

ISC CENSUS AND ANNUAL REPORT 2025

ISC SCHOOLS: LOCATION, TYPE, STRUCTURE AND SIZE

PUPIL NUMBERS

REGIONAL DIFFERENCES

YEAR GROUP DIFFERENCES

SINGLE-SEX AND CO-EDUCATION

BOARDING

NEW PUPILS

SEND

ETHNICITY

INTERNATIONAL FOOTPRINT: NON-BRITISH PUPILS AND OVERSEAS CAMPUSES

SCHOOL FEES

BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

PUBLIC BENEFIT

FOUNDATIONS, TRUSTS, AND FEDERATIONS

TEACHING STAFF

UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE

EXAM RESULTS

This report is based on a survey carried out in January 2025. 1,423 schools in UK membership of the constituent associations of ISC ("ISC schools") completed the survey.

Appendix One gives a snapshot of ISC schools as they were in January 2025. Appendix Two shows comparative figures for the schools that completed the Census in both 2024 and 2025 and is therefore the best guide for annual change.

ISC's constituent associations are: the Association of Governing Bodies of Independent Schools (AGBIS), the Girls' Schools Association (GSA), the Heads' Conference (HMC), the Independent Association of Prep Schools (IAPS), the Independent Schools Association (ISA), the Independent Schools' Bursars Association (ISBA) and the Society of Heads (SofH).

Four associations are affiliate members of ISC: the Council of British International Schools (COBIS), the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA), the Scottish Council of Independent Schools (SCIS) and The Welsh Independent Schools Council (WISC).

The ISC Research and Data Team would like to thank all participating schools for the considerable time taken to complete the Census and to check returns, particularly during the busy start of the spring term and when other Census completions are required.

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Foreword

I have been a bursar for nearly 30 years. That's nearly 30 individual school Census returns completed and sent in to the team at ISC. I have seen it as a duty, at times even – please forgive me! – as a mild inconvenience, but I have always been aware of how important it is for there to be a historical record of the shape and direction of our nation's independent schools.

This year, in particular, that need for a record stood out more starkly than ever. As I filled in my Census form, knowing that staff up and down the country were doing the same, our schools were grappling with some of the biggest changes they have had inflicted on them since the ISC's first Census, over 50 years ago.

Leaders have had to reckon with a triple whammy on their finances: VAT levied on fees, yes, but also the loss of charitable business rates relief and the rise in National Insurance employer contributions. For those schools still in the Teachers' Pension Scheme, last year's rise in employer contributions added a fourth whammy.

This series of political decisions is unprecedented. Experts differ on what impact it will have on independent schools and on the wider education system, so it is vital that we have statistics to demonstrate in black and white the repercussions of these policies. With solid data, we can hold politicians to account and help schools plan for the years to come.

Britain's independent schools are still held in high regard internationally: families across the world continue to send their children to us. This soft power increases our country's standing on the world stage and contributes economically, too. And many pupils go on to attend one of our world-class universities, bringing vital financial support to those institutions.

However, international student numbers have fallen by 2.6% since last year, and there are anecdotal reports from agents that VAT is a main concern.

In fact, pupil numbers across the board are down: by nearly 11,000 or 2.0% compared with 2024. When taking into account only the schools that completed the Census in both 2024 and 2025, like-for-like pupil numbers have decreased by 13,363 or 2.4%. The sharpest fall has been in the main intake years for independent schools – Reception, Year 3, and Year 7 – which recorded decreases of over 5%. These figures will of course have a lasting effect as the smaller cohorts work their way through schools.

Headteachers have been clear that the added cost of VAT has been directly responsible for a large part of this decline, as supported by the fall in the number of new pupils, which has decreased by 5.3%.

Make no mistake, this is a crisis for independent schools, and one that is only just beginning. But it also provides schools with an opportunity to reinvent the way

they market themselves to parents and the wider public – and every school should be asking itself how (or indeed whether) it is making use of its independence, and how that value can be quantified, qualified and communicated outside of its current audience.

Even under the most acute pressure, schools have maintained their commitment to educate the widest possible range of children. Last year, a record amount was spent helping families to afford the fees. This year, that record has already been broken: overall fee assistance has increased by 11%.

Partnership work between independent schools and their local communities, including state schools, has also increased. Independent schools remain a vibrant and active part of their local community; the statistics show that working to improve outcomes for all children, not just those in their direct care, remains a core part of their *raison d'être*.

Independent schools are also a key part of the support network available to pupils with additional needs. The number of students receiving support has increased by 6% since last year, and nearly 110,000 students in ISC schools now receive some kind of additional support despite not being in receipt of an EHCP. For many families, this is a lifeline – and they are understandably anxious. Suppose they could no longer afford the fees: can the state system really gear up quickly enough to offer the education and support to give their children the best opportunity to thrive?

I hope that a bursar starting out now can look back in 30 years and be able to tell the tale of schools that faced a crisis and weathered it. Thirty years of the ISC Census will provide the bedrock of fact for that narrative.

But for that tale to become a reality, we need schools to adapt to changing circumstances, we need our professional associations, including ISC, to continue to support schools through those changes (as they do so well) and we need governments to recognise the importance of independent schools' contribution.

We are a vibrant, vital part of the education ecosystem and, through it all, I know the people who make schools what they are will continue the work to improve outcomes for all children. So, to all our schools, I have a simple message to sign off with: thank you for all the work you do, it is so very much appreciated. On to the next chapter.



Mark Taylor,
Interim Chairman
Independent Schools Council

Executive Summary

1. PUPIL NUMBERS HAVE DECLINED 2.0% FOLLOWING APPLICATION OF VAT TO FEES

- There are 545,640 pupils at 1,423 ISC member schools, a reduction of nearly 11,000 or 2.0% compared with 2024 and despite a net increase of 12 in the number of schools in membership.
- At the 1,380 schools completing the Census in both 2024 and 2025, pupil numbers have decreased 13,363 or 2.4%. Breaking this down by year group, three of the main intake years for independent schools – Reception, Year 3, and Year 7 – recorded decreases of over 5%.
- 102,544 pupils are new to their school in the current academic year, a decrease of 5,578 or 5.2% from 108,122 in 2024. Looking just at schools who completed the Census in both 2024 and 2025, new pupils have decreased by 5,714 or 5.3%.
- Most ISC schools are small – half of schools have fewer than 273 pupils and one quarter of schools have fewer than 142 pupils. Only 99 ISC schools (7%) have 1,000 pupils or more.
- Two thirds of ISC schools have charitable status, educating over four in five ISC pupils. The remainder operate on a proprietorial basis. The mean size of a charitable school is 466 – over twice that of a proprietorial school (210).
- Over 4 out of 10 pupils in ISC schools are from a minority ethnic background. The proportion of pupils who are from a UK minority ethnic background continues to increase, showing that ISC schools reflect the overall diversity of the UK school population. In 2024, 41.7% of pupils identified as UK minority ethnic, whereas in 2025, the proportion has risen to 42.1%.
- 117,618 pupils are identified as having SEND, equating to over 1 in 5 of all pupils. 9,471 of these pupils have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP). Nearly half of these pupils (4,353) attend one of the 64 ISC schools registered as catering specifically for pupils with special educational needs.
- 61,750 non-British pupils attend ISC schools this year, comprising 11.3% of all ISC pupils. 25,526 of these pupils have both parents living overseas and make up 4.7% of the total ISC pupil population.

2. SMALL YEAR-ON-YEAR FEE INCREASES AS SCHOOLS ATTEMPT TO REDUCE THE IMPACT OF VAT

- This year, all UK independent schools have been required to add 20% VAT on fees from January 1st. This means for most schools there have been two fee change points since the last Census. The first change was in September 2024 when schools implemented fee changes decided upon earlier in the year. The second change was in January 2025, when some schools adjusted their underlying fees so that the full 20% VAT rise was not passed onto parents. The overall average increase in fees between January 2024 and January 2025, excluding VAT, was 1.8%.
- The average fee reduction in January 2025 was 5.0%. This means that the average fee increase in September 2024 was 6.7%.
- 584 schools or 67.7% reduced their underlying day fees in January 2025 to prevent passing the full 20% VAT to parents.
- The average day school fee has increased 1.8%, with the majority of day schools charging between £4,000 and £7,000 per term excluding VAT.
- Fee assistance worth over £1.5bn was provided this year, an increase of 11.4% from 2024. Nearly three quarters of this assistance (£1.1bn) comes from the school.
- Over a third of all ISC pupils receive some type of fee assistance.
- Nearly £550m of fee assistance from schools is means-tested, of which over £510m is in the form of means-tested bursaries.

- The average means-tested bursary was worth £13,850 per annum, an increase of 7.3% compared with last year, showing a continuing trend in schools to support more disadvantaged families in accessing independent education.
- Over half of all means-tested bursaries are for a fee remittance of over 50%, and over a third are for over 75% remittance.
- For the first time this year, government assistance to military families was collected separately. 1,419 pupils received this type of fee support, which totalled £38m.
- 9,254 pupils paid no fees at all, either via a full bursary or a combination of a bursary and scholarship(s).

3. THE BOARDING SECTOR IS ALSO BEING AFFECTED BY GOVERNMENT TAX CHANGES

- There were 63,035 pupils boarding on the day of the Census in January. This represents 11.6% of all pupils in ISC schools and a decrease of 2,614 boarders or 4.0% compared with 2024.
- If we consider pupils registered to board at any point during the academic year 2024/25, there were 67,572 boarders – a decrease of 2,409 or 3.4%.

4. ISC SCHOOLS CONTINUE TO HELP STATE SCHOOLS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES

- ISC schools reported 9,301 partnerships in the calendar year 2024, an increase from 9,248 last year. These activities include helping sixth form pupils from state schools apply to university, joint arts events, sharing facilities, staff serving as state school governors, and seconding teaching and coaching staff to state schools.
- 1,079 ISC schools reported operating at least one partnership with a local state school, an increase from 1,068 last year.

5. MOST SIXTH FORM LEAVERS FROM ISC SCHOOLS STUDY AT HIGHLY RANKED UNIVERSITIES

- 90% of Year 13 ISC pupils continue to higher education in the UK or overseas.
- 52% of ISC pupils who enter UK higher education attend one of the “Top 25” group of universities as defined by the Sunday Times Good University Guide.
- 4% of pupils entering UK higher education attend either Oxford or Cambridge.
- 7% of pupils who enter higher education choose to attend an overseas university. Universities in the USA are the most popular, attracting 48% of this group of pupils. Last year, pupils went on to 589 different overseas universities in 59 different countries.

6. UK INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS CONTINUE TO HAVE A STRONG INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK

- ISC schools operate 115 campuses overseas, educating over 86,865 pupils. 44 of these campuses are in China and a further 23 are in the Middle East.
- There are 25,526 non-British pupils at ISC schools whose parents live overseas, which represents 4.7% of the total ISC pupil population. Pupils from mainland China and Hong Kong comprise the largest groups with 6,258 and 4,479 pupils respectively.
- 36,224 non-British pupils have one or both parents living in the UK – 6.6% of all ISC pupils. 11,767 of these come from countries in European Economic Area (EEA), comprising 2.2% of all ISC pupils.

ISC Schools: Location, School Type, Structure and Size

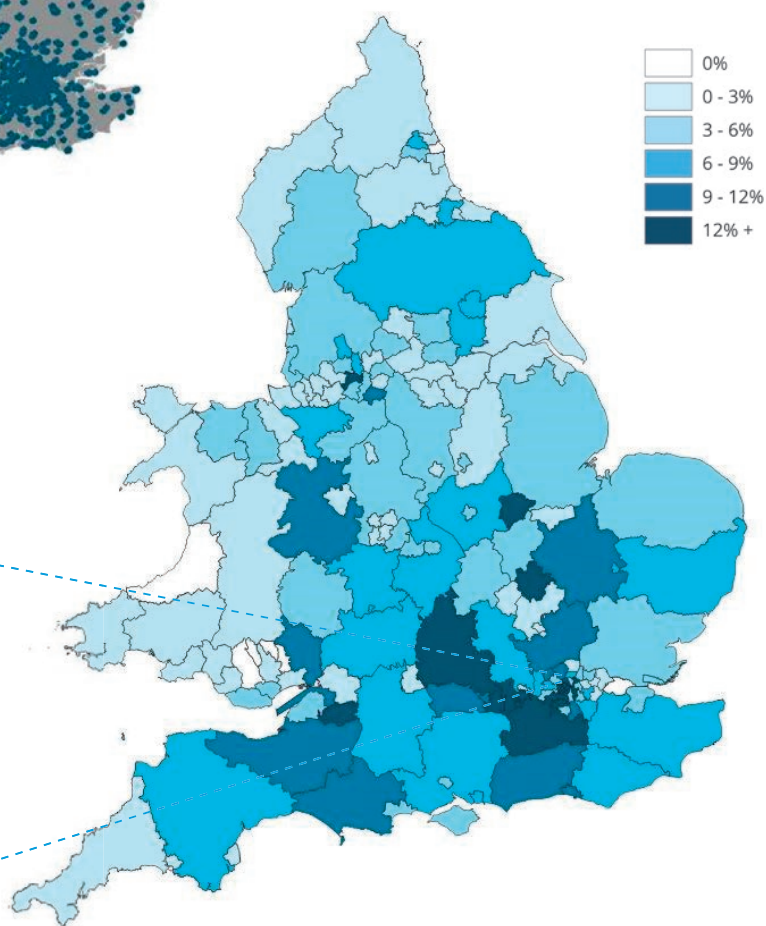
Fig 1. School location and pupil density

Map 1 relates to ISC schools only and covers all of the UK (ISC data 2025). Map 2 illustrates pupil density¹ for all independent schools, but is confined to England and Wales only (DfE and Welsh Government data 2024). Map 3 shows a detailed breakdown of pupil density¹ in London.

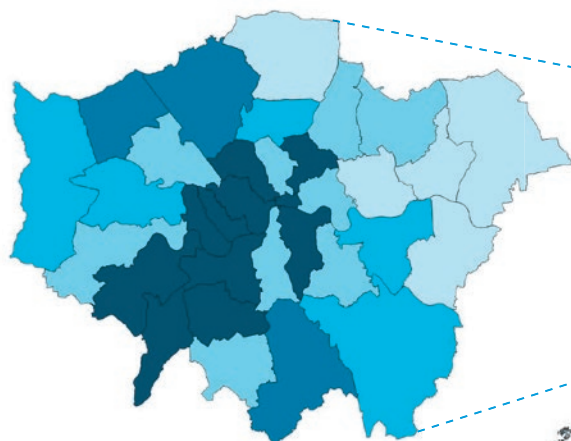
Map 1. ISC schools in all of the UK (ISC data 2025).



