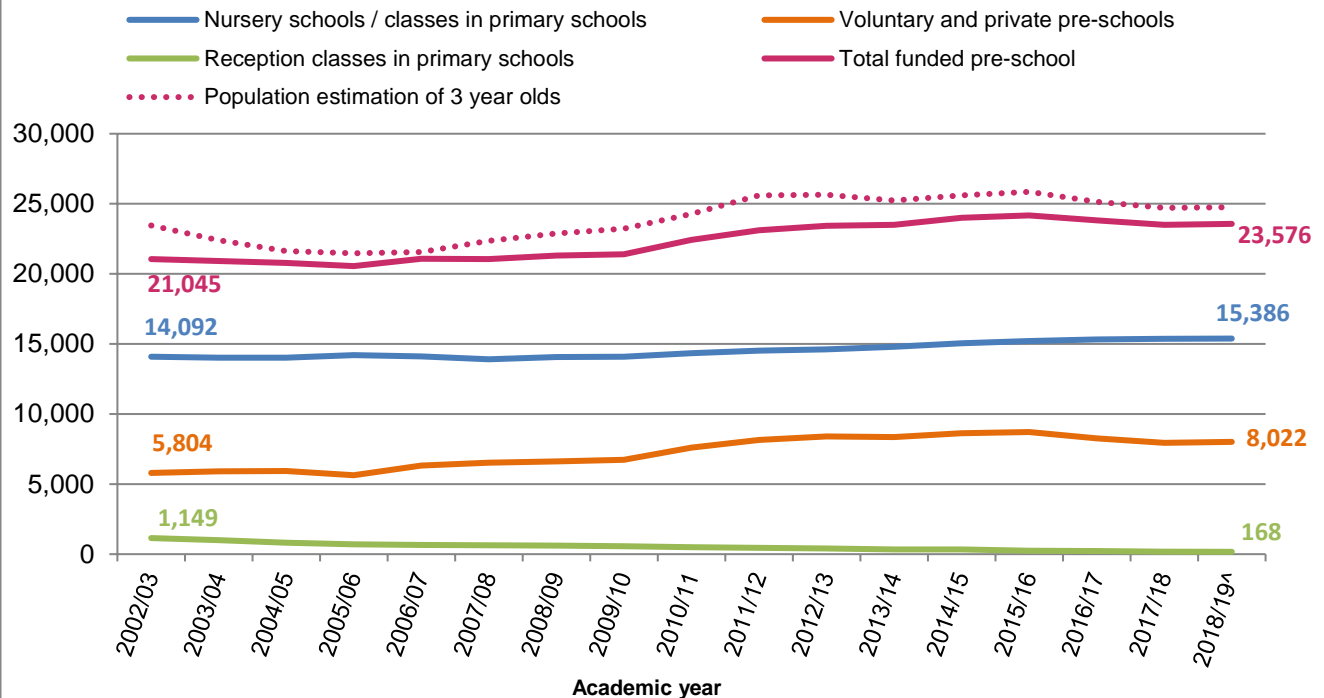
1.2. Enrolments

- There are 23,576 pupils in funded pre-school education (Table 2a). This has risen by 76 compared to last year representing a slight increase after 2 years of falling enrolments in pre-school.
 - However, this is mirrored by a slight increase to the number of three year olds in the population this year. The proportion of three year olds in the Northern Ireland population that were in funded pre-school education has risen slightly this year (92%)³.

² Investing in Early Learning, published in 1997, set out the Department's 'intention to replace reception provision with suitable alternative provision so that all children below compulsory school age in school settings will be in planned pre-school provision which meets specified standards' and proposed that 'no new reception provision in primary schools (i.e. provision in schools where a reception class or group does not exist in the 1998/99 school year) will be funded from September 1999'. This policy was implemented with the introduction of the Pre-School Education Programme in 1998.

³ This is calculated by dividing the number of pupils aged 3 in preschool education according to the NI school census (22,715) by the number of children aged 3 in the 2018 population projections (24,758) (the most recent available at time of publication): https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/NPP16-ppp-sya_0.xls

Figure 1: Funded pre-school enrolment by school type, 2002/03 to 2018/19 R



¹2002-2017 population figures are based on NISRA mid-year estimates. As 2018 figures were unavailable at the time of publication, the number of three year olds per the NISRA population projections have been used instead

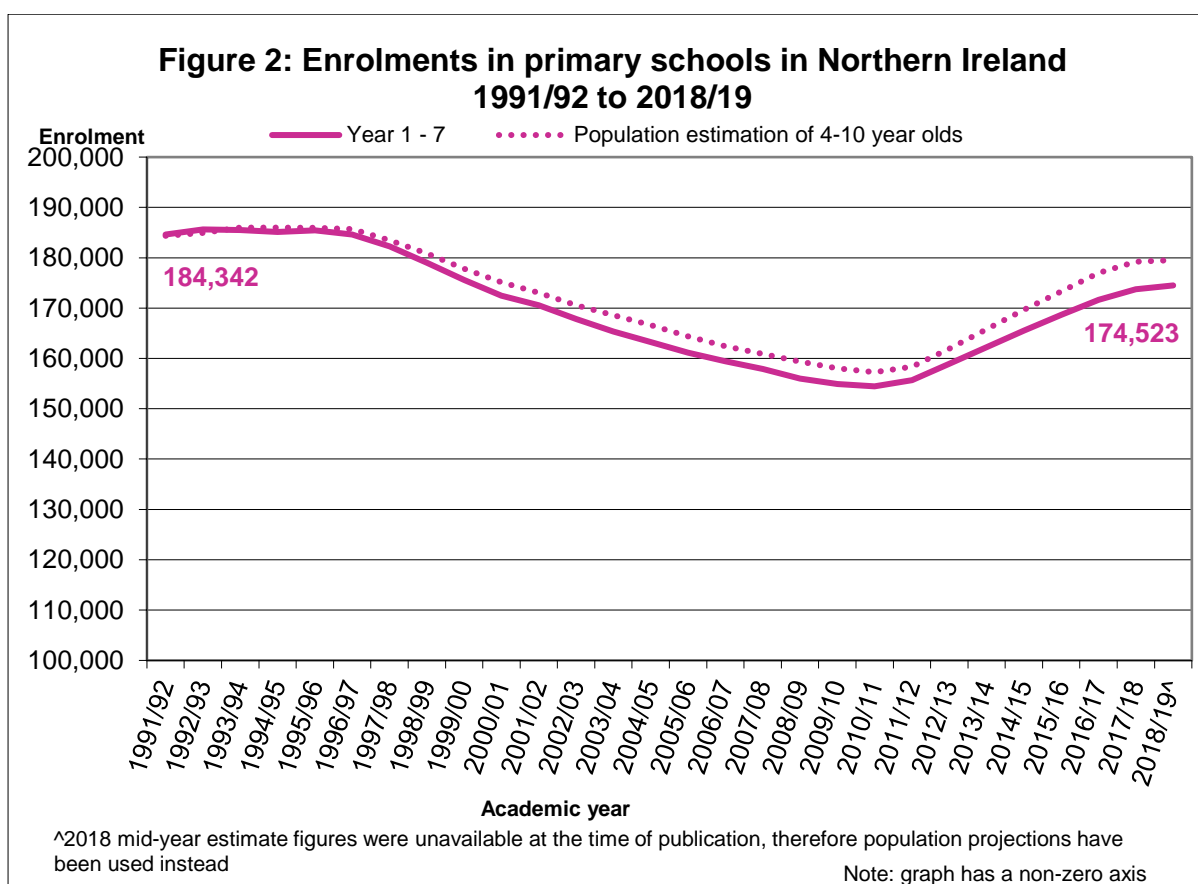
Section 2: Primary school education

2.1. Number of schools

- There are 813 primary schools (including preparatory departments) in Northern Ireland. This has dropped by 26 schools in the last five years (table 1b).