Map 2. This map shows the pupil density¹ in England and Wales broken down by local authority. Equivalent figures are not available for other parts of the UK.



Map 3. A detailed breakdown of pupil density¹ in London..



¹ Proportion of school-age children who are educated independently.

Fig 2. ISC school membership

This page illustrates the number of schools in ISC membership by school type. We have categorised the schools by their pupils' age, gender and whether they have day or boarding pupils. Each school is counted in one (and only one) category for each type. There is also a note at the bottom of this page explaining changes in membership between 2024 and 2025.

Age

1,423 total number of schools

281 Senior schools

Schools where all pupils are in Year 7 and above



519 Mixed-age schools

All other schools with mixed age ranges



623 Junior schools

Schools where all pupils are in Year 8 and below



623

Junior
schools

281

Senior
schools

519

Mixed-age
schools

Gender

1,179 Co-ed schools

Schools that do not fall into either the category of boys' or girls' schools

151 Girls' schools

Schools with no boys in year groups above nursery

93 Boys' schools

Schools with no girls in year groups above nursery

1,179

Co-ed
schools

93

Boys'
schools

151
Girls'
schools

Day/Boarding

989 Day schools

Schools that have no boarders

434 Schools with boarders

Schools that have at least one boarding pupil

989

Day
schools

434

Boarding
schools

Changing Membership

Since last year's Census, where 1,411 schools were in membership of the constituent associations: 17 schools left, 34 schools joined, and 10 schools consolidated records with other ISC member schools to form 5 schools for Census reporting. There are therefore 1,423 schools in membership this year, 1,389 of which participated in both the 2024 and 2025 Census. Due to changes in structure of 9 schools, the figures from these 1,380 schools make up the tables in Appendix Two for an accurate comparison of the sector.

The 1,423 schools in ISC membership can be categorised in several ways – location, age range, gender, day/boarding, charitable/proprietary, and size. Examining these categories demonstrates the considerable variety of schools in the independent schools sector.

Figure 2 on page 7 categorises ISC schools in three different ways – by age range, by gender, and by day/boarding. It shows that over two in five (44%) of schools are junior schools; over four in five (83%) are co-educational schools; and seven in ten (70%) are day schools.

ISC member schools operate on either a charitable or proprietary basis. Over two thirds (68%) of schools have charitable status, educating over four in five (82%) of ISC pupils. The mean size of a charitable school (466) is over twice that of a proprietary school (210).

Figure 2 illustrates the numbers of ISC schools according to whether they are senior, mixed-age or junior. ISC schools cover a range of different year groups, sometimes making categorisation difficult. For completeness, Figure 3 shows the most common sets of year group ranges found within ISC schools. The blue bars show year group structure for each subcategory. The numbers in white indicate the number of schools that share that particular year group structure.

[illegible]

N/R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13
	291												
	78												
				31									
				23									
							14						
					10								

N/R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13
	369												
	184												
	20												
			14										

⁴ Some school structures are excluded from this illustration because their structure is shared by fewer than 10 schools: 136 schools are excluded – 28 senior schools, 72 mixed-age schools and 36 junior schools.

Type of school	Mean size	Median size
Senior	444	384
Mixed	537	443
Junior	228	204
Day schools	341	222
Schools with boarding pupils	481	399
Co-ed schools	365	253
Single-sex schools	472	363
Overall	383	273

Figures 4 and 5 show the range of sizes of schools within the sector. Figure 4 shows that the mean school size is 383 and the median school size is 273. Breaking down school size by category, junior schools are likely to be significantly smaller than senior and mixed-range schools, boarding schools tend to be larger than day schools, and single-sex schools are likely to be larger than co-educational schools. Figure 5 illustrates that the majority of

schools are small. One quarter of schools have under 142 pupils, half of schools have fewer than 273 pupils, and three-quarters of schools have fewer than 511 pupils. Only 7% of schools have 1,000 pupils or more. Figure 6 shows that when all independent schools in England¹ are considered, including those not in ISC membership, there are 741 schools with 50 or fewer pupils and a further 318 schools having between 51 and 100 pupils.

¹ DfE Get Information about Schools.

Fig 5. Size of ISC schools

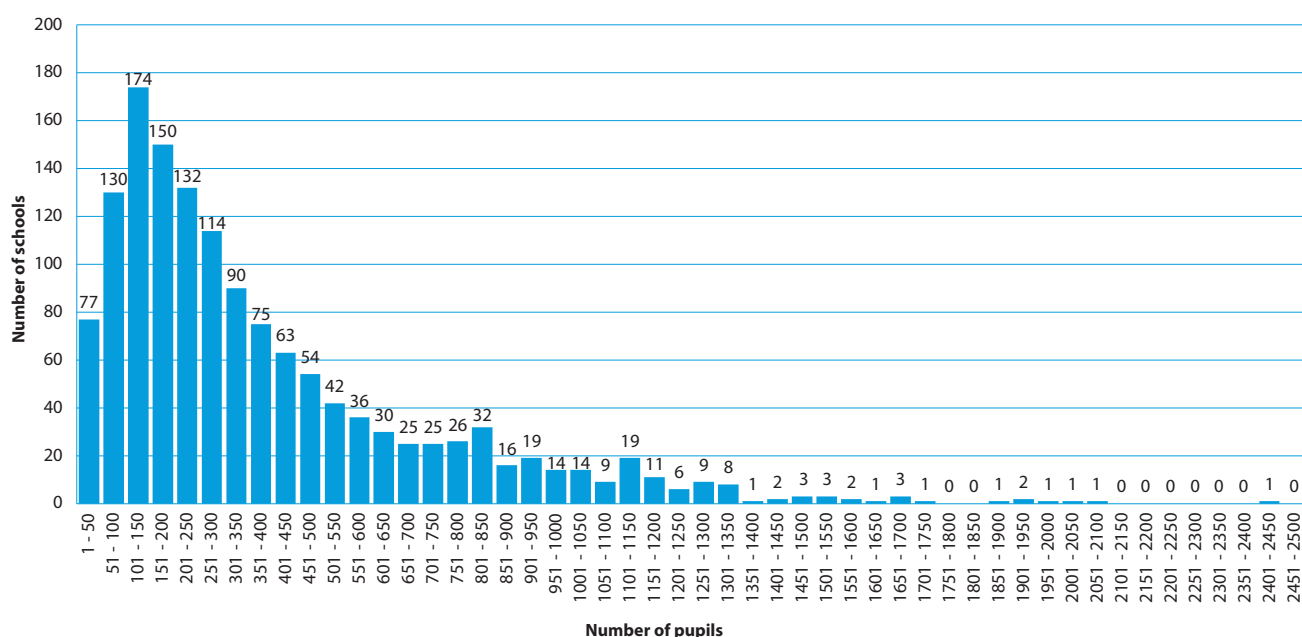
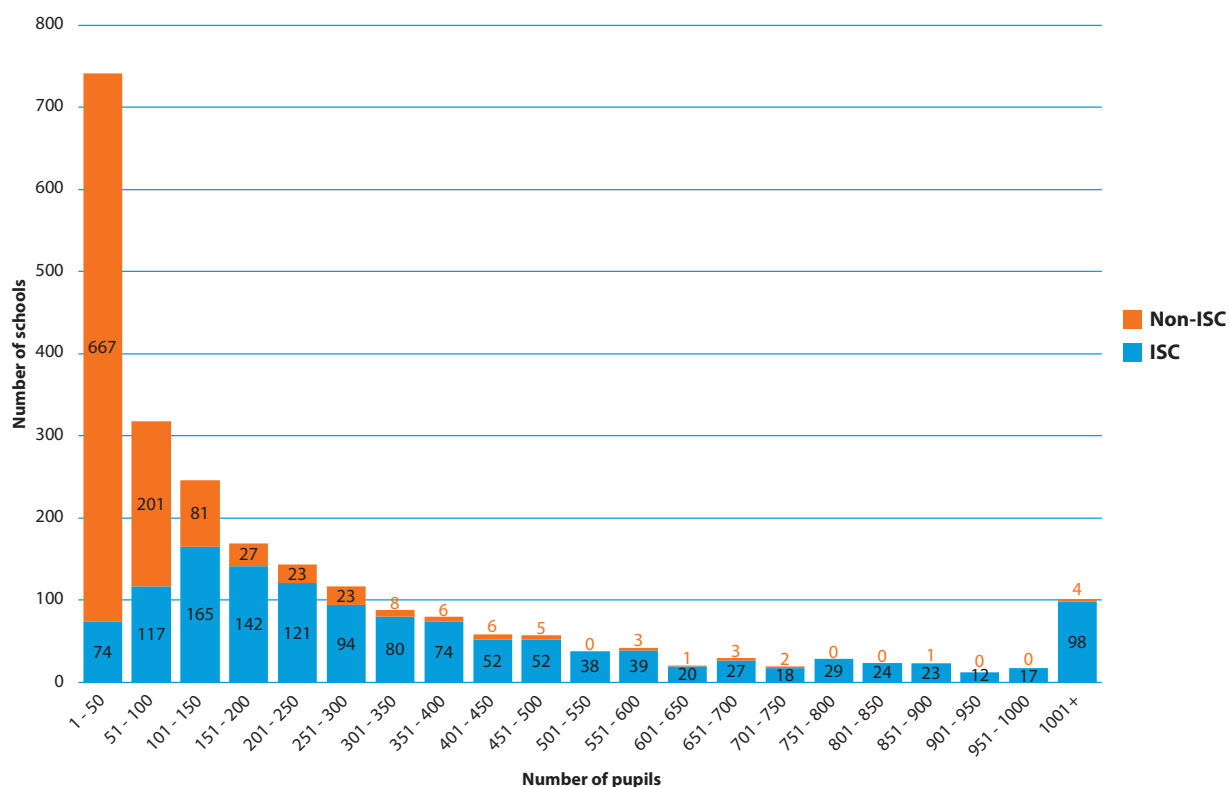


Fig 6. Size of independent schools (ISC and non-ISC, England only, 2024)

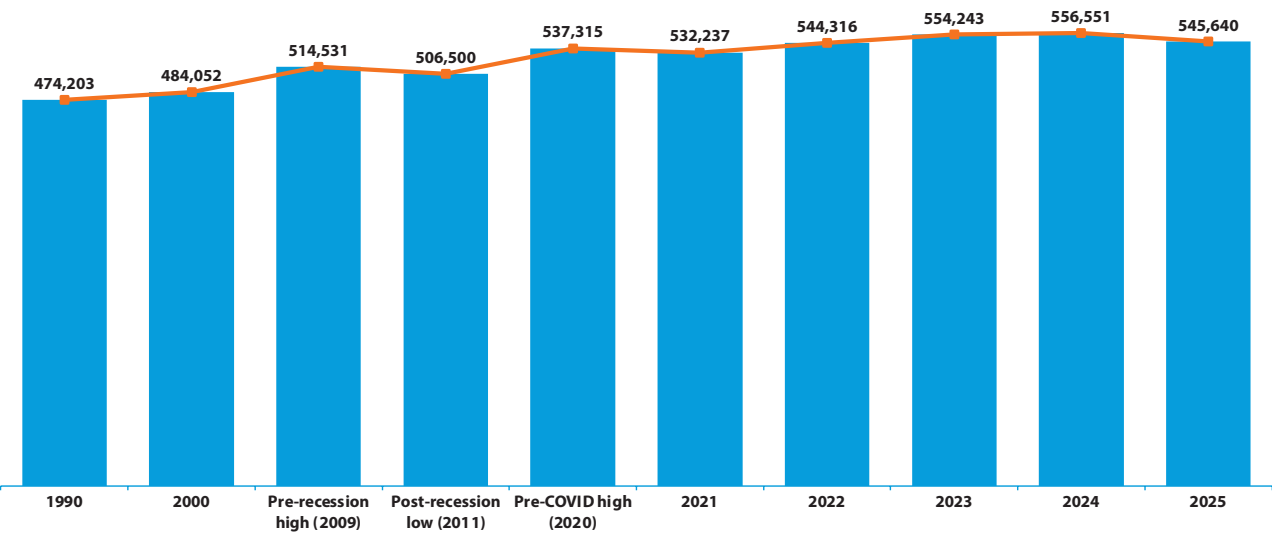


Pupil Numbers

There are now 545,640 pupils at ISC schools (as illustrated by Figure 7), lower than the previous two years. This is a reduction of nearly 11,000 or 2.0% compared with 2024 and despite a net

increase of 12 in the total number of schools. If we consider those schools in membership this year and last year, pupil numbers have decreased 2.4% since 2024.

Fig 7. ISC pupil numbers since 1990 (selected years)

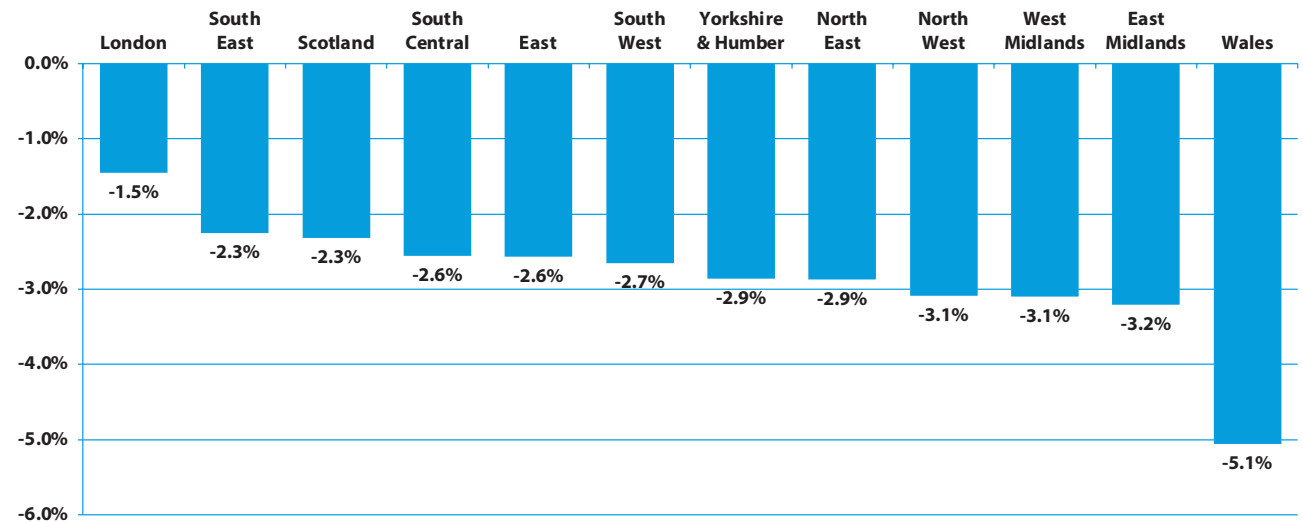


Pupil Numbers: By Region

Overall pupil numbers have decreased on a like-for-like basis and the rate of change varies by region as illustrated by Figure 8. For example, pupil numbers in London have fallen 1.5% whereas in the East Midlands there is a decrease of 3.2%. It is noticeable in England that regions in the North and Midlands have recorded larger drops than those in the South. It is important to note,

however, that smaller regions (in terms of prevalence of ISC schools) are more susceptible to fluctuations in percentage change. For example, there are only 19 ISC schools in Wales and 16 schools in the North East that completed the Census in both 2024 and 2025. This year, Wales has recorded the largest percentage decrease of 5.1%.