2.2. Enrolments

- Enrolments of pupils in years 1 to 7 have risen for the eighth year in succession. In October 2018 the total number of year 1-7 pupils was 174,523 (Table 2a), its highest level since 1999/00. Enrolments have increased sharply in recent years; by more than 20,000 pupils since 2010/11 and by nearly 800 compared to last year (Figure 2). The increase observed is in line with the rise in the number of 4-10 year olds in NISRA's mid-year estimates over the last eight years⁴.



⁴ https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/NI_sya_7117.xlsx and https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/NPP16-ppp-sya_0.xls

- With the increase in enrolments in primary schools and the reduction in the number of schools, the mean number of pupils per school has risen from 179 in 2010/11 to 215 in 2018/19.

2.3. Class size

- The average number of pupils per class in primary schools (year 1 – year 7) remains steady at 25 (Table 4). Average class sizes differ depending on school type, from 20 in preparatory departments, to 27 in grant maintained integrated schools.

Section 3: Post primary school education

3.1. Number of schools

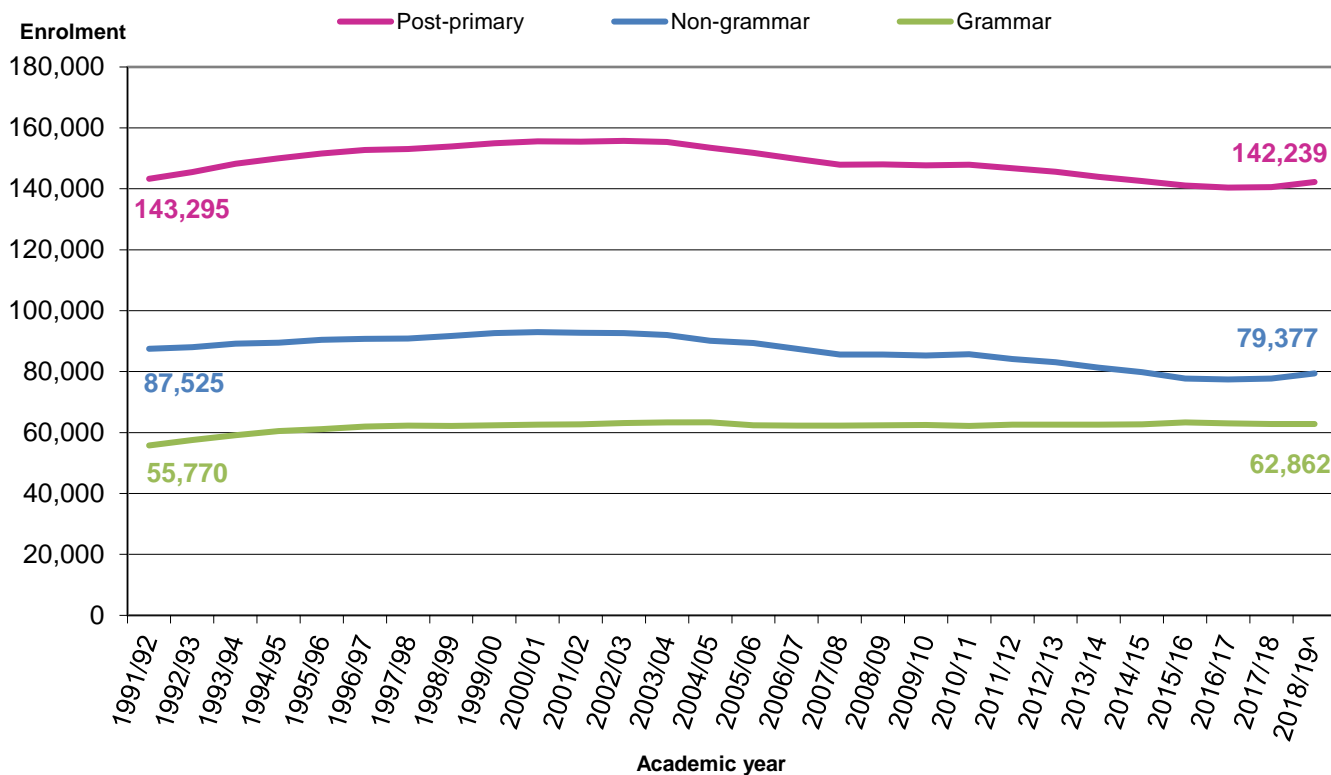
- The number of post-primary schools in 2018/19 is 196 (Table 1b), a decrease of 14 from five years ago. This is accounted for mainly by a drop in the number of non-grammar schools.
- One-third (66) of post-primary schools are grammar schools and the remaining two-thirds (130) are non-grammars.
- A total of 161⁵ schools have pupils in sixth form.

3.2. Enrolments

- The number of pupils in post-primary schools is 142,239 (Table 2a). Enrolments have dropped by over 13,000 pupils since its peak in 2002/03. However, it has risen almost 1,700 pupils in 2018/19 (Figure 3a).
- Increases in enrolments in both grammar and non-grammar schools are witnessed this year. However, the rise is mainly in non-grammar, accounting for nearly 1,650 of the increase. The proportion of post-primary school pupils attending grammar schools remains high (44.2% in 2018/19 compared to 37.2% in 1986/87).