Fig 8. Annual change in pupil numbers by region (like-for-like)



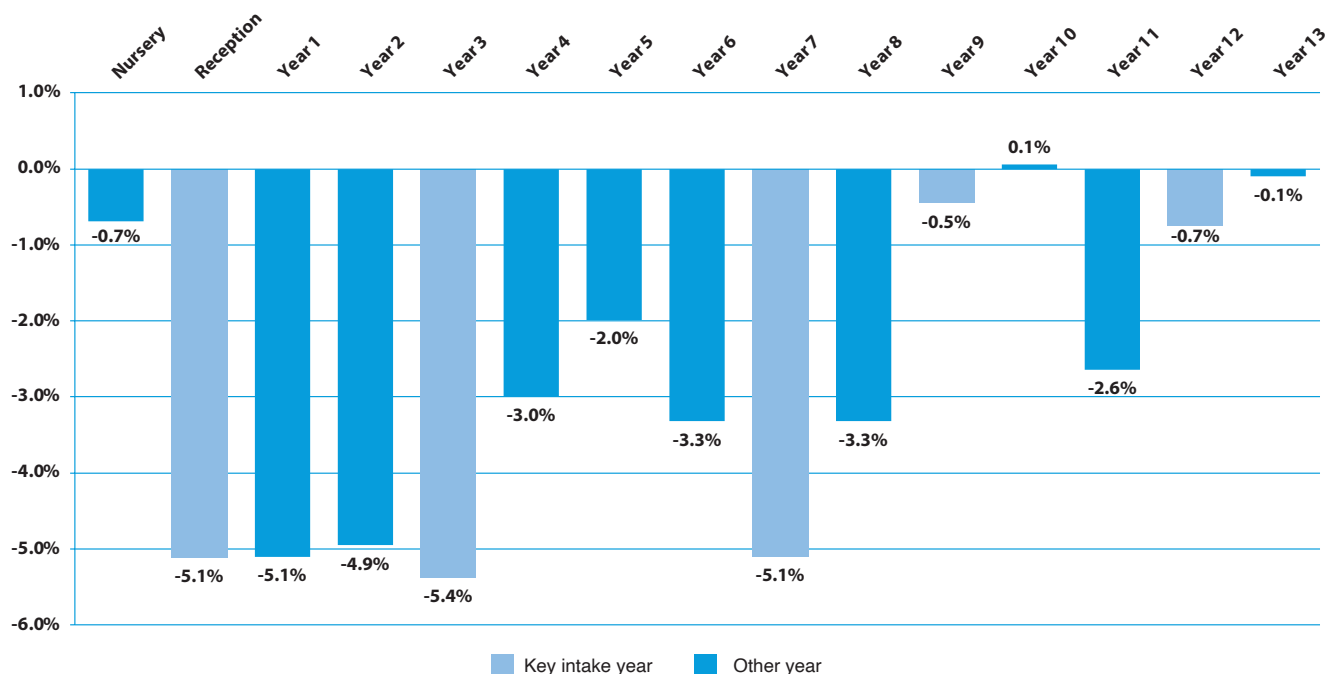
Pupil Numbers: By Year Group

Changes to pupil numbers on a like-for-like basis can also be broken down by year group and show significant variation. Figure 9 shows the percentage change by year group, with common intake years shown in a lighter blue.

Three of the five usual intake years show pupil numbers reducing by over 5%. Year 3 – a common intake year for prep schools and prep sections of all-through schools – demonstrates the largest

reduction of 5.4%. The standard intake years for primary and secondary schools – Reception and Year 7 respectively – both show reductions of 5.1%. It should also be noted that four of the five largest percentage reductions occur between reception and Year 3. There has been a recent decline in the UK population in this age range, but that does not explain the whole decrease because there was only a 1.0% reduction in children aged 5-9 years old between 2024 and 2025.

Fig 9. Annual change in pupil numbers by year group (like-for-like)



Pupil Numbers: Single-sex and Co-education

The majority of ISC schools are co-educational: only 15% are single-sex in all year groups. A further 26 ISC schools are single-sex but have a co-educational nursery. This accounts for over a third of single-sex schools with a nursery. Therefore, the definition of a single-sex school in this Census is a school which is single-sex in all year groups above nursery. Using this definition, 17% of schools are single-sex, educating 115,082 pupils collectively.

Figure 10 illustrates that there are many other schools that are predominately single-sex. Nearly three quarters (74%) more girls are educated in single-sex schools than boys. However, co-educational schools have a higher proportion of boys, with 55% of pupils being male in these schools.

Fig 10. Girls as a percentage of all pupils

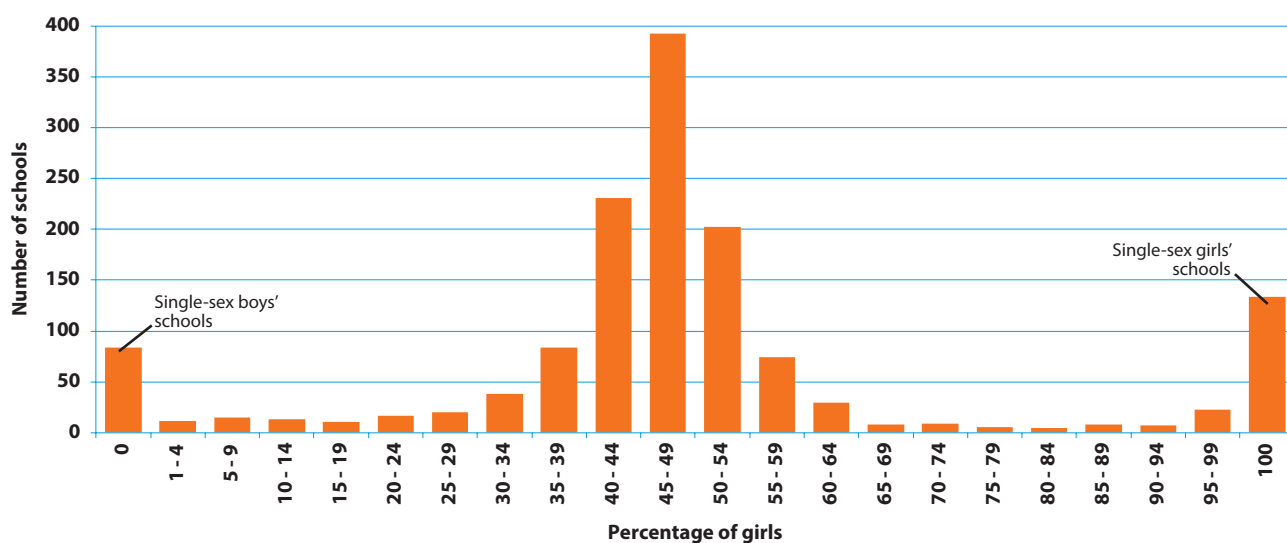
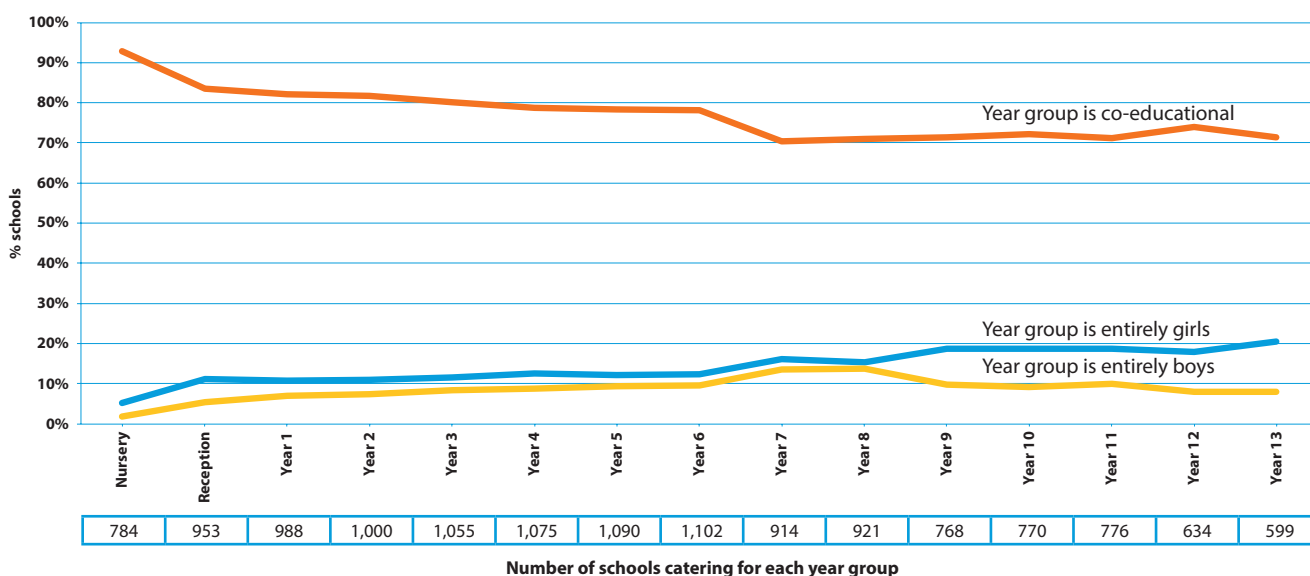


Figure 11 shows the proportion of single-sex schools compared with co-education at each of the different year groups. Co-education is very common at nursery level where 93% of ISC schools have both boys and girls. As children get older, single-sex education becomes more common, reaching a peak between

Years 7 and 9 where around 30% of ISC schools have either all boys or all girls year groups. Above Year 9, there is a slight shift back to co-education. Finally, it is interesting to see that from Year 12 there are more than twice as many schools with single-sex girls' year groups than single-sex boys'.

Fig 11. Proportion of year groups that are entirely boys, entirely girls, or are co-educational



Pupil Numbers: Boarders

Boarding numbers were 63,035 (based on the day the Census was taken), making up 11.6% of total pupil numbers and a decrease of 2,614 or 4.0% on the 65,649 boarding pupils reported in 2024. Boarding numbers based on pupils who boarded or will board

at any point during the academic year 2024/25 were 67,572, a decrease of 2,409 or 3.4% compared with 2024. Figure 12 shows the number of boarders at ISC schools since 2000 and also the percentage of all pupils that they accounted for.

Fig 12. Boarders at ISC schools: 2000-2025¹

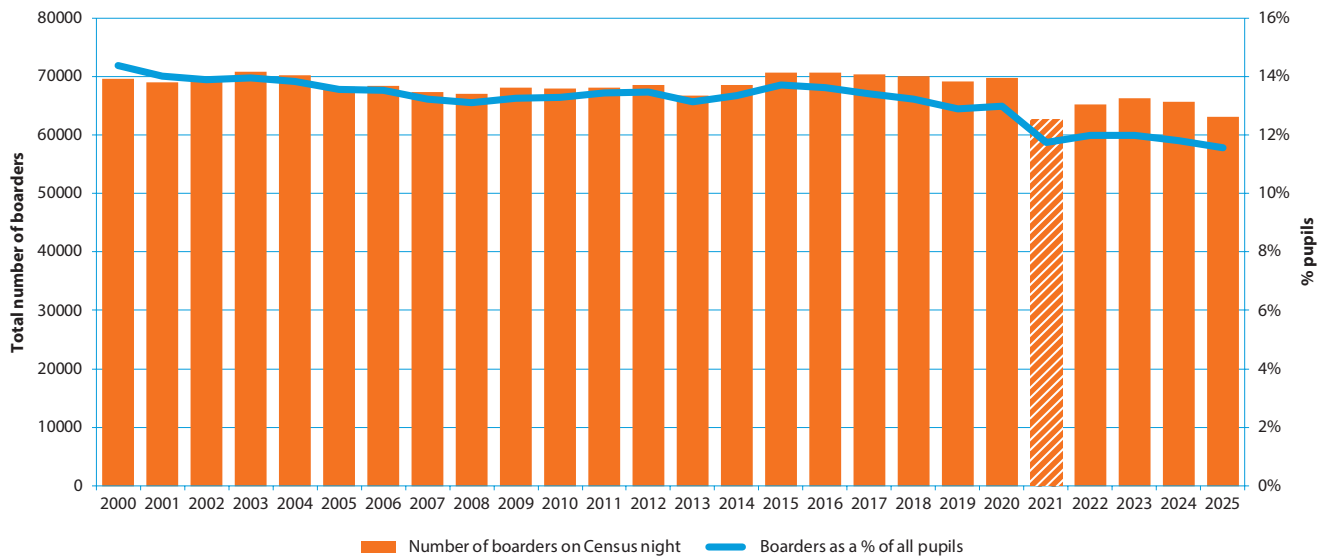
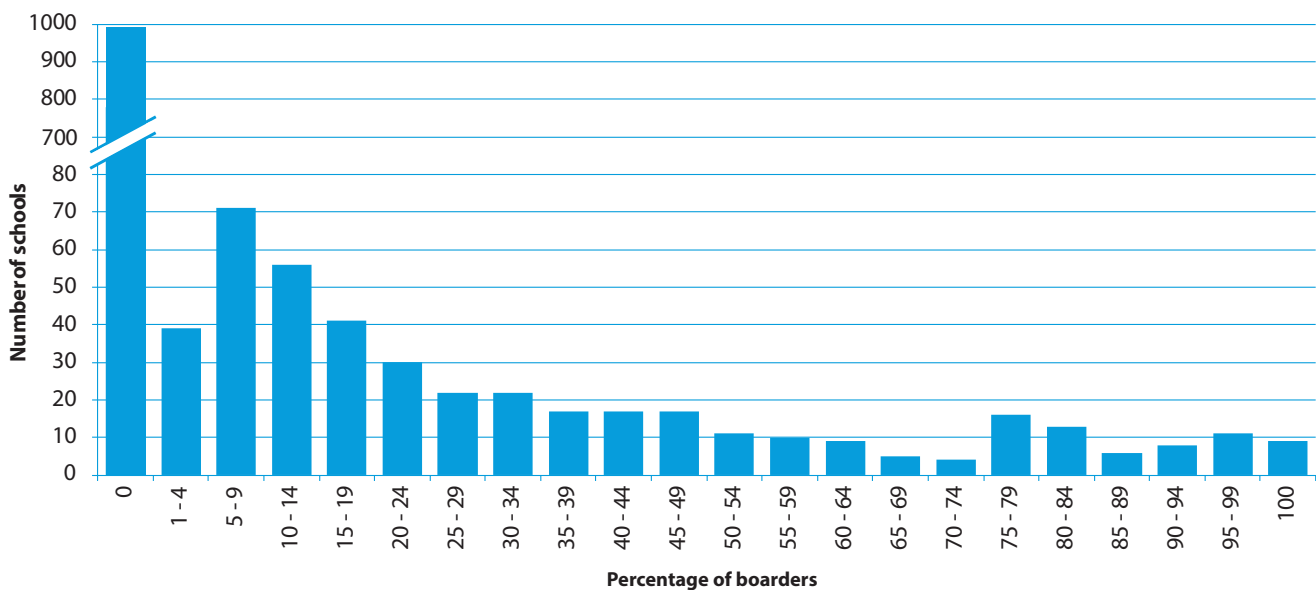


Figure 13 illustrates the proportions of boarding pupils at ISC schools – 434 schools, representing 30% of all ISC schools, cater for boarding pupils. Note, however, that in over three quarters of

ISC boarding schools (76%) fewer than half of the pupils board. Only 9 schools (2.1%) are exclusively boarding schools.