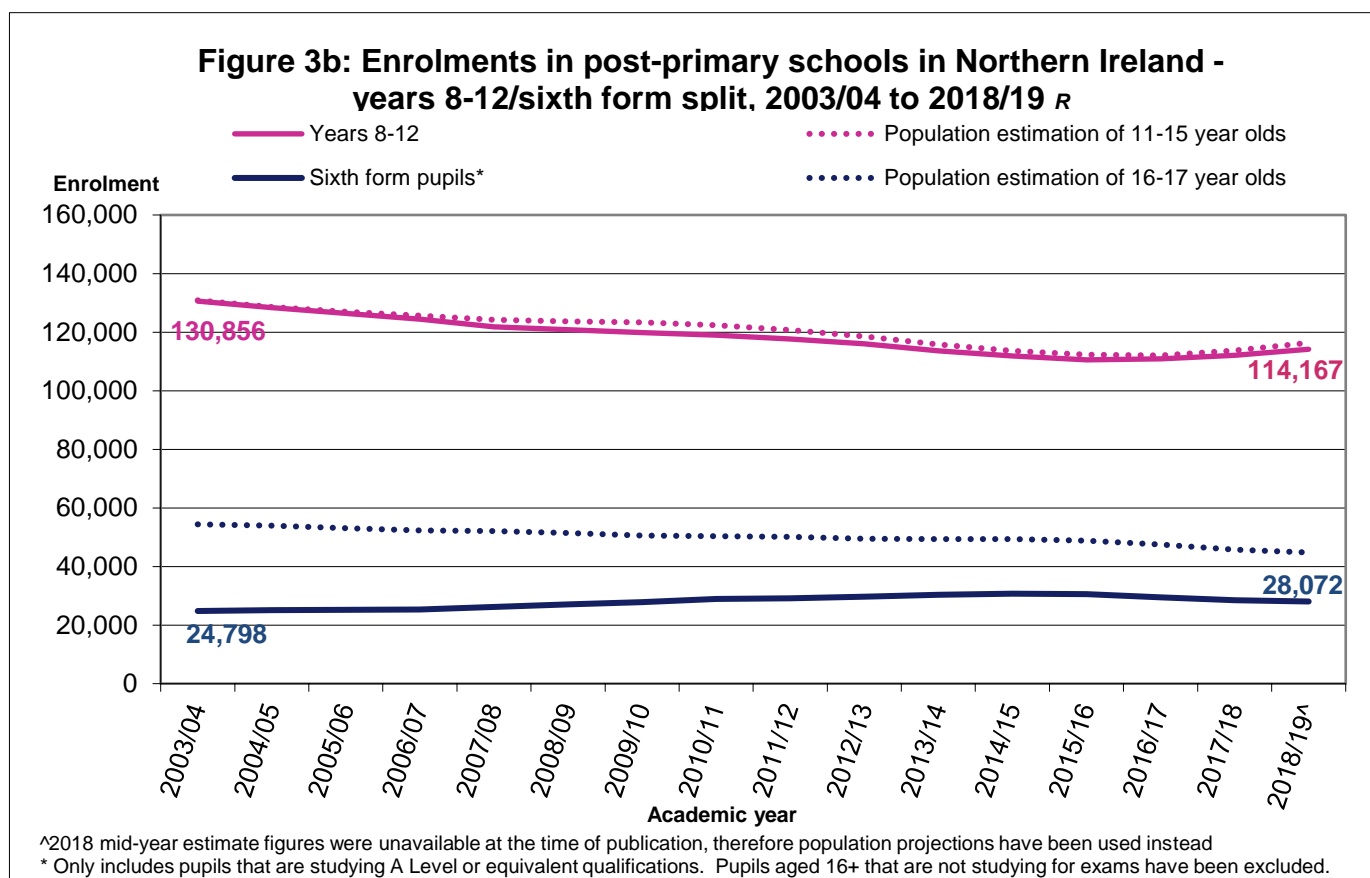
⁵ St Joseph's College, Coleraine has been included in this figure, however, this school is on a phased closure; there are only 7 pupils enrolled in year 14 this academic year.

Figure 3a: Enrolments in post-primary schools in Northern Ireland - grammar/non-grammar split, 1991/92 to 2018/19



3.3. Enrolments by year groups

- There are more than 2,000 additional pupils in years 8-12 compared to last year. This is reflected in an increase in the number of 11-15 year olds in the population.
- There are more than 28,000 pupils studying A Level or equivalent qualifications in schools in Northern Ireland in 2018/19. This has decreased by nearly 500 pupils compared to last year. This may be explained by the fact that the number of 16 and 17 year olds in the population has also dropped by nearly 1,000 compared to last year.



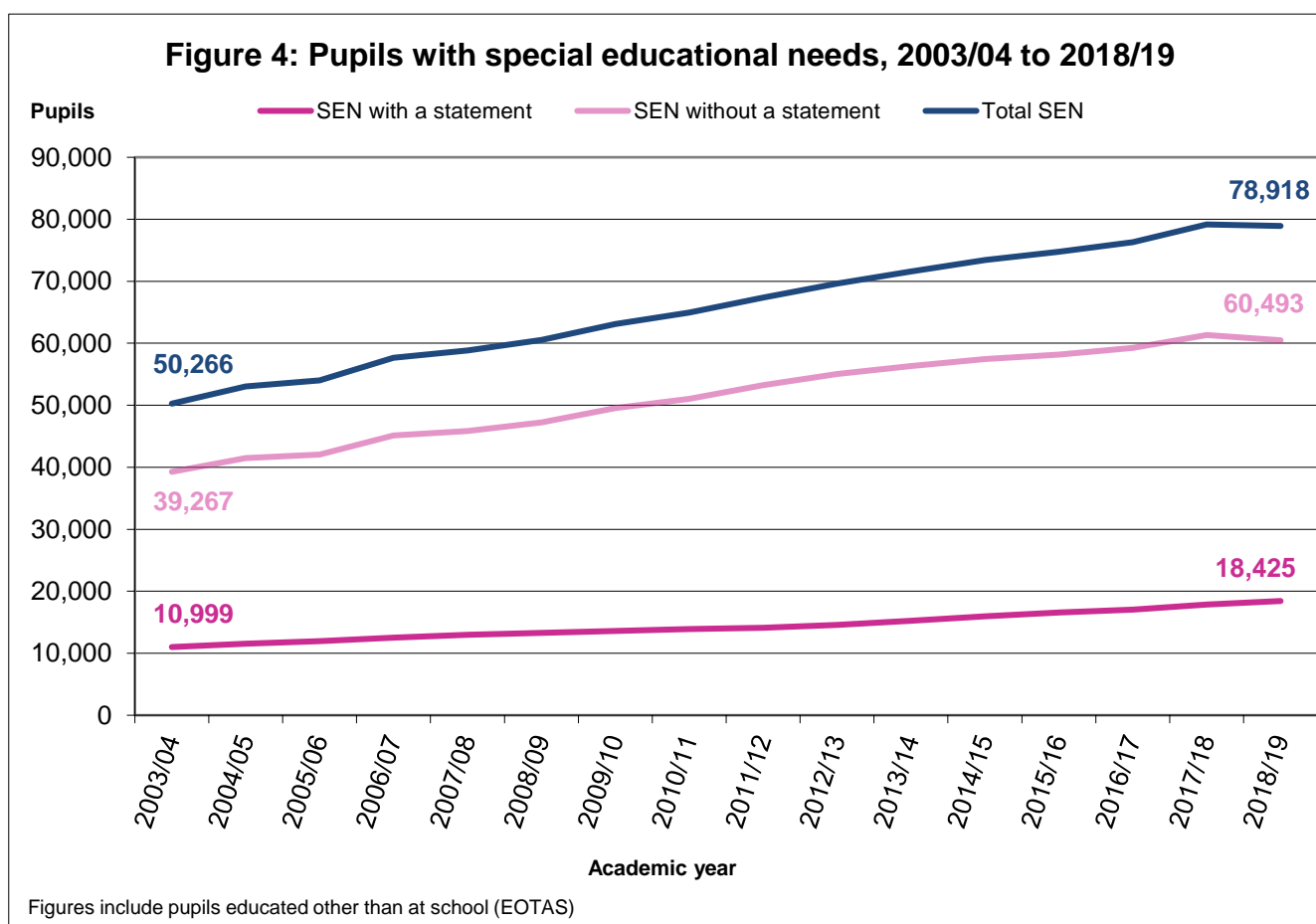
Overall, 63% of all 16 and 17 year olds in the population are studying A Level or equivalent qualifications in schools. This has stabilised in recent years but still represents a large increase from 46% in 2003/04.