Fig 13. Boarders as a percentage of all pupils



¹ 2021 value shows estimated boarders as the Census was conducted during a period of remote learning due to COVID restrictions for most schools.

Figure 14 shows regional variations in boarding. At schools located in the South Central region, 22% of pupils board, while at schools in London, just 2% of pupils board.

Figure 15 illustrates boarding patterns for ISC schools as a whole and by year group. While overall, 12% of pupils are registered boarders, in sixth forms this proportion more than doubles to over three in ten pupils. For junior pupils, this proportion is significantly lower, with only 2% of pupils boarding.

In addition to boarding being far more prevalent at sixth form than at junior level, sixth form pupils are far more likely to board on a full-time basis: 86% of sixth form boarding pupils are full boarders, 8% are weekly boarders and 5% are flexi boarders. In contrast, more than half of junior boarding pupils are flexi boarders. Whilst full boarding remains the most popular type of boarding overall, weekly and flexi boarding are becoming more popular options. The proportion of weekly and flexi boarders has increased in recent years, although it has reduced slightly over the last two years. In 2016, 15.7% of boarders were weekly or flexi boarders; last year the figure

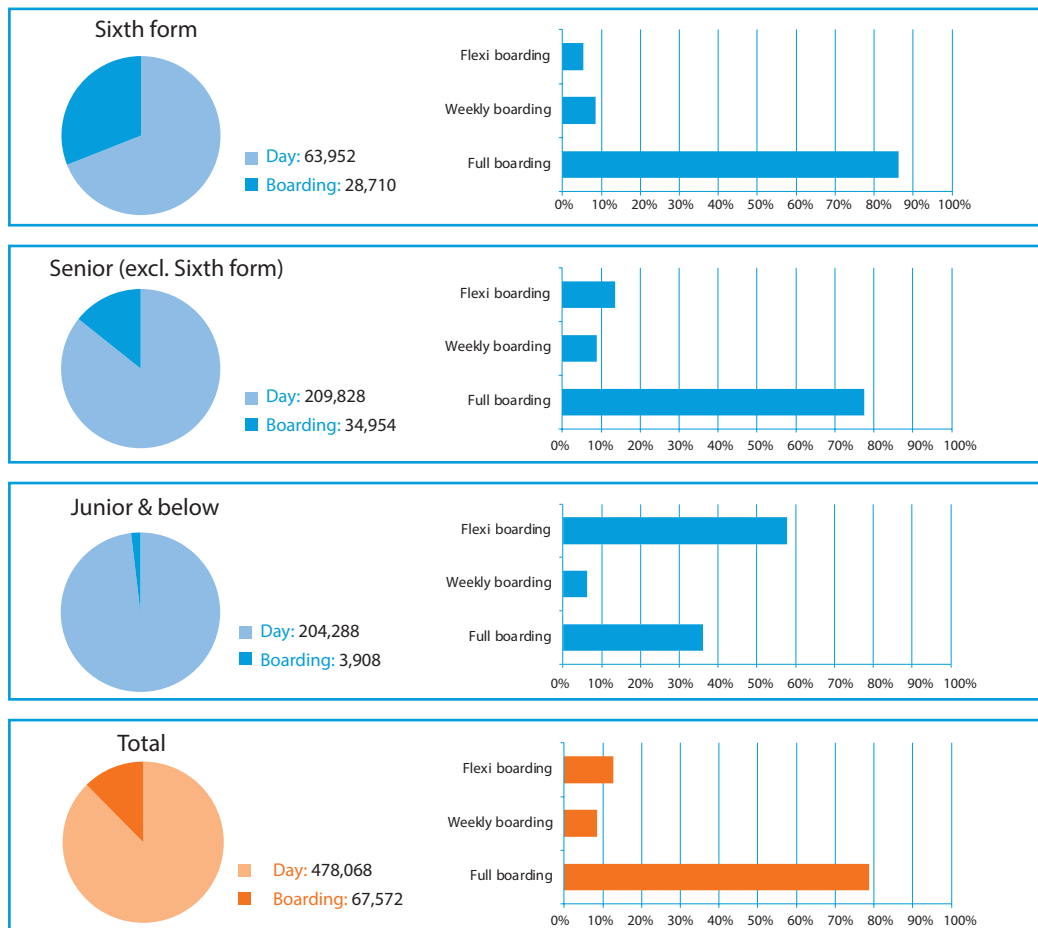
was 22.0%, but this year the figure is 21.2%. It should also be noted that some schools allow pupils registered as day pupils to board on an occasional basis. Therefore, the proportion of flexi boarders may be slightly underestimated. Many working parents value the flexibility of weekly and flexi boarding.

Fig 14. Boarders as a percentage of all pupils in each region

Region	Number of ISC schools	Number of ISC schools with one or more boarder	Total number of pupils	Total number of boarders	Boarders as % of pupils
South Central	226	102	78,998	17,547	22.2%
South West	95	47	35,759	7,435	20.8%
South East	200	84	78,835	13,046	16.5%
Wales	20	9	7,045	1,114	15.8%
East Midlands	75	23	24,271	3,519	14.5%
West Midlands	107	30	35,996	4,463	12.4%
Yorkshire & Humber	67	24	26,310	2,927	11.1%
East	152	57	63,412	5,898	9.3%
Scotland	33	14	24,280	2,100	8.6%
North West	95	13	35,620	1,902	5.3%
North East	16	4	7,207	257	3.6%
London	316	22	113,735	2,506	2.2%
Total	1,423	434	545,640	63,035	11.6%

Note: Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are excluded due to the small numbers of schools in these regions but are included in the total.

Fig 15. Full, weekly and flexi boarding by year group



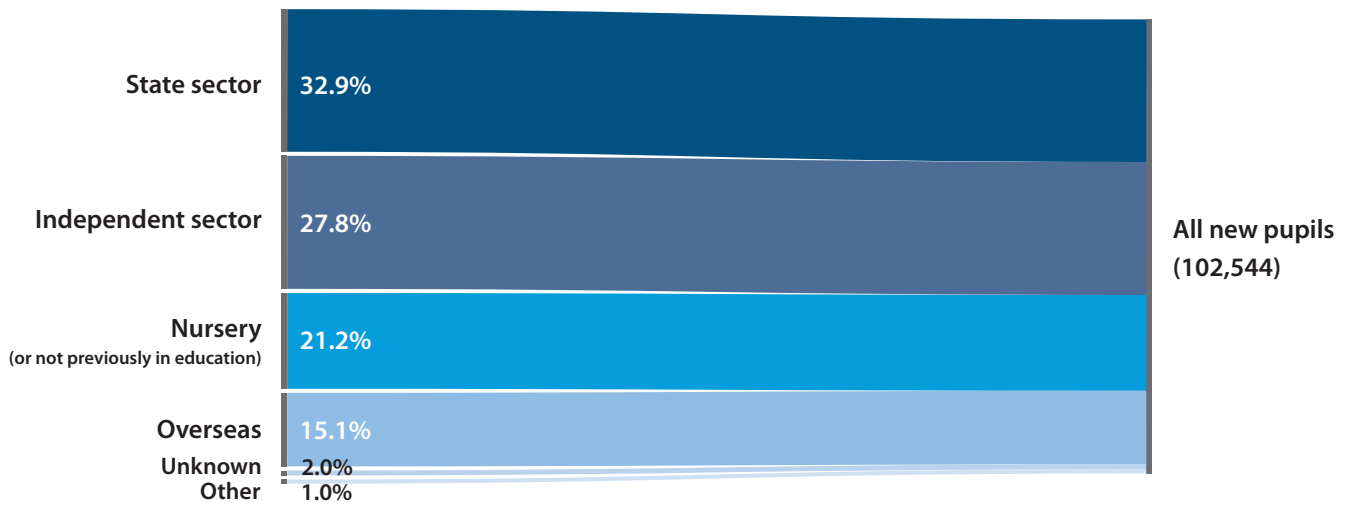
Note: For Figure 15, pupils are classed as boarders if they boarded at some point during the academic year 2024/25. In previous tables and charts, pupils are counted as a boarder if they boarded on Census Day (Thursday 16th January 2025). A larger number of boarders are, therefore, included in Figure 15.

Pupil Numbers: New pupils

Figure 16 illustrates where pupils were educated before joining an ISC school this academic year. A total of 102,544 pupils were new to ISC schools this academic year, a reduction of 5,578 or 5.2% from the last Census. One in three pupils joined an ISC school from another independent

school, while over a quarter of pupils new to the independent sector came from state-funded establishments. Looking at changes in new pupils at schools that completed the Census in 2024 and 2025, there are 5,714 or 5.3% fewer new pupils in 2025 than in 2024.

Fig 16. New pupils breakdown



Pupil Numbers: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)¹

ISC schools provide SEND support for 117,618 pupils with SEND (21.6% of all pupils). Of these, 101,458 pupils have been identified with one or more specific SEND. This compares with 95,332 in 2024 – an increase of 6.4%. 9,471 pupils have an Educational Health and Care (EHC) Plan (8.1% of all ISC SEND pupils). 4,353 of these pupils (46% of all EHCP pupils) attend one of the 64 ISC schools registered as catering for special needs. Last year, there were 7,646 pupils with an EHCP, of which 3,320 (43%) were attending 49 ISC schools registered as special needs schools. This represents a 24% increase in EHCP pupils.

Figure 17 shows that the most common SEND is Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD), which includes conditions such as dyslexia and dyspraxia and represents 48.3% of all SEND pupils in ISC schools. The second most common SEND is Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH). 21.6% of SEND pupils were recorded in this category, which includes conditions such as ADHD.

Fig 17. SEND pupils

Type of SEND	Total pupils	% of all SEND pupils
Specific Learning Difficulty (SpLD)	56,855	48.3%
Moderate Learning Difficulty (MLD)	3,874	3.3%
Severe Learning Difficulty (SLD)	260	0.2%
Profound & Multiple Learning Difficulty (PMLD)	147	0.1%
Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH)	25,417	21.6%
Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)	9,585	8.1%
Hearing Impairment (HI)	1,976	1.7%
Visual Impairment (VI)	2,348	2.0%
Multi-Sensory Impairment (MSI)	661	0.6%
Physical Difficulty (PD)	2,800	2.4%
Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)	15,441	13.1%
Down Syndrome (DS)	26	0.0%
Other Difficulty/Disability	7,437	6.3%
SEN support but no specialist assessment of type of need	16,160	13.7%
Total	117,618	

Note: Some pupils have more than one SEND: they are counted under each individual category of SEND but are counted only once in the total.

¹ SEND is also referred to as Additional Support Needs in Scotland and Additional Learning Needs in Wales.

Pupil Numbers: Ethnicity

Figure 18 shows that 57.9% of all ISC pupils are from a White British background, while 42.1% are from a UK minority ethnic background. Figures for the state-funded sector only cover schools in England and the latest data available are from 2024.

Fig 18. Ethnicity of ISC pupils (2025)

	No. of pupils	% share
White British	227,485	57.9%
UK minority ethnic	165,373	42.1%
Total	392,858	

As in the UK as a whole, ethnicity in ISC schools varies by region, as shown by Figure 20. In common with the trends experienced among pupils in the state-funded sector, the proportion of

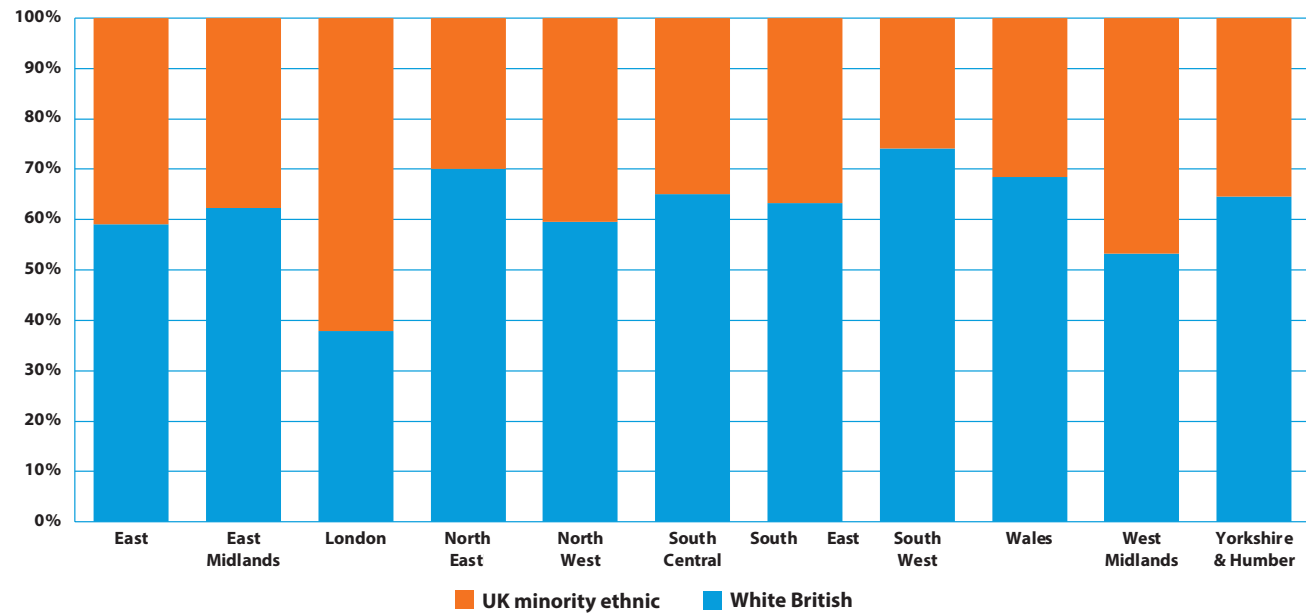
In order to make a fair comparison, Figure 19 shows ethnicity data for both ISC schools and state-funded schools in England in 2024. This shows that the ethnic make-up at ISC schools broadly mirrors that of all state schools.