- This differs substantially by gender; 72% of all girls aged 16 or 17 are studying A Levels or equivalent in schools compared to 53% of all boys.

Section 4: Special education

4.1. Special educational needs

- Nearly 79,000 pupils in schools have some form of special educational needs; this is 22.8% of the entire school population. Of this, more than 18,000, or 5.3% of pupils, have a statement of special educational needs⁶ (Table 7).
- The number of pupils with special educational needs has been steadily rising, until now. This year the total number of pupils with any special education needs has decreased by 250 pupils. The main decrease is SEN without a statement, in contrast there are more than 580 additional pupils with statements compared to last year (Figure 4).



⁶ A statement of special educational needs is issued to children with the most severe needs. It sets out the child’s needs and the help they should have.

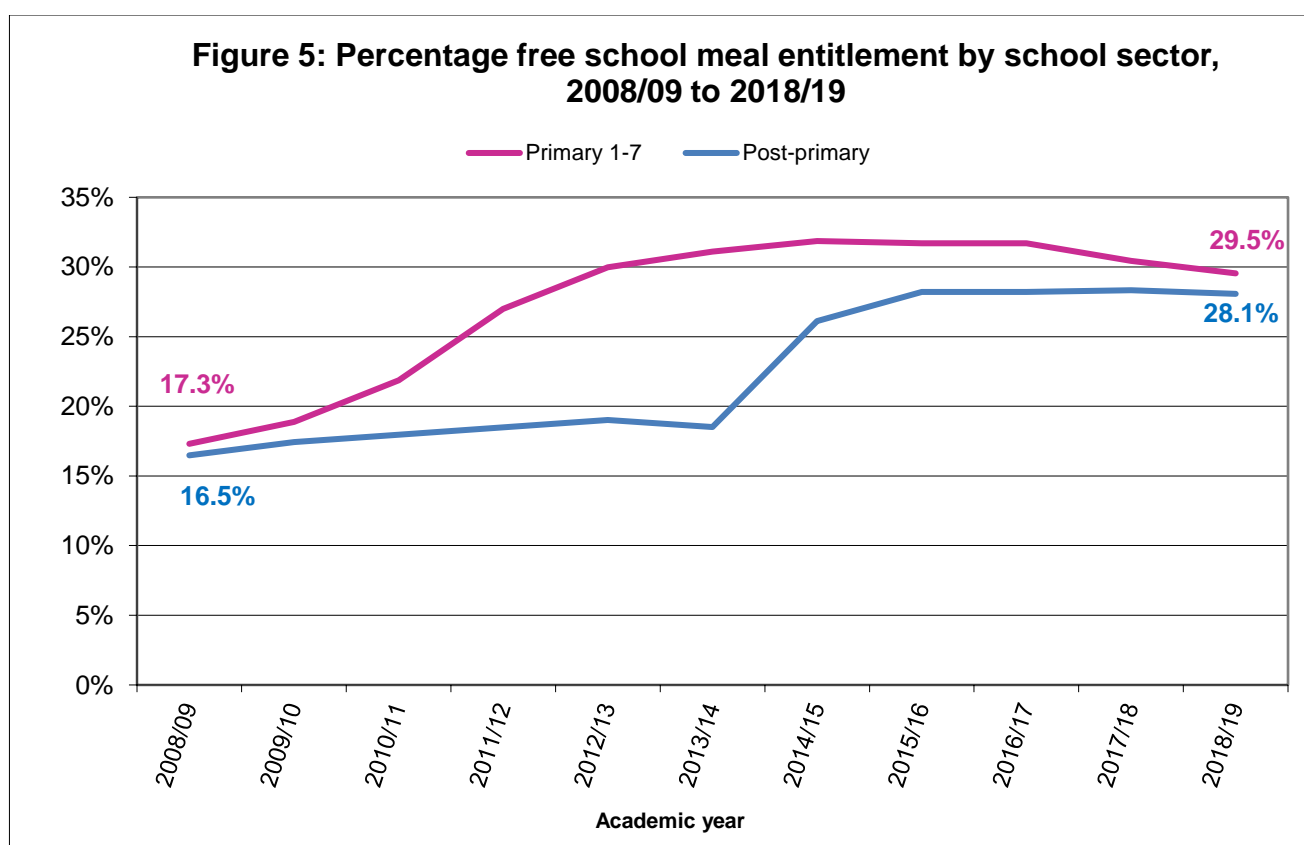
4.2. Special school enrolments

- Almost 6,000 pupils are enrolled in 39 dedicated special schools (Table 1b; Table 2a). In addition to this, more than 1,900 are educated in learning support centres in primary and post-primary schools across 94 schools.
- Pupils with special educational needs are increasingly being educated in mainstream schools rather than special schools. In 2003/04, 39.6% of statemented pupils⁷ and 9.8% of pupils with any needs attended special schools. In 2018/19 the corresponding figures have dropped to 30.3% and 7.8% respectively.

⁷ Figures relate to primary (years 1-7) and post-primary pupils only

Section 5: Free school meal entitlement⁸

- The overall percentage of children entitled to free school meals has dropped from 29.9% to 29.3% this year. This 29.3% equates to more than 99,000 free school meal entitled pupils in nursery, primary, post-primary and special schools (Table 3).
- Free school meal entitlement differs significantly by school type. Grammar schools (14.1%) and pre-school settings (22.5%) have the lowest proportions of free school meal entitled pupils, whereas non-grammar (39.2%) and special (52.0%) have the highest. Primary (year 1-7) (29.5%) and post primary (28.1%) have remained fairly constant over the past few years, dropping slightly this year. (Figure 5)



⁸ <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/articles/school-milk-and-meals-background>

⁹ Eligibility under Working Tax Credit free school meal criterion was introduced on a phased basis with Nursery, Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils eligible from September 2010 and Key Stage 2 pupils eligible from September 2011. It was extended to post-primary pupils from September 2014.

Section 6: Changes in enrolment patterns

This final section details changes in enrolment patterns in schools in recent years.

6.1. Diversity in schools

- Schools are increasingly becoming more ethnically diverse. There are more than 16,000 pupils in schools in Northern Ireland recorded as “non-white”, and this represents 4.6% of the school population (Table 6a). This is an increase of almost 4,300 pupils and 1.2 percentage points compared to five years prior.
- There is also a rise year-on-year in the number of pupils whose first language is not English (an increase of more than 1,600 from last year). In 2018/19, there are approximately 90 first languages spoken by pupils, with Polish and Lithuanian being the most common behind English.
- As such, there has been an increase in the number and proportion of newcomer pupils in schools in Northern Ireland (Table 6b). A newcomer pupil is one who has enrolled in a school but who does not have the satisfactory language skills to participate fully in the school curriculum. In 2018/19, there are more than 16,200 newcomer pupils accounting for 4.7% of the school population. This has risen by more than 5,500 pupils from five years prior.
- The growth in diversity in the school system may be explained by increased levels of migration among school age children over the last number of years¹⁰.

6.2. Integrated education

- There are over 23,600 pupils enrolled in integrated schools – over 11,000 in primary schools and more than 12,500 in post-primary schools. The number enrolled has increased by more than 500 pupils compared to last year, and almost 1,900 pupils compared to five years ago.