Fig 19. Ethnicity comparisons for schools in England: Number of pupils and % share (2024)

	ISC schools	% share	State-funded schools	% share
White British	221,580	57.7%	5,212,524	62.4%
UK minority ethnic	162,164	42.3%	3,143,503	37.6%
Total	383,744		8,356,027	

pupils from a UK minority ethnic background at ISC schools has increased in recent years; 23% of ISC pupils were identified as UK minority ethnic in 2009¹, compared with 42% now.

Fig 20. Ethnicity of ISC pupils by region (2025)



Note: some schools do not record ethnicity data; 85% of ISC schools were able to submit ethnicity data, equating to 72% of all ISC pupils. Last year we recorded ethnicity for 72% of ISC pupils. Scotland is not included in the above chart because ethnicity was only known for 27% of pupils in Scotland.

¹ Ethnicity data were first published in 2009.

International Footprint: Non-British Pupils

There are two categories of non-British pupils at ISC schools: those whose parents live overseas and those whose parents live in the UK. Figure 22 on page 18 shows the relative number of pupils at ISC schools from different overseas countries and regions. For each country or region, it also shows the split between those pupils who have parents living in the UK and those whose parents live overseas. Figure 21 provides the

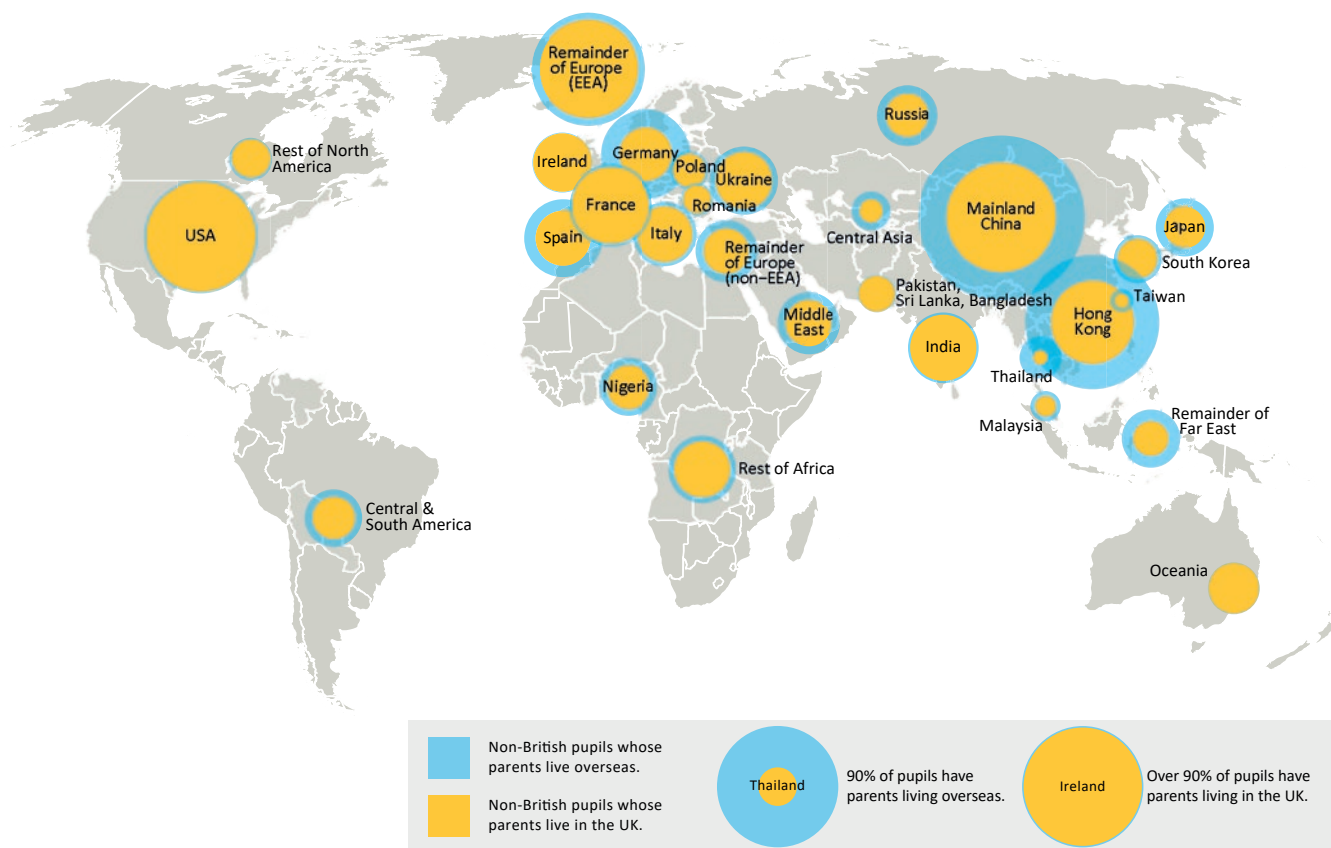
numerical breakdown. In total, 59% of non-British pupils have parents living in the UK.

2025 is the third year in which data on pupils from Ukraine have been collected separately. A total of 1,891 Ukrainian pupils are attending ISC schools, 34% of whom have both parents living overseas. 477 (25%) of these pupils are new to ISC schools this academic year.

Fig 21. Non-British pupils at ISC schools

	Total non-British pupils	Parents overseas	Parents in UK	% with parents overseas	% with parents in the UK
Ireland	1,445	72	1,373	5.0%	95.0%
USA	5,117	389	4,728	7.6%	92.4%
Oceania	1,087	118	969	10.9%	89.1%
Pakistan, Sri Lanka & Bangladesh	559	64	495	11.4%	88.6%
India	2,011	245	1,766	12.2%	87.8%
France	2,714	392	2,322	14.4%	85.6%
Rest of North America	755	190	565	25.2%	74.8%
Poland	553	142	411	25.7%	74.3%
Romania	403	105	298	26.1%	73.9%
Italy	1,660	437	1,223	26.3%	73.7%
Remainder of Europe (EEA)	5,178	1,365	3,813	26.4%	73.6%
Rest of Africa	1,812	591	1,221	32.6%	67.4%
Ukraine	1,891	645	1,246	34.1%	65.9%
South Korea	923	331	592	35.9%	64.1%
Middle East	1,545	694	851	44.9%	55.1%
Nigeria	1,323	603	720	45.6%	54.4%
Remainder of Europe (non-EEA)	1,538	735	803	47.8%	52.2%
Central & South America	1,318	630	688	47.8%	52.2%
Japan	1,356	675	681	49.8%	50.2%
Spain	2,438	1,218	1,220	50.0%	50.0%
Russia	1,517	791	726	52.1%	47.9%
Mainland China	10,959	6,258	4,701	57.1%	42.9%
Malaysia	378	218	160	57.7%	42.3%
Hong Kong	7,226	4,479	2,747	62.0%	38.0%
Germany	3,181	2,074	1,107	65.2%	34.8%
Central Asia	569	376	193	66.1%	33.9%
Remainder of Far East	1,383	914	469	66.1%	33.9%
Taiwan	207	142	65	68.6%	31.4%
Thailand	704	633	71	89.9%	10.1%
Total	61,750	25,526	36,224	41.3%	58.7%

Fig 22. Origin of non-British pupils at ISC schools



International Footprint: Non-British pupils whose parents live overseas

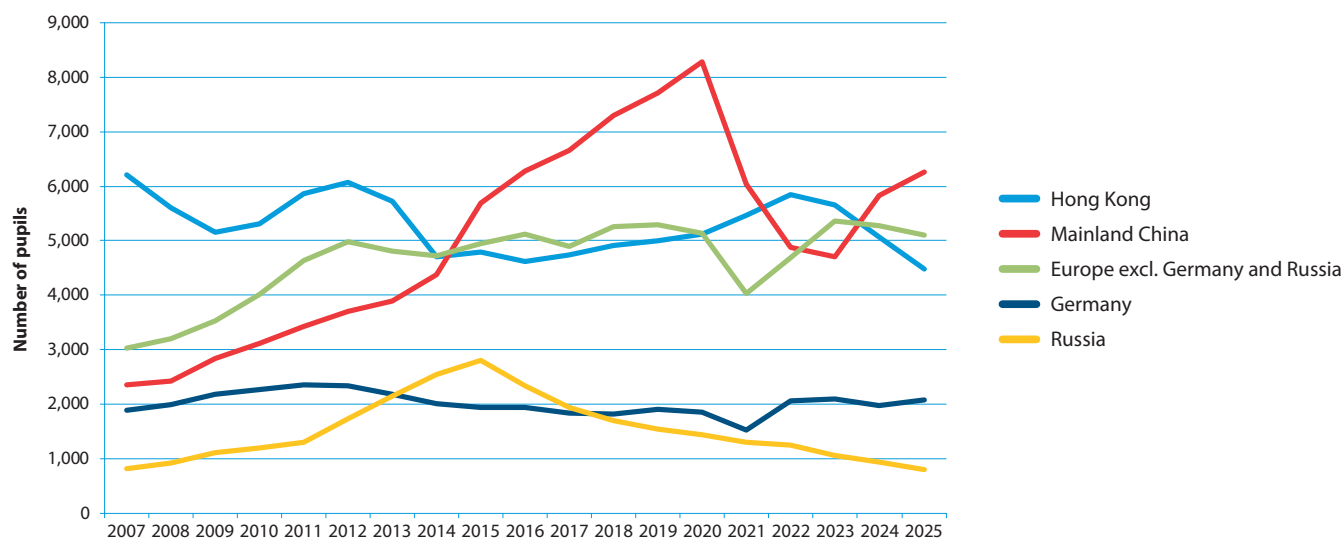
In ISC schools, there are currently 25,526 non-British pupils whose parents live overseas, which represents 4.7% of the total ISC pupil population in 2025. In 2024, there were 26,195 such pupils, also 4.7% of all ISC pupils. If we exclude “international schools” (where more than 90% of the pupils are from overseas), the number drops to 4.4%. This year, the largest number of overseas pupils come from Mainland China, with Hong Kong the second largest source of overseas pupils in this category. The same observation was made last year.

Non-British pupils whose parents live overseas are more likely to come to ISC schools in the sixth form and senior year groups than junior year groups: 54% of such pupils are in years 12 and 13, 44% in years 7 to 11, with only 3% in years 6 and below. Not surprisingly, these pupils are much more likely to board: 93% of non-British pupils whose parents live overseas choose to board.

Figure 23 on page 19 shows trends in non-British pupils whose parents live overseas since 2007 (when the Census first started collecting these data), in non-British pupils whose parents live overseas. The number of pupils coming from Mainland China has risen again this year after several years of decline from 2020 – Chinese government Covid travel restrictions being a factor. There are now 6,258 pupils from China compared with 5,824 last year. For the third year in succession, there has been a decrease in pupils from Hong Kong in this category. However, there has been an increase in Hong Kong pupils with parents living in the UK from 2,602 in 2024 to 2,747 this year.

Overall, numbers of pupils from European countries with parents living overseas have continued to fall. A total of 7,976 pupils come from European countries, with the majority of these (5,805) coming from countries in the European Economic Area (EEA). Numbers of pupils from EEA countries have remained stable, with only 15 fewer pupils compared with 2024 and some countries recording an increase – notably Germany with 98 more pupils this year.

Fig 23. Number of non-British pupils whose parents live overseas from selected countries at ISC schools: 2007-2025



Since 2009, schools wishing to recruit pupils from overseas have been required to hold a Child Student Visa and/or Student Visa (previously Tier 4) sponsor licence issued by UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI). With the exception of pupils

from Ireland, any school recruiting overseas pupils must be on UKVI's register of licensed sponsors. Our Census shows that 634 ISC schools are Child Student Visa and/or Student Visa sponsors.

International Footprint: Non-British pupils whose parents live in the UK

In ISC schools there are currently 36,224 non-British pupils whose parents live in the UK, representing 6.6% of all pupils. In 2024 there were 36,513, equating to 6.6% of all pupils.

Among these pupils, 11,767 come from EEA countries, comprising 2.2% of all pupils. The next largest source of non-British pupils with

parents in the UK is the USA with 4,728 pupils. The number of pupils from both Hong Kong and Mainland China in this category continues to grow. Mainland China is the third largest source of pupils in this category with 4,701 pupils, followed by Hong Kong with 2,747 pupils.

International Footprint: British pupils whose parents live overseas

As well as non-British pupils, there are 4,428 British pupils at ISC schools whose parents serve in HM Forces. In addition, there

are 3,041 other British pupils whose parents live overseas (see Appendix One: Table 15, p39 for more details).

International Footprint: Overseas Schools

Some ISC member schools operate overseas campuses. Figure 24 shows that there are currently 115 such campuses, educating a total of 86,865 pupils¹. Pupils in overseas campuses are not included elsewhere in this Census.

There are approximately 138 ISC affiliated schools, i.e., overseas schools in membership of ISC associations. Figure 25 shows where these schools are located. Data from these schools are not included elsewhere in this Census.

Overseas campuses of ISC schools are only a small part of the landscape of UK-orientated schools² overseas. We estimate there to be over 6,000 such schools worldwide.

Fig 24. Location of overseas campuses of ISC schools

Location	Schools	Pupils
Mainland China	44	29,078
United Arab Emirates	11	17,818
Thailand	8	9,461
Singapore	5	5,044
Hong Kong	5	3,499
Saudi Arabia	5	3,068
Malaysia	5	2,672
Other Asia	5	2,172
Qatar	4	6,047
Egypt	4	1,644
Vietnam	3	1,857
Oman	3	1,189
Europe	3	1,182
Japan	3	821
India	3	681
Other Africa	3	575
Australia	1	57
Total	115	86,865

Fig 25. Overseas schools in membership of ISC associations

Location	GSA	HMC	IAPS	ISA	SofH
Africa	0	5	13	2	3
Americas	2	6	2	1	0
Asia	0	18	9	1	3
Australasia	1	6	0	0	0
Europe	0	15	12	2	6
Middle East	1	14	13	1	2
Total	4	64	49	7	14

Note: ISC does not perform a detailed audit of overseas schools. Therefore, it is possible that some schools could be counted twice if the school is a member of more than one association.

¹ In last year's Census, the number of overseas campuses and pupils were incorrectly recorded. The correct numbers were 114 campuses and 81,202 pupils.

² A school that offers a UK curriculum and/or UK examinations and the curriculum is delivered wholly or partly in English (if English is not one of the country's official languages) or has an English-medium curriculum separate from the country's national curriculum (if English is one of the country's official languages).

School Fees

With the election of a Labour government in July 2024 and the decision to apply Value Added Tax (VAT) at 20% on independent schools' fees from 1st January 2025, the way in which fee data have been collected in this and future ISC Censuses has needed to change. Firstly, while most ISC schools are affected by the VAT policy, a small number of our schools are based in the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man which are outside the United Kingdom and therefore not affected by the policy. Secondly, the policy does not apply to pupils who are below compulsory school age. Therefore, all schools were asked to record their fees excluding VAT and all fee data in this section are reported on this basis.

It is important to consider the political events of the past 12 months when analysing this year's fees data. Schools usually set their fees for the following academic year in March or April and communicate the new fees to parents shortly afterwards. When fees were set in 2024, although a Labour victory was widely anticipated at the upcoming general election, the election had not been called. The expectation at that time was therefore VAT potentially not being introduced until at least April 2025. After the election in the summer, it was announced that VAT would be introduced from this January. To track the impact this would have, the ISC ran an additional fee survey in autumn 2024. Data from 892 ISC schools responding to this survey have been analysed. This allowed us to capture the change in fees originally planned for the academic year 2024/25, and now in this Census to calculate any subsequent alterations in fees schools put in place to manage the impact of VAT on parents from this January. Many schools would have reduced underlying fees to cushion the effect of the full 20% VAT increase on parents.

Another factor to consider is how fees are set at schools that cater specifically for children with special needs or Alternative Provision schools for children who cannot be educated in a mainstream environment. An increasing number of these types of school have joined ISC in recent years. Unlike in mainstream schools, the fee for each pupil is often determined by the exact needs of each pupil, which can vary significantly due

to different numbers and types of specialist staff required to work with a child, combined with specialist equipment in some cases. This means that the maximum fee for these schools can vary significantly from year to year. Therefore, in the following analysis, we have reported average fees and fee changes both including and excluding the fees for these schools.

Using the data from the autumn 2024 survey, the original planned September fee rise and the subsequent adjustment in January to manage the impact of VAT can both be analysed.

Looking first at the fee changes between January 2024 and September 2024, the average fee increase in September 2024 was 6.7%.

Focusing on fee changes made between September 2024 (before VAT was added) and January 2025 (when VAT was first applied), the average fee reduction was 5.0%, meaning that on average, schools passed on in effect 14.0% VAT to parents.

Breaking down these fee changes further and focusing only on day fees, we can see in Figure 26 that two thirds of schools (584) reduced their fees in January 2025. Most schools reduced their fees up to 10%. 223 schools decreased their fees between 5% and 10% and 268 schools reduced them by up to 5%.

Fig 26. Breakdown of day fee adjustments in January 2025

Fee change	Number of schools	Percentage of schools
Decrease over 20%	5	0.6%
15%-20% decrease	36	4.2%
10%-15% decrease	52	6.0%
5%-10% decrease	223	25.8%
0%-5% decrease	268	31.1%
No change	267	30.9%
0%-5% increase	9	1.0%
5%-10% increase	2	0.2%
Increase over 10%	1	0.1%
Total	863	

Note: Excludes 24 SEND schools and 5 full boarding schools with no day fees.

Finally, considering the fees of all schools who completed the Census in both January 2024 and January 2025, the overall average annual fee increase is 1.8% (excluding VAT and nursery fees). If data from 64 special needs and alternative provision schools are excluded from the analysis, the percentage increase changes to 1.4%.

Fee levels by age group and fee type for UK pupils are displayed in Figure 27. The majority of pupils attend day schools, meaning the typical fee level is £6,152 per term or £18,456 per annum excluding VAT, a rise of 1.9% on 2024. Looking at Figure 28, if special needs schools' fee data are removed from the analysis, the average day fee is £5,985 per term or £17,955 per annum excluding VAT.

Day school fees vary by region, with average termly fees of £4,380 in the North West, rising to £7,436 per term for day schools in London excluding VAT (see Table 7 of Appendix One, p34 for more details). While the majority of day schools charge between £4,000 and £7,000 per term excluding VAT, 101 schools charge between £3,000 and £4,000 and 105 charge under £3,000. These comprise 1 in 5 day schools.

Fig 27. School fees (excluding nursery fees)

Figures represent average weighted fees per term excluding VAT. Average fee figures are based on fees at schools completing the Census in 2025; percentage change is calculated from the change among 1,365 schools completing the Census in both 2024 and 2025.

Age group	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
Sixth form	£14,966	£9,016	£6,652
Senior	£14,154	£8,472	£6,541
Junior	£10,223	£6,530	£5,572
Overall	£14,365	£8,142	£6,152
% change	1.6%	1.4%	1.9%

Fig 28. School fees (excluding nursery fees and special needs schools)

Figures represent average weighted fees per term excluding VAT. Average fee figures are based on fees at schools completing the Census in 2025; percentage change is calculated from the change among 1,301 schools completing the Census in both 2024 and 2025 that do not cater specifically for children with special needs.

Age group	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
Sixth form	£14,953	£9,003	£6,538
Senior	£14,131	£8,440	£6,256
Junior	£10,196	£6,488	£5,522
Overall	£14,350	£8,111	£5,985
% change	1.6%	1.3%	1.3%

Bursaries and Scholarships

A total of 183,487 pupils currently receive help with their fees, representing 34.5% of all pupils⁵; the value of this help totals over £1.5bn, an increase of 11.4% on last year. A significant majority (73%) of total fee assistance is provided directly from the schools themselves: ISC schools currently provide fee assistance worth over £1.1bn annually, an increase of 3.9% on the previous year. £547m of this fee assistance was means-tested, meaning that nearly half (49%) of all fee assistance from schools falls into this category.

For the first time this year, data on Government support for military families have been collected. The main government scheme in this area is the Continuity of Education Allowance (CEA), which supports military families sending children to boarding school to prevent potential disruption to their education due to their parents being required to relocate at short notice. 1,419 ISC pupils receive a total of £38m from these schemes.

Fig 29. Contributions to fees ranked by total value of assistance (annual)

	Total (pupils) ⁴	Average help received by a pupil (£)	% of all pupils	Total value (£m)
The school	155,838	7,157	28.6%	1,115
The school: means-tested: means-tested bursaries	36,918	13,850	6.8%	511
The school: means-tested: scholarships	2,172	9,621	0.4%	21
The school: means-tested: eligibility ¹	1,786	8,158	0.3%	15
The school: non-means-tested: scholarships	58,287	3,778	10.7%	220
The school: non-means-tested: eligibility ¹	77,103	4,515	14.1%	348
The school: itrust ²	27	7,888	0.0%	0.21
Early Years Funding	25,665	3,672	4.7%	94
Local Authorities ³	6,968	35,124	1.3%	245
Government support for military families, e.g. CEA	1,419	27,064	0.3%	38
Government Music and Dance Scheme	1,027	22,851	0.2%	23
All other sources	1,528	11,226	0.3%	17
Total number of pupils helped	183,487	8,357	34.5%	1,533

¹ Includes HM Forces discounts, staff discounts, sibling discounts and clergy discounts.

² itrust is an IAPS charity supporting low-income families and families with short-term financial difficulties.

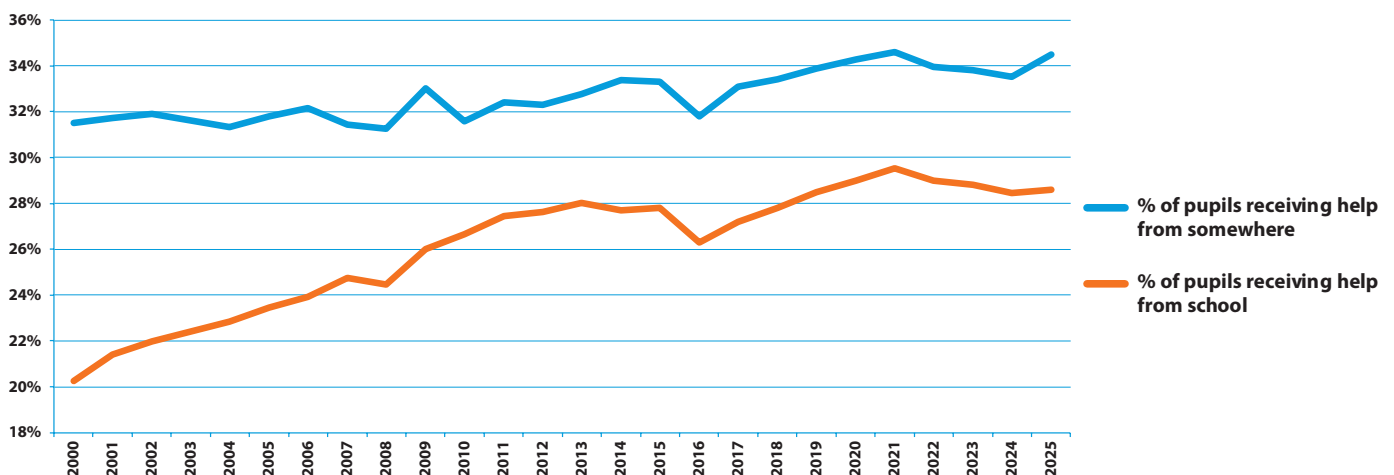
³ Excludes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

⁴ Some pupils receive help from more than one source: they are counted under each category, but are counted only once in the total.

Figure 30 shows that since 2000 there has been a general upward trend of schools providing fee assistance to an increasing number of pupils. Schools gave more than twice as much assistance in the form of means-tested scholarships and

bursaries as they did non-means-tested scholarships. The total value of means-tested scholarships and bursaries was £532m, an increase of 3.0% on last year. Bursaries and means-tested scholarships were awarded to 7% of pupils.

Fig 30. Proportion of pupils receiving fee assistance: 2000-2025



⁵ Excludes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Figure 31 shows a breakdown of the 36,918 means-tested bursaries and the 2,172 means-tested scholarships provided by ISC schools. Over half of all pupils (51%) on means-tested bursaries have more than half of their fees remitted and 7,245 pay no fees at all. In contrast, means-tested scholarships tend to be smaller and over half are for less than 25% of fees. 227 pupils pay no fees as they receive a 100% means-tested scholarship and a further 1,782 pay no fees as a result of a combination of school sources, e.g., a scholarship and means-tested bursary, meaning a total of 9,254 pay no fees, either via a single school source or a combination of school sources.

Note that schools were asked to provide data on greater than 100% bursaries and scholarships. These contribute to costs additional to the basic fee (such as school uniform). 1,132 pupils

benefit from these bursaries, an increase of 8% from last year, and representing 2.9% of all means-tested bursaries and scholarships. This demonstrates an increasing commitment by ISC schools to providing transformational bursaries.

Over the past decade, there has been a continuing shift from non-means-tested scholarships to means-tested bursaries and scholarships, as illustrated in Figure 32. The total value of means-tested bursaries and scholarships provided by schools has increased by £272m since 2011, a rise of 104%. Over the same period, the total value of non-means-tested scholarships has risen by £79m or 55%. Focusing on the past five years, means-tested bursaries and scholarships have risen 21% while non-means-tested scholarships have risen only 10%.

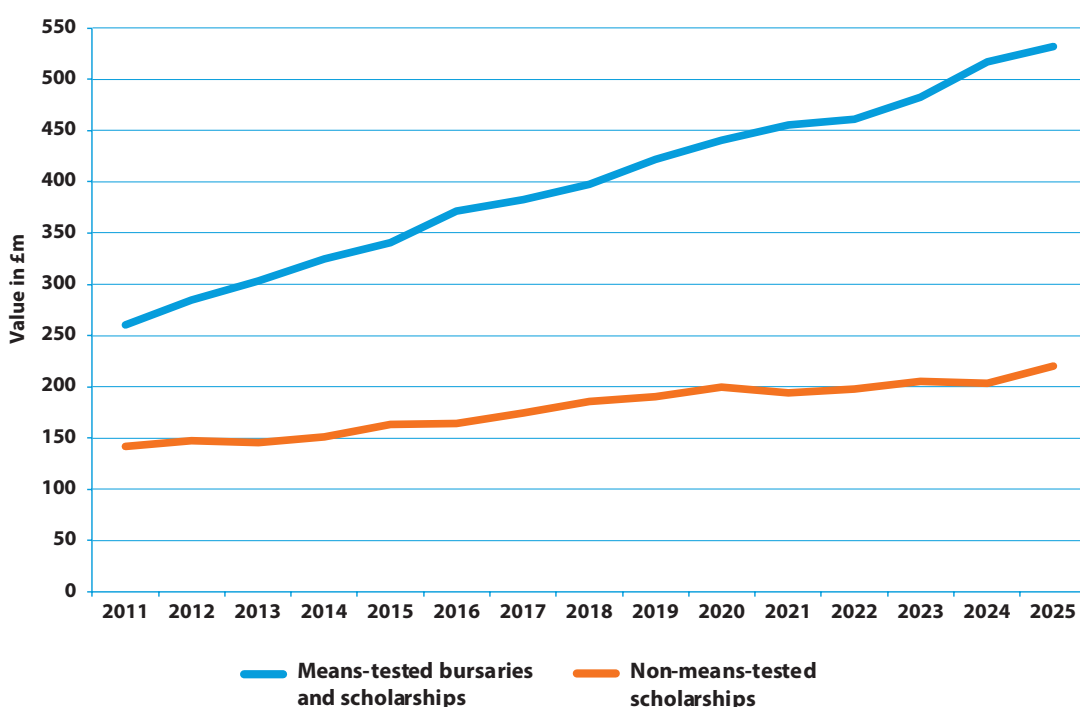
Fig 31. Distribution of means-tested bursaries and means-tested scholarships

Size of means-tested bursary	Number of pupils	% of means-tested bursary pupils
1-25%	7,840	21.2%
26-50%	10,074	27.3%
51-75%	6,124	16.6%
76-100%	12,880	34.9%
100%	6,198	16.8%
>100%	1,047	2.8%
Total	36,918	

Size of means-tested scholarship	Number of pupils	% of means-tested scholarship pupils
1-25%	1,344	61.9%
26-50%	301	13.9%
51-75%	147	6.8%
76-100%	380	17.5%
100%	142	6.5%
>100%	85	3.9%
Total	2,172	

Note: 76-100% category includes >100% means-tested bursaries and scholarships.