¹⁰ https://www.nisra.gov.uk/sites/nisra.gov.uk/files/publications/NI_NetMig_sya_0117.xlsx

- This growth is mainly seen in primary schools, and could be explained by the fact that three primary schools transformed to integrated status in the last three years.

6.3. Irish medium education

- Over 6,500 pupils participate in funded Irish medium education, with more than 4,500 pupils educated in dedicated Irish medium schools and pre-school settings and more than 1,300 pupils educated in Irish medium units attached to English-medium schools (Table 2b).
- The total number of pupils in funded Irish medium education has steadily risen over time, increasing by over 1,600 pupils since 2013/14 and more than 300 pupils since last year. Most of this increase is coming from greater enrolments in Irish medium schools rather than units.

6.4. Educated other than at school (EOTAS)

- This year, for the second time, data was collected on pupils educated in a setting other than a school (EOTAS centres). EOTAS makes educational provision for children with social, emotional, behavioural, medical or other issues who, without its provision cannot access suitable education.
- In total, 676 pupils were enrolled in EOTAS centres in October 2018. This includes pupils that are 'dual registered' with a mainstream school, and may be accessing the EOTAS centre for a temporary period. Just 74 pupils are 'single registered' at EOTAS centres; this means that they no longer have a link to a mainstream school.

Notes for readers

National Statistics

1. 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 Official Statistics.

Annual enrolments at schools and in funded pre-school education in Northern Ireland statistics were re-assessed by the Statistics Authority in June 2009. Following work to address recommendations that were identified from the assessment (<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/publications/assessment-and-action-plan-statistics-enrolment-2009>), UKSA confirmed the re-designation of these statistics as National Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

2. For general enquiries about National Statistics, contact the National Statistics Public Enquiry Service on 0845 601 3034
minicom: 01633 815 044

E-mail: info@ons.gsi.gov.uk

Fax: 01633 652747

Letters: Customer Contact Centre, Office for National Statistics, Rm D265,
Government Buildings, Cardiff Road, Newport, NP10 8XG

3. You can also find National Statistics on the Internet: <http://www.ons.gov.uk>

School Census

4. The statistics in this release have been derived from the annual school census; details can be found at <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/publications/school-enrolments-data-collection-and-validation>. For voluntary and private pre-school centres, and nursery schools, the census consists of a return via an online app/ paper return comprising a number of tables; for post-primary, primary and special schools, and EOTAS centres, it consists of a return comprising individual pupil

records, made by Electronic Data Interchange. The tables presented in the release reflect key information on enrolments, as determined by Departmental needs and also on requests for information from other sources.

The figures for pre-school children in this release relate to children in funded pre-school education. The figures for nursery classes relate to approved nursery classes in primary schools. The figures for reception refer to pupils who were below compulsory school age at 1st July 2018, who were admitted to a reception class or group in primary school following their 4th birthday. Schools may admit reception pupils throughout the year, but only those who have been admitted or will be admitted by 31st October are counted in the school census.

5. Further statistics relating to school numbers and enrolments can be found on the DE website (www.education-ni.gov.uk) under the Statistics and Research section.

The DE website presents figures taken from the school census, summarised at Northern Ireland and school level. Statistics on pupil attendance, pupil: teacher ratios, school leaver destinations and qualifications may also be accessed via the website.

6. The data is produced at aggregate level only, therefore individual pupils cannot be identified. More information on confidentiality can be found in the DE Confidentiality and Access Statement at the following link:
<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/education/Confidentiality%20and%20Access.pdf>

School types

7. Definitions of school management types are as follows:
 - **Controlled:** Schools are managed and funded by the Education Authority (EA) through Boards of Governors (BoG). Primary and post-primary school BoGs consist of representatives of transferors - mainly the Protestant churches - along with representatives of parents, teachers and the EA.
 - **Voluntary:** Self-governing schools, generally of long standing, originally established to provide an academic education at post primary level on a fee paying basis. Now funded by the Department and managed by Boards of Governors. The BoGs are constituted in accordance with each school's scheme of management - usually representatives of foundation governors, parents, teachers and in most cases, DE or EA representatives. The BoGs is the employing authority and is responsible for the employment of all staff in its school.
 - **Maintained** schools are managed by Boards of Governors which consist of members nominated by trustees, along with representatives of parents, teachers and the Education Authority. These schools are funded through the Education Authority for their running costs and directly by the Department in relation to capital building works. For **Catholic Maintained** schools, the Employing Authority is

the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (CCMS). **Other maintained** schools are any schools that are not Catholic maintained. They are typically, but not exclusively, **Irish medium schools**.

- **Controlled integrated:** Controlled schools which have acquired integrated status.
- **Grant Maintained integrated:** Self-governing schools with integrated education status, funded directly by the Department of Education and managed by Boards of Governors. The BoG is the employing authority and responsible for employing staff.

8. Definitions of other school types are as follows

- A **special school** is a controlled or voluntary school which is specially organised to provide education for pupils with special needs and is recognised by the DE as a special school.
- An **independent school** is a school at which full-time education is provided for pupils aged from 4 to 16 and is not grant aided. These schools set their own curriculum and admissions policies and are funded by fees paid by parents and income from investments. Each independent school must be registered with DE and is inspected regularly by ETI.
- **Education Other Than at School (EOTAS)** includes all forms of education that takes place outside the formal school environment.

Revisions

9. The 2018/19 figures in this statistical release are based on information as at 5 October 2018. They may be subject to minor revision and these will be notified in accordance with our revisions policy. This can be accessed at <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/education/Revisions%20policy.pdf>

Details of revisions are as follows:

- 25th March: to correct the number of pupils in years 8-12/sixth form (Fig 3b)
- 25th March: to correct the number of pupils in nursery units/reception (Fig 1, Table 2a, Table 2c, Table 3, Table 7)

Corrected tables have been marked with an R

Further enquiries

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Special analyses of the school census can be undertaken on request.

Press enquiries should be made to the Department's Press Office at the same address, telephone (028) 9127 9268 / fax (028) 9127 9271.

Feedback on this publication can be provided directly via the contact details above or via the website: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/contacts/analytical-services-unit-asu>

Table 1a: The number of pre-school providers with funded places, by centre type and management type, 2013/14 to 2018/19

		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Nursery Schools	Controlled	64	64	64	64	64	64
	Catholic Maintained	32	32	32	31	31	31
	TOTAL	96	96	96	95	95	95
Primary Schools with Funded Nursery Units	Controlled¹	112	114	115	116	118	119
	Catholic Maintained²	88	88	89	90	90	90
	Other Maintained³	11	13	13	14	15	16
	Controlled Integrated	3	3	3	3	4	5
	Grant Maintained Integrated	14	14	15	15	16	16
	TOTAL	228	232	235	238	243	246
Primary Schools with Funded Reception Classes	Controlled	26	22	21	23	18	13
	Catholic Maintained	45	43	42	35	31	29
	Other Maintained	1	1	1	-	-	-
	Controlled Integrated	4	4	3	3	3	2
	Grant Maintained Integrated	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL	76	70	67	61	52	44
Voluntary and private pre-School centres with funded places	Voluntary	343	342	343	343	329	331
	Private	53	59	62	56	54	55
	TOTAL	396	401	405	399	383	386
All Centres	GRAND TOTAL⁴	795	798	803	793	773	771

1 Includes two Irish medium schools with a nursery unit in 2018/19

2 Includes one Irish medium school with a nursery unit in 2018/19

3 Includes one non Irish medium school with a nursery unit in 2018/19

4 The sum of the subtotals will not sum to the grand total as some primary schools have both nursery and reception classes

Table 1b: The number of schools by school type and management type, 2013/14 to 2018/19

		2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	
Nursery Schools	Controlled	64	64	64	64	64	64	
	Catholic Maintained	32	32	32	31	31	31	
	TOTAL	96	96	96	95	95	95	
Primary Schools	Controlled ¹	370	370	368	366	365	365	
	Catholic Maintained ^{2,5}	384	381	374	370	367	363	
	Other Maintained	Irish Medium ³	25	25	25	25	25	25
		Other	4	4	4	3	3	3
	Controlled Integrated	19	19	20	22	22	22	
	Grant Maintained Integrated	23	23	23	23	23	23	
	TOTAL	825	822	814	809	805	801	
Preparatory Departments ⁴	Controlled	3	3	2	1	1	1	
	Voluntary	Schools under Catholic Management	-	-	-	-	-	-
		Schools under Other Management	11	11	11	11	11	11
	TOTAL	14	14	13	12	12	12	
Secondary (Non Grammar) Schools	Controlled	53	51	49	49	49	48	
	Catholic Maintained ⁶	68	68	64	64	62	60	
	Other Maintained	Irish Medium	1	1	2	2	2	2
		Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Controlled Integrated	5	5	5	5	5	5	
	Grant Maintained Integrated	15	15	15	15	15	15	
TOTAL	142	140	135	135	133	130		
Grammar Schools	Controlled	17	18	17	16	16	16	
	Voluntary	Schools under Catholic Management ⁷	29	29	29	29	29	29
		Schools under Other Management	22	21	21	21	21	21
	TOTAL	68	68	67	66	66	66	
<u>Special Schools</u>	TOTAL	40	39	39	39	39	39	
<u>Hospital Schools</u>	TOTAL	1	1	1	1	1	1	
<u>Independent Schools</u>	TOTAL	15	14	14	14	14	14	
All schools	GRAND TOTAL	1,187	1,180	1,166	1,159	1,153	1,146	

¹ Includes one Irish Medium Controlled school in 2018/19

² Includes one Irish Medium Catholic Maintained school in 2018/19

³ Excludes two Irish Medium Controlled schools and one Irish Medium Catholic Maintained school in 2018/19

⁴ These are part of grammar schools.

⁵ Includes 7 schools with Irish medium units in 2018/19

⁶ Includes 2 schools with Irish medium units in 2018/19

⁷ Includes 1 school with Irish medium units in 2018/19

Table 2a: Pupils by school type and management type, 2018/19 R

	Controlled	Catholic Maintained	Other Maintained	Controlled Integrated	Grant Maintained Integrated	Voluntary		Non Grant-Aided	Voluntary pre-school centres	Private pre-school centres	EOTAS Centres	Grand Total
						Schools under Catholic Management	Schools under Other Management					
<u>PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION IN OTHER CENTRES (FUNDED PLACES ONLY)</u>												
Playgroups Part-time	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,819	323	-	7,142
Day Nurseries Part-time	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74	806	-	880
TOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,893	1,129	-	8,022
<u>NURSERY</u>												
Nursery Schools Full-time	2,365	1,565	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,930
Nursery Schools Part-time	1,746	156	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,902
Nursery Classes Full-time	2,287	2,376	317	81	133	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,194
Nursery Classes Part-time	2,244	1,523	156	22	415	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,360
TOTAL	8,642	5,620	473	103	548	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,386
<u>PRIMARY</u>												
Reception	46	105	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	168
Primary Schools (Year 1 - Year 7)	79,638	79,251	3,525	4,291	6,158	-	-	-	-	-	-	172,863
Prep. Departments (Year 1- Year 7)	66	-	-	-	-	-	1,594	-	-	-	-	1,660
TOTAL	79,750	79,356	3,525	4,308	6,158	-	1,594	-	-	-	-	174,691
<u>SECONDARY (Year 8 - Year 14)</u>												
Secondary (Non Grammar)	28,483	37,588	799	2,770	9,737	-	-	-	-	-	-	79,377
Grammar	14,015	-	-	-	-	28,414	20,433	-	-	-	-	62,862
TOTAL	42,498	37,588	799	2,770	9,737	28,414	20,433	-	-	-	-	142,239
<u>SPECIAL</u>												
<u>Educated off site but not at school (EOTAS)</u>	5,598	282	79	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,959
<u>INDEPENDENT</u>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74	74
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	611	-	-	-	611
GRAND TOTAL	136,488	122,846	4,876	7,181	16,443	28,414	22,027	611	6,893	1,129	74	346,982

Note:

- Enrolments for special schools and EOTAS centres relate those where pupils are single registered to the school, or are dual registered and the special school/EOTAS centre is recorded as the main school. Enrolments including these dual registered pupils are 5,989 for special schools and 566 for EOTAS centres. These additional pupils have been counted in another setting in the table above
- Previous bulletins provided enrolments in hospital schools. These pupils have been counted in their "main" school. There were 59 enrolled on Census day this year.

Table 2b: Pupils in Irish-medium education, 2013/14 to 2018/19

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Voluntary and private pre-schools - funded places	476	488	481	485	473	470
Nursery Classes in Irish-medium Schools						
Full-time	312	315	354	318	319	366
Part-time	-	52	26	76	105	103
Nursery Classes in Irish-medium units						
Full-time	26	30	30	30	26	26
Part-time	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	814	885	891	909	923	965
<u>PRIMARY</u>						
Primary Schools (Year 1 - Year 7)						
schools	2,570	2,738	2,906	3,103	3,324	3,473
units	686	720	764	802	832	878
TOTAL	3,256	3,458	3,670	3,905	4,156	4,351
<u>POST-PRIMARY (Year 8 - Year 14)</u>						
Post-primary Schools						
schools	564	581	620	694	734	799
units	267	332	344	355	371	404
TOTAL	831	913	964	1,049	1,105	1,203
<u>INDEPENDENT</u>	15	-	-	-	-	-
GRAND TOTAL	4,916	5,256	5,525	5,863	6,184	6,519

Note:

1. Figures relate to funded Irish medium provision only

Table 2c: Pupils in Integrated education¹, 2013/14 to 2018/19 R

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	
<i>PRIMARY</i>							
Nursery Classes	Full-time	212	213	212	211	205	214
	Part-time	317	337	367	388	441	437
Reception	10	8	15	18	22	17	
Year 1 - Year 7	9,100	9,404	9,529	9,953	10,226	10,449	
TOTAL	9,639	9,962	10,123	10,570	10,894	11,117	
<i>SECONDARY (Year 8 - Year 14)</i>							
Year 8 - Year 12	10,210	10,063	9,988	10,186	10,366	10,666	
Sixth form ²	1,896	1,931	1,906	1,851	1,828	1,841	
TOTAL	12,106	11,994	11,894	12,037	12,194	12,507	
GRAND TOTAL	21,745	21,956	22,017	22,607	23,088	23,624	

Note:

1. Figures include children attending Controlled Integrated schools and Grant Maintained Integrated Schools.
2. Sixth form figures are based solely on pupils studying A Level or equivalent qualifications