Fig 32. Trends in means-tested bursaries and scholarships versus non-means-tested scholarships at ISC schools (2011-2025)¹



¹ Trends are only shown from 2011 onwards due to changes in methods of data collection relating to fee assistance. Note, due to the change in methodology we should be cautious about drawing too many conclusions in trend data between 2015 and 2016.

Public Benefit

Schools have increased their partnership activities from 9,248 in the calendar year 2023 to 9,301 in 2024. The number of schools with at least one partnership with a local state school has risen from 1,068 last year to 1,079 this year, meaning three quarters (76%) of all ISC schools are involved in partnership activities, despite only 68% of schools holding charitable status.

Figure 34 on page 26 shows a summary of the variety of partnerships undertaken by ISC schools. It shows that partnerships include seconding staff to state schools, sharing facilities, helping state sixth formers prepare their university applications, staff serving as state school governors, and inviting state pupils to participate in joint classes or events.

The number of state-funded schools and state-funded pupils benefiting from partnership activities is summarised in Figure 33.

On average, each of the 1,079 schools work with approximately 12 state-funded schools and 421 state-funded pupils.

Beyond partnership work, 96% of ISC schools reported that they have raised money for charities over the last year. Not all schools were able to report the amount raised, but for the 58% of schools that reported an amount, the total raised for charity in the calendar year 2024 was £9.5m. We estimate that the true amount could be as high as £15.7m¹ if we include the 38% of schools that did not report totals. In addition, 951 ISC schools organise volunteering opportunities for their staff and/or pupils, which involves 206,319 pupils.

Fig 33. Number of state schools and state pupils benefiting from partnership activities

Number of state-funded schools benefiting from partnership activities

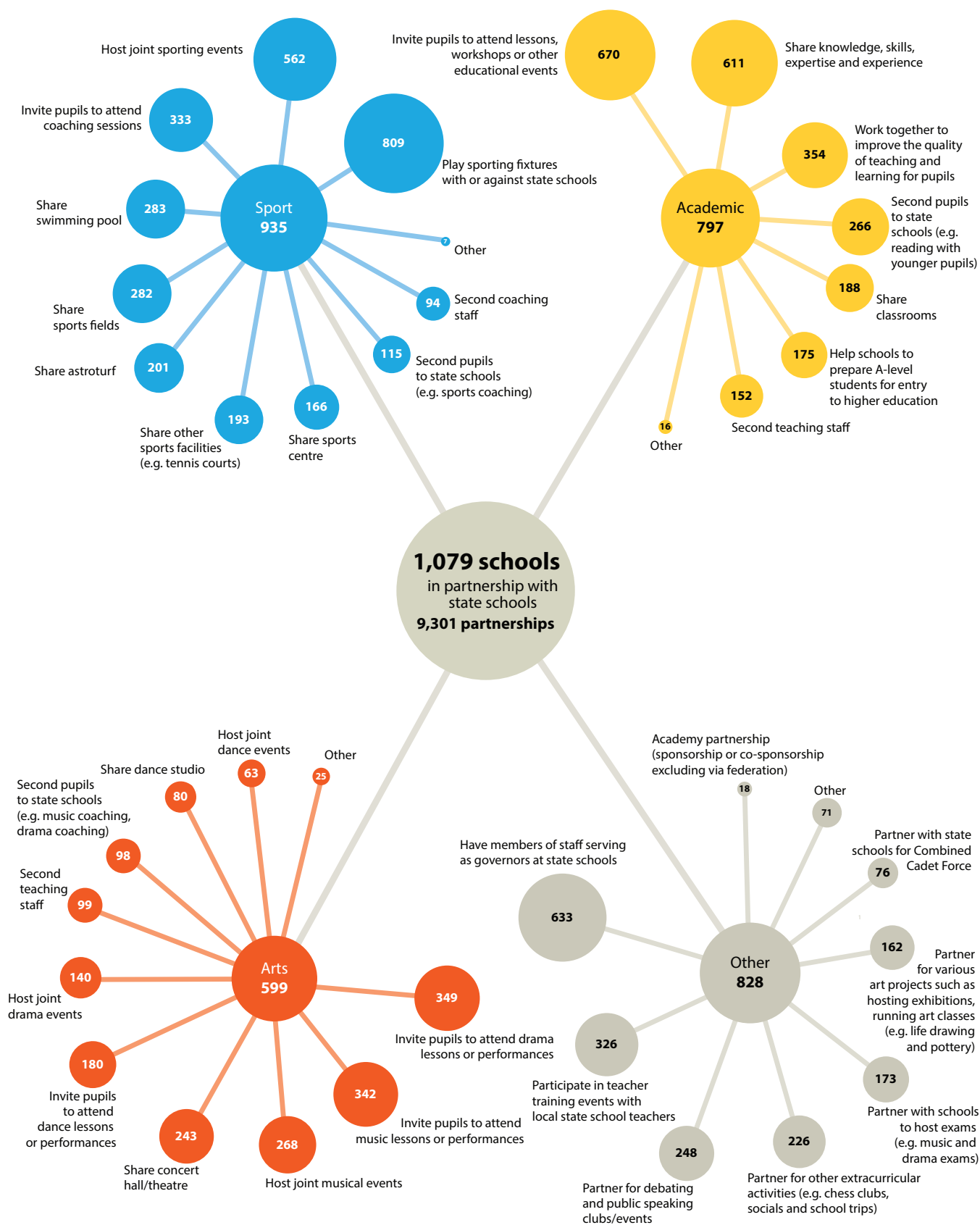
Number of state schools	Number of ISC schools	% of ISC schools
1-10	712	66.0%
11-20	197	18.3%
21-30	75	7.0%
31-40	31	2.9%
41-50	18	1.7%
51+	46	4.3%
Total	1,079	

Number of state-funded pupils benefiting from partnership activities

Number of state pupils	Number of ISC schools	% of ISC schools
20 or fewer	93	8.6%
21 to 50	145	13.4%
51 to 100	185	17.1%
101 to 200	188	17.4%
201 to 500	233	21.6%
501-1000	111	10.3%
1001-2000	69	6.4%
2001+	55	5.1%
Total	1,079	

¹ Upper estimate assumes the remaining schools (38%) raised funds in line with the average of £11,522 per school.

Fig 34. Partnerships with local state schools
Number of schools with at least one partnership type



Teaching Staff

A total of 60,225 full-time equivalent teachers are employed at ISC schools. The teaching profession (across the education sector as a whole) has a far greater proportion of female teachers, but this imbalance is much less pronounced at ISC schools. 37% of full-time equivalent teachers at ISC schools are men. This compares with 24% in state-funded schools¹.

Fig 35. Teacher numbers and pupil-teacher ratio

Full-time	
Men	19,931
Women	28,989
Total	48,920
Part-time	
Men	3,737
Women	14,991
Total	18,728
Part-time hours	
Men	66,858
Women	300,559
Total	367,417
Overall full-time equivalent (32.5 hours = 1 full-time)	
Men	21,988
Women	38,237
Total	60,225
Pupil-teacher ratio	8.6:1

For more detail see Appendix One, Tables 21 and 23, p43 and Appendix Two, Tables 16 and 18, p58 and p59.

A total of 11,395 full-time equivalent teaching assistants are employed at ISC schools, making up 16% of classroom staff. The equivalent proportion at state-funded schools is 38%, over twice as high. The pupil-teacher ratio at ISC schools is 8.6:1. This compares with an average of 18.1:1¹ across all state-funded schools in 2024.

Fig 36. Teaching assistant numbers

Full-time	
Men	1,020
Women	6,684
Total	7,704
Part-time	
Men	369
Women	5,422
Total	5,791
Part-time hours	
Men	6,722
Women	113,225
Total	119,947
Overall full-time equivalent (32.5 hours = 1 full-time)	
Men	1,227
Women	10,168
Total	11,395

For more detail see Appendix One, Table 22, p43 and Appendix Two, Table 17, p59.

¹ Based on Department for Education (DfE) data 2023/24 (and hence England only), the most recent year for which figures are available.
<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/school-workforce-in-england>

Entrance to Higher Education

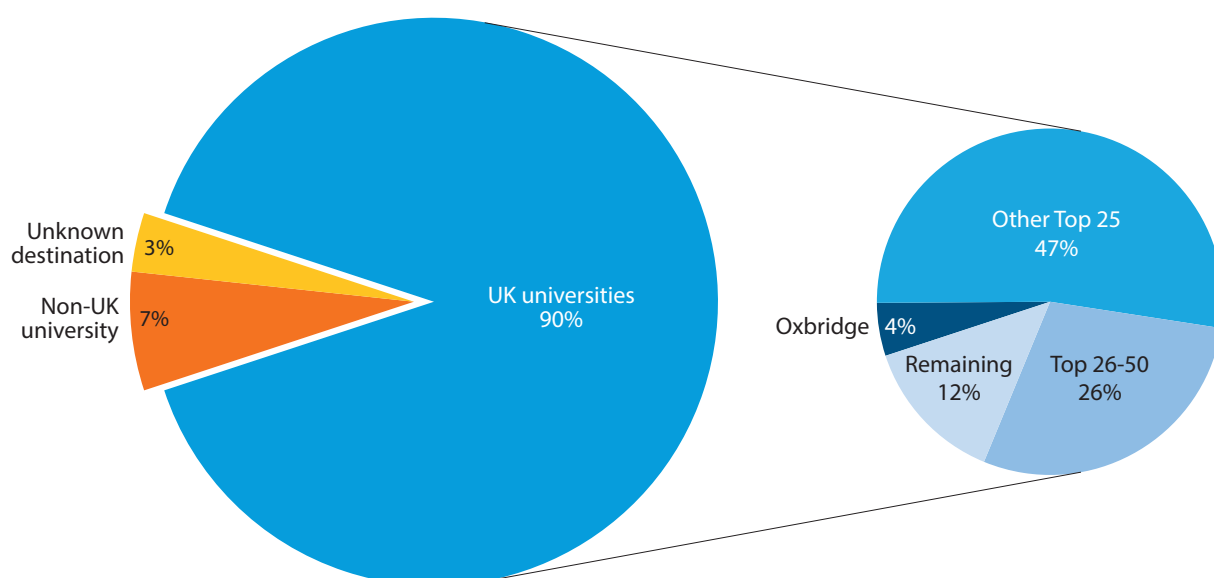
The vast majority of ISC school leavers continue to higher education. Only small numbers take alternative routes such as apprenticeships and employment. This year 2.4% of school leavers went straight to employment in 2024¹, and a further 1.7% entered further education and training, including apprenticeships.

Of those continuing to higher education, 90% do so in the UK. The majority (52%) continue to a Top 25 university², including 4% who continue to either Oxford or Cambridge. A further 26%

take up places at universities ranked 26-50. Figure 38 on page 29 shows the top 25 UK universities attended by ISC pupils.

Schools were asked to break down the university destinations of pupils applying for deferred entry to university. Of those continuing to university, 5,413 pupils (13.2%) chose to defer entry. The universities with the highest proportions of deferred entries were Oxford Brookes (24.8%), Plymouth (21.6%), Newcastle (16.7%), Exeter (16.2%), Sussex (15.9%), and Bristol (15.8%)³.

Fig 37. Higher education destination summary



Note: This chart excludes deferred entries.

For the 7% of pupils who chose to study outside the UK, the USA remains by far the most popular destination attracting 48% of ISC pupils going to overseas universities, as illustrated in Figure 39 on page 29. ISC pupils go on to a wide range of overseas universities. In 2012, fewer than 400 overseas institutions attracted ISC pupils. Now there are 589, and

265 of these are located in the USA. The top 10 overseas universities are illustrated in Figure 40 on page 29.

Finally, pupils choosing to study overseas are not confined to a small number of ISC schools. Pupils from 60% of ISC schools with Year 13 leavers go on to higher education overseas.

¹ The year given reflects the year pupils left their school, rather than the year that the figure was published in the Census, meaning that the most recent figure is for 2024.

² Top 25/50 universities determined by Sunday Times Good University Guide 2025: <https://www.thetimes.com/uk-university-rankings>

³ Only universities which are the stated destination of at least 100 students.

Fig 38. Destination of ISC pupils attending UK universities: Top 25

Number of pupils as a proportion of all ISC pupils attending UK universities.

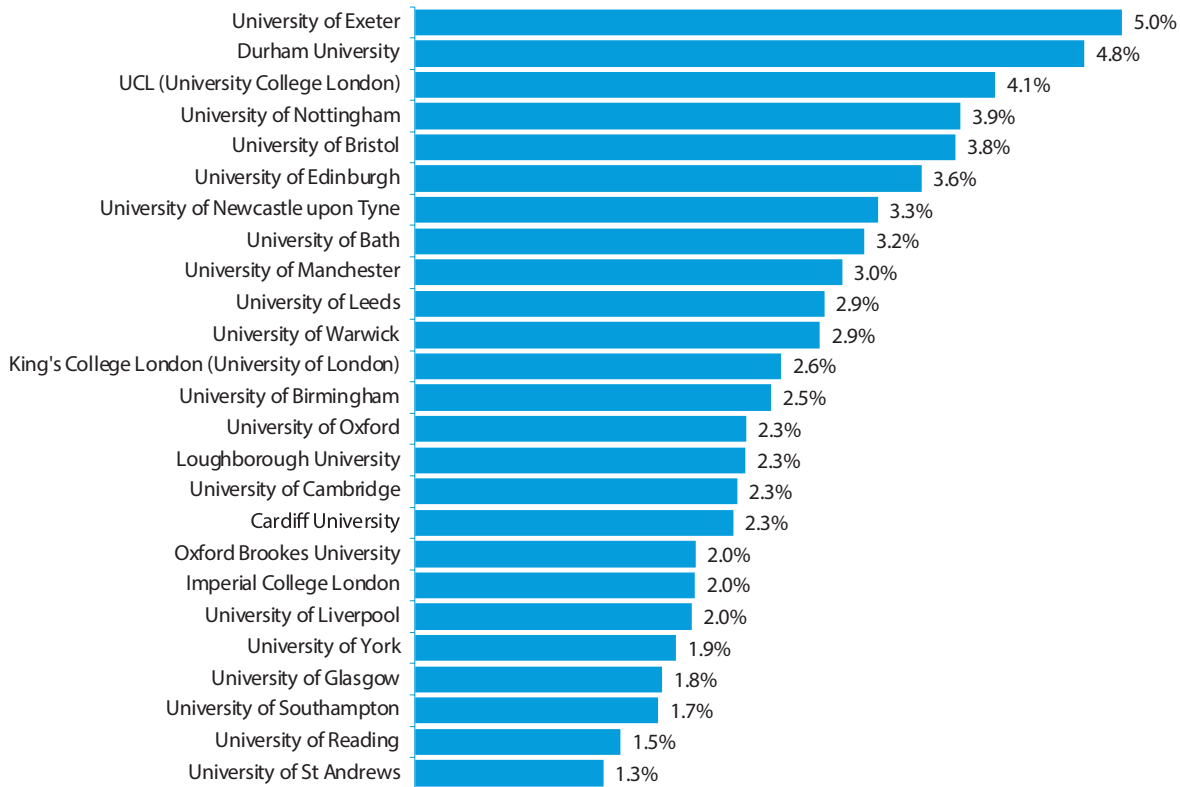


Fig 39. Destination of ISC pupils going to non-UK universities: Countries

Proportion of all ISC pupils attending non-UK universities.