Table 3: Pupils entitled to Free School Meals¹ by school type and management type, 2018/19 R

Numbers and percentages²

		Number	Enrolment	Percentage
Voluntary and Private Pre-School Centres (funded places only)	Voluntary	685	6,893	9.9
	Private	43	1,129	3.8
	TOTAL	728	8,022	9.1
Nursery Schools <i>Full-time</i>	Controlled	1,003	2,365	42.4
	Catholic Maintained	795	1,565	50.8
	TOTAL	1,798	3,930	45.8
Nursery Schools <i>Part-time</i>	Controlled	190	1,746	10.9
	Catholic Maintained	9	156	5.8
	TOTAL	199	1,902	10.5
Nursery Classes <i>Full-time</i>	Controlled	882	2,287	38.6
	Catholic Maintained	958	2,376	40.3
	Other Maintained	135	317	42.6
	Controlled Integrated	42	81	51.9
	Grant Maintained Integrated	58	133	43.6
	TOTAL	2,075	5,194	39.9
Nursery Classes <i>Part-time</i>	Controlled	238	2,244	10.6
	Catholic Maintained	175	1,523	11.5
	Other Maintained	24	156	15.4
	Controlled Integrated	5	22	22.7
	Grant Maintained Integrated	36	415	8.7
TOTAL	478	4,360	11.0	
Reception pupils ³	TOTAL	23	168	13.7
TOTAL PRE-SCHOOL		5,301	23,576	22.5
Primary Schools (Year 1-Year 7)	Controlled	21,980	79,638	27.6
	Catholic Maintained	25,256	79,251	31.9
	Other Maintained - Irish Medium	1,301	3,164	41.1
	Other Maintained - Other	44	361	12.2
	Controlled Integrated	1,355	4,291	31.6
	Grant Maintained Integrated	1,576	6,158	25.6
	TOTAL	51,512	172,863	29.8
Prep. Departments ³	TOTAL	29	1,660	1.7
ALL PRIMARY AND PREP YEAR 1 - 7 PUPILS		51,541	174,523	29.5
Secondary (Non Grammar) Schools	Controlled	10,057	28,483	35.3
	Catholic Maintained	15,819	37,588	42.1
	Other Maintained - Irish Medium	457	799	57.2
	Controlled Integrated	1,078	2,770	38.9
	Grant Maintained Integrated	3,669	9,737	37.7
TOTAL	31,080	79,377	39.2	
Grammar Schools	Controlled	1,746	14,015	12.5
	Voluntary - Schools under Catholic Management	1,990	20,433	9.7
	Voluntary - Schools under Other Management	5,112	28,414	18.0
	TOTAL	8,848	62,862	14.1
ALL POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS		39,928	142,239	28.1
ALL PRIMARY AND POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS		91,469	316,762	28.9
ALL SPECIAL SCHOOLS		3,100	5,959	52.0
EOTAS Centres		24	74	32.4
ALL NURSERY, PRIMARY, POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS, SPECIAL SCHOOLS		99,142	338,275	29.3
ALL NURSERY, PRIMARY, POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS, SPECIAL SCHOOLS and EOTAS Centres⁵		99,166	338,349	29.3

¹ Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment Support Allowance where an award of income-based job-seekers allowance has been converted and the amount of the award remains unchanged; and Universal Credit are some of the benefits which determine eligibility for free school meals. As school meals are not universally available to children in pre-school education, parental receipt of these benefits is a better indicator of social disadvantage for the pre-school sector. Pupils who are recorded as entitled to free school meals in nursery classes in primary schools are also included in the totals.

² Percentages express the number of children in funded places whose parents were in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Employment Support Allowance where an award of income-based job-seekers allowance has been converted and the amount of the award remains unchanged; and Universal Credit at the time of first application for admission, as a proportion of all children in funded places. Thus, for example, 42.4% of children in full-time places in controlled nursery schools had parents in receipt of these benefits.

³ Due to the small numbers when analysing by management type, only the total has been provided.

⁴ Enrolments for special schools and EOTAS centres relate those where pupils are single registered to the school, or are dual registered and the special school/EOTAS centre is recorded as the main school.

⁵ Overall total excludes voluntary and private pre-school centres

Table 4: Average class size^{1,2,3,4} by school type and management type, 2018/19

		Average number of pupils per class
Nursery Schools	Controlled	26
	Catholic Maintained	26
	TOTAL	26
Nursery Classes	Controlled⁵	26
	Catholic Maintained⁶	26
	Other Maintained	26
	Irish Medium Other	27
	Controlled Integrated	23
	Grant Maintained Integrated	26
	TOTAL	26
Primary Schools (Year 1 - Year 7)	Controlled⁷	26
	Catholic Maintained⁶	25
	Other Maintained	22
	Irish Medium⁸ Other	23
	Controlled Integrated	25
	Grant Maintained Integrated	27
	TOTAL	25
Preparatory Departments (Year 1 - Year 7)	Controlled	11
	Voluntary	-
	Schools under Catholic Management	20
	Schools under Other Management	20
	TOTAL	20

¹. Class size data is only collected in respect of nursery and primary schools and prep. departments.

². Children in learning support centres are excluded.

³. Any reception pupils in primary classes are excluded.

⁴. Any primary school classes that are solely reception have been excluded.

⁵. Includes one Irish medium school.

⁶. Includes one Irish medium school.

⁷. Includes two Irish medium schools.

⁸. Excludes two Controlled and one Catholic maintained Irish medium school.

Table 5: Religion of pupils by school type and management type, 2018/19
Nursery, Primary, Post Primary and Special Schools

		Protestant	Catholic	Other Christian/Non Christian/ No religion/Not recorded	Total
Voluntary and Private Pre-School Centres (funded children only)	Voluntary	1,783	3,349	1,761	6,893
	Private	373	323	433	1,129
	TOTAL	2,156	3,672	2,194	8,022
Nursery Schools	Controlled	1,833	1,234	1,044	4,111
	Catholic Maintained	32	1,475	214	1,721
	TOTAL	1,865	2,709	1,258	5,832
Nursery Classes & Reception	Controlled	2,286	556	1,735	4,577
	Catholic Maintained	62	3,682	260	4,004
	Other Maintained	39	386	48	473
	Controlled Integrated	33	48	39	120
	Grant Maintained Integrated	154	211	183	548
	TOTAL	2,574	4,883	2,265	9,722
Primary Schools (Year 1 - Year 7)	Controlled	49,936	6,278	23,424	79,638
	Catholic Maintained	637	75,330	3,284	79,251
	Other Maintained	264	2,933	328	3,525
	Controlled Integrated	1,569	1,189	1,533	4,291
	Grant Maintained Integrated	1,825	2,556	1,777	6,158
	TOTAL	54,231	88,286	30,346	172,863
Prep. Departments (Year 1 - Year 7)	Controlled	35	*	#	66
	Voluntary	696	#	#	1,594
	TOTAL	731	228	701	1,660
Secondary (Non Grammar) Schools	Controlled	22,028	1,131	5,324	28,483
	Catholic Maintained	#	35,597	#	37,588
	Other Maintained	*	741	#	799
	Controlled Integrated	1,600	422	748	2,770
	Grant Maintained Integrated	3,796	3,908	2,033	9,737
	TOTAL	28,026	41,799	9,552	79,377
Grammar Schools (Year 8 - Year 14)	Controlled	9,723	1,404	2,888	14,015
	Voluntary - Schools under Catholic Management	360	27,295	759	28,414
	Voluntary - Schools under Other Management	12,528	2,786	5,119	20,433
	TOTAL	22,611	31,485	8,766	62,862
Special Schools	Controlled	2,063	2,265	1,270	5,598
	Catholic Maintained	8	260	14	282
	Other Maintained	25	30	24	79
	TOTAL	2,096	2,555	1,308	5,959
EOTAS Centres		24	32	18	74
ALL FUNDED PRE-SCHOOL, NURSERY, PRIMARY, POST-PRIMARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS		114,290	175,617	56,390	346,297
ALL FUNDED PRE-SCHOOL, NURSERY, PRIMARY, POST-PRIMARY, SPECIAL SCHOOLS AND EOTAS CENTRES		114,314	175,649	56,408	346,371

* Fewer than 5 cases.

Number suppressed.

¹ Enrolments for special schools and EOTAS centres relate those where pupils are single registered to the school, or are dual registered and the special school/EOTAS centre is recorded as the main school.

Table 6a: Ethnicity of pupils by school type, 2018/19
Funded pre-school education, Primary, Post Primary and Special Schools

	White (excluding Irish Traveller)	Chinese	Irish Traveller	Indian/Sri Lankan	Pakistani	Black	Other ethnic group	Mixed ethnic group	Total
Voluntary and Private Pre-School Centres (funded children only)	7,689	17	#	26	#	23	#	#	8,022
Nursery Schools	5,560	22	18	24	7	34	61	106	5,832
Nursery Classes & Reception	9,195	44	24	60	17	68	121	193	9,722
Primary Schools & Prep. Departments (Year 1 - Year 7)	165,989	675	667	950	203	961	2,197	2,881	174,523
Secondary (Non Grammar) Schools	76,228	167	262	129	59	587	1,054	891	79,377
Grammar Schools (Year 8 - Year 14)	59,981	462	12	537	86	205	780	799	62,862
Special Schools	5,655	22	62	27	6	30	74	83	5,959
EOTAS Centres	62	-	*	-	*	6	*	*	74
ALL FUNDED PRE-SCHOOL, NURSERY, PRIMARY, POST-PRIMARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS	330,297	1,409	1,058	1,753	388	1,908	4,421	5,063	346,297
ALL FUNDED PRE-SCHOOL, NURSERY, PRIMARY, POST-PRIMARY, SPECIAL SCHOOLS and EOTAS Centres	330,359	1,409	1,059	1,753	389	1,914	4,424	5,064	346,371

* Fewer than 5 cases.

Number suppressed.

¹ Enrolments for special schools and EOTAS centres relate those where pupils are single registered to the school, or are dual registered and the special school/EOTAS centre is recorded as the main school.

Table 6b: Newcomer pupils by school type, 2013/14 to 2018/19
Nursery, Primary, Post Primary and Special Schools

	2013/14		2014/15		2015/16		2016/17		2017/18		2018/19	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Voluntary and Private Pre-School Centres (funded children only)	341	4.1%	335	3.9%	364	4.2%	356	4.3%	337	4.2%	332	4.1%
Nursery Schools	330	5.6%	323	5.5%	382	6.5%	409	7.0%	452	7.7%	439	7.5%
Nursery Classes & Reception	570	6.1%	598	6.3%	654	6.8%	691	7.1%	699	7.2%	736	7.6%
Primary Schools & Prep. Departments (Year 1 - Year 7)	6,854	4.2%	8,080	4.9%	8,853	5.2%	9,703	5.7%	10,724	6.2%	11,435	6.6%
Secondary (Non Grammar) Schools	2,288	2.8%	2,219	2.8%	2,279	2.9%	2,381	3.1%	2,562	3.3%	2,751	3.5%
Grammar Schools (Year 8 - Year 14)	213	0.3%	232	0.4%	271	0.4%	262	0.4%	277	0.4%	368	0.6%
Special Schools	101	2.1%	113	2.2%	129	2.5%	141	2.6%	169	2.9%	177	3.0%
EOTAS Centres	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
ALL FUNDED PRE-SCHOOL, NURSERY, PRIMARY, POST-PRIMARY, SPECIAL SCHOOLS and EOTAS CENTRES	10,697	3.2%	11,900	3.5%	12,932	3.8%	13,943	4.1%	15,220	4.4%	16,238	4.7%

1.A newcomer pupil is one who has enrolled in a school but who does not have the satisfactory language skills to participate fully in the school curriculum, and the wider environment, and does not have a language in common with the teacher, whether that is English or Irish. This has previously been referred to as English an Additional Language. It does not refer to indigenous pupils who choose to attend an Irish medium school.

2. Enrolments for special schools and EOTAS centres relate those where pupils are single registered to the school, or are dual registered and the special school/EOTAS centre is recorded as the main school.

Table 7: Percentage of children with Special Education Needs¹ at schools and funded pre-school education centres in 2018/19 R

	STAGED	STAGE 1 - 4	TOTAL ENROLMENT	% Statemented children	% SEN children (non- statemented)	% SEN children (stage 1 - 5)	
VOLUNTARY and PRIVATE PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION CENTRES	23	882	8,022	0.3%	11.0%	11.3%	
NURSERY SCHOOLS							
Total nursery school pupils	63	1,512	5,832	1.1%	25.9%	27.0%	
PRIMARY SCHOOLS and PREPARATORY DEPARTMENTS							
Total nursery class pupils	#	#	9,554	#	#	4.0%	
Total reception pupils	*	*	168	*	*	1.3%	
Primary schools (year 1 - 7)	6,049	32,371	172,863	3.5%	18.7%	22.2%	
Grammar school Preparatory Depts.(year 1 - 7)	34	294	1,660	2.0%	17.7%	19.8%	
Total year 1 - 7 pupils	6,083	32,665	174,523	3.5%	18.7%	22.2%	
Total primary pupils	6,151	32,980	184,245	3.3%	17.9%	21.2%	
POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS							
Secondary (non grammar) schools	5,547	18,887	79,377	7.0%	23.8%	30.8%	
Grammar Schools	1,092	5,774	62,862	1.7%	9.2%	10.9%	
Total post primary pupils	6,639	24,661	142,239	4.7%	17.3%	22.0%	
SPECIAL SCHOOLS²	Total	5,523	436	5,959	92.7%	7.3%	100.0%
EOTAS Centres²	Total	26	22	74	35.1%	29.7%	64.9%
INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS³	Total	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
ALL SCHOOLS	Total	18,376	59,589	338,275	5.4%	17.6%	23.0%
ALL SCHOOLS AND PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION CENTRES	Total	18,399	60,471	346,297	5.3%	17.5%	22.8%
ALL SCHOOLS, PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION CENTRES AND EOTAS CENTRES	Total	18,425	60,493	346,371	5.3%	17.5%	22.8%

1. Children with Special Education Needs are assessed under the 5 stages of the SEN Code of Practice.

2. Enrolments for special schools and EOTAS centres relate those where pupils are single registered to the school, or are dual registered and the special school/EOTAS centre is recorded as the main school.

3. Special needs data is not collected in respect of Independent schools.