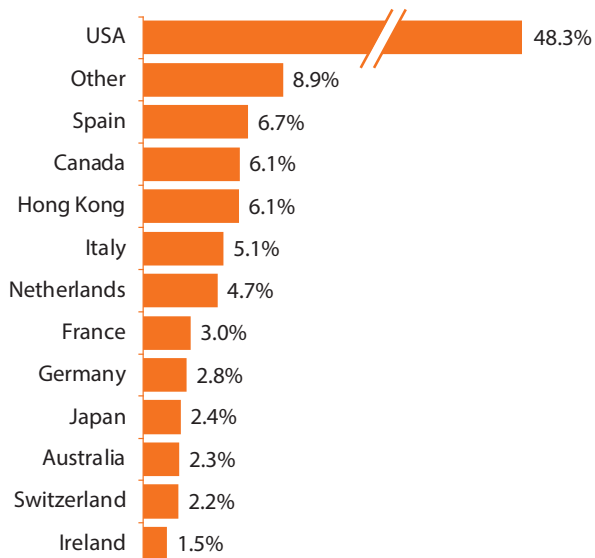
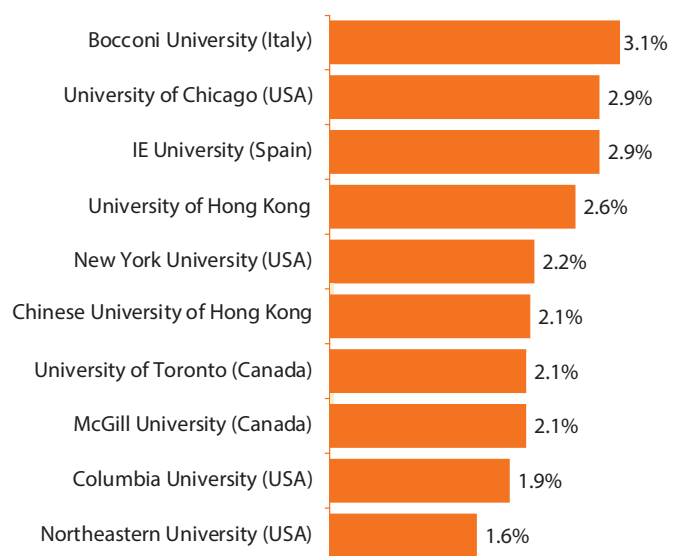


Fig 40. Destination of ISC pupils attending non-UK universities: Top 10

Proportion of all ISC pupils attending non-UK universities.



Exam Results¹

Every year, the Department for Education releases detailed exam results in GCSEs and A-levels for the previous summer exam series, broken down by school and subject. As pupils at ISC member schools often take a mixture of GCSEs and

International GCSEs, the analysis below will focus on A-level results. This is because the DfE only releases data about GCSEs, so an analysis based on these data would not be a true reflection of our pupils' performance.

Fig 41. A-level entries as a proportion of all entries

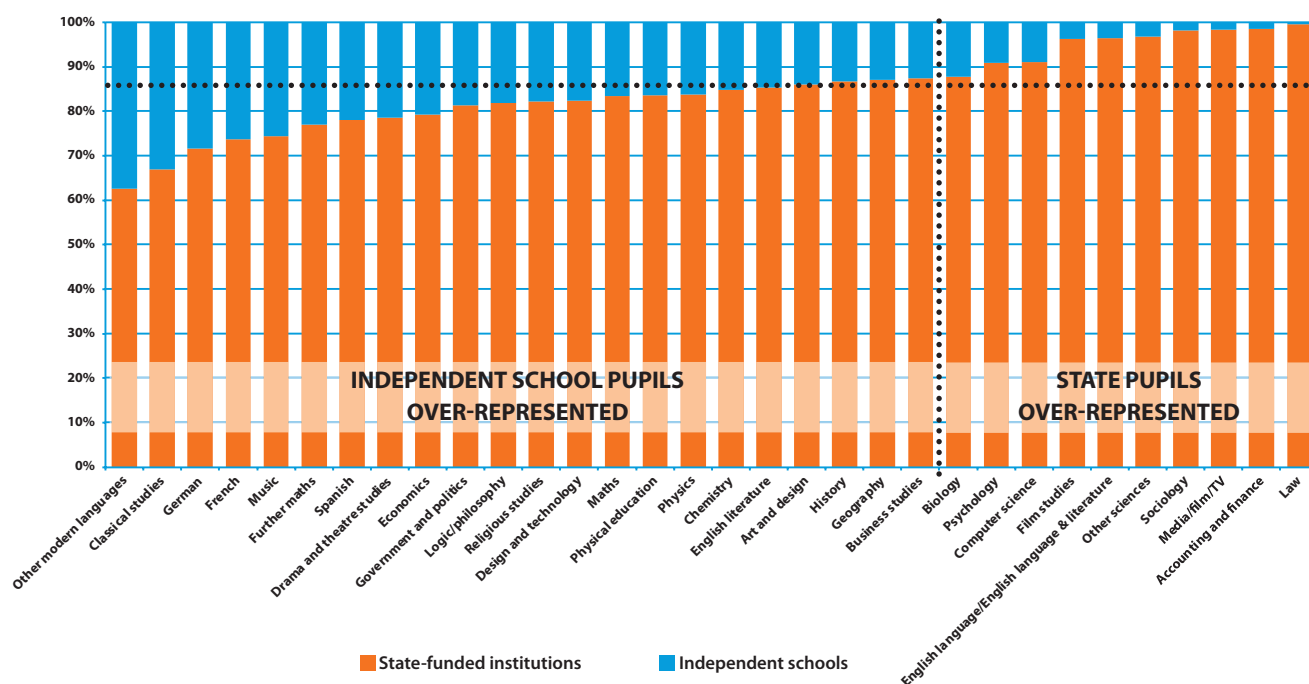


Figure 41 shows the proportion of A-level entries for each subject broken down by independent schools and state-funded institutions. Despite only 12.5% of A-level students coming from independent schools, the data illustrate that independent pupils are over-represented in many key subjects, including economics, modern foreign languages (MFL) and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and

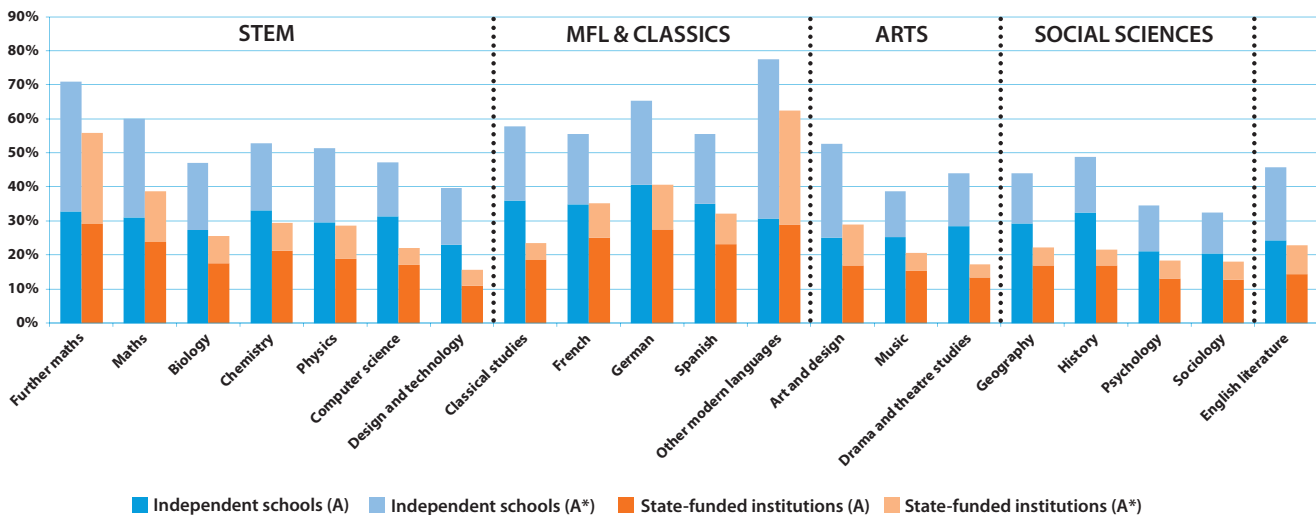
mathematics). For example, nearly a quarter (23%) of further mathematics entries, nearly three in ten (28%) of MFL entries and about one in six physics (16%) and chemistry (15%) entries are from independent school pupils. In contrast, 91% of both computer science and psychology entries and 98% of sociology entries are from state-funded institutions.

¹ DfE: Student counts and results – A-level by institution type and gender.

Figure 42 illustrates the proportion of entries awarded the two top A-level grades of A* and A in independent and state-funded institutions. It shows that independent school candidates outperform state-funded entrants in many key subjects. For example, in chemistry, maths, and German, over half (53%, 60%, and 65% respectively) of independent school entries are graded A* or A, compared with state-funded institution candidates where 29%, 39%, and 41% received the top two grades in these subjects. Looking at the other two most popular modern foreign language subjects, 56% of

independent school candidates received an A* or A grade in both French and Spanish. In contrast, only 35% of state-funded candidates gained an A* or A in French and only 32% achieved the same level in Spanish. In social science subjects, independent school candidates also recorded strong performances. In geography, 44% of independent school candidates gained an A* or A compared with 22% in state-funded institutions; and in history, 49% of independent school entries received an A* or A whereas 22% of state-funded candidates gained the same grades.

Fig 42. Proportion A*/A (A-level) grades in England



Overall, half (50%) of A-level entries from independent schools were awarded an A* or A grade. This contrasts with state-funded institutions where one in four (25%) entries gained an A* or A grade. DfE data¹ also show that over three quarters (76%) of the top 100 schools and colleges and nearly four in five (78%) of the top 50 schools ranked by average A-level points score are independent schools.

While most ISC pupils take A-levels at the end of Year 13, 4.8% of ISC pupils in summer 2024 took the International Baccalaureate Diploma. Figure 43 summarises some key statistics from the IB Diploma Programme Statistical Bulletin² alongside data collected from ISC schools in August 2024. Over a third of all UK IB candidates come from ISC schools. Proportionally, three and a half times as many ISC pupils gained 40 or more points in the Diploma compared with the worldwide average.

Fig 43. Key statistics for IB

	Worldwide	UK	ISC
Number of candidates taking IB	192,866	5,041	1,780
% of candidates gaining 40 or more Diploma points	9.3%	Not reported	32.6%

¹ DfE school performance data – 16 to 18 results (revised).

² https://ibo.org/globalassets/new-structure/about-the-ib/pdfs/dp-final-statistical-bulletin-may-2024_en.pdf.

Appendix One

Non-Comparative Tables

The tables in Appendix One show figures for all 1,423 schools completing the Census this year and therefore cannot be compared to previous years on a like-for-like basis. These tables follow the same format as last year.

Table 1. School and pupil numbers by category of school

This table shows total school and pupil numbers, including a breakdown by category of school. The girls at “single-sex: boys” schools and the boys at “single-sex: girls” schools are all in the nursery.

Schools	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Charities	191	385	389	71	139	755	343	622	965
Other	90	134	234	22	12	424	91	367	458
Total	281	519	623	93	151	1,179	434	989	1,423
Not-for-profit	206	413	408	76	144	807	352	675	1,027
For-profit	75	106	215	17	7	372	82	314	396
Total	281	519	623	93	151	1,179	434	989	1,423
Pupils									
Boarders (boys)	21,561	8,863	3,254	6,042	0	27,636	33,678	0	33,678
Boarders (girls)	19,583	7,830	1,944	0	6,468	22,889	29,357	0	29,357
Day pupils (boys)	43,520	124,643	75,015	35,852	163	207,163	78,755	164,423	243,178
Day pupils (girls)	40,074	137,509	61,844	136	66,421	172,870	67,000	172,427	239,427
Total (boys)	65,081	133,506	78,269	41,894	163	234,799	112,433	164,423	276,856
Total (girls)	59,657	145,339	63,788	136	72,889	195,759	96,357	172,427	268,784
Total	124,738	278,845	142,057	42,030	73,052	430,558	208,790	336,850	545,640

Table 2. Pupil numbers by age

This table shows the number of pupils in all ISC schools by age, gender and day/boarding.

Age on 31st August 2024	Boarders (boys)	Day pupils (boys)	Boarders (girls)	Day pupils (girls)	Total
0-2	0	5,961	0	5,985	11,946
3	0	8,085	0	8,329	16,414
4	0	9,670	0	9,741	19,411
5	0	10,460	0	10,338	20,798
6	0	11,340	2	10,945	22,287
7	56	12,888	53	12,501	25,498
8	180	14,052	139	13,604	27,975
9	403	15,003	260	14,928	30,594
10	660	16,242	449	15,604	32,955
11	1,373	20,681	1,258	19,940	43,252
12	1,796	21,697	1,775	21,218	46,486
13	3,895	21,681	3,002	21,413	49,991
14	4,547	21,501	3,808	21,655	51,511
15	5,499	21,040	4,747	20,980	52,266
16	7,115	16,325	6,529	16,063	46,032
17	6,908	15,364	6,278	15,014	43,564
18	1,128	987	939	944	3,998
19	118	201	118	225	662
Total	33,678	243,178	29,357	239,427	545,640

**Table 3. Pupil numbers
by year group**

This table shows the number of pupils in all ISC schools by year group, gender and day/boarding.

Year group	Boarders (boys)	Day pupils (boys)	Boarders (girls)	Day pupils (girls)	Total
Nursery	0	14,120	0	14,326	28,446
Reception	0	9,684	0	9,737	19,421
Year 1	0	10,478	0	10,403	20,881
Year 2	0	11,390	2	10,931	22,323
Year 3	49	12,895	54	12,498	25,496
Year 4	203	14,087	135	13,647	28,072
Year 5	426	15,025	251	14,918	30,620
Year 6	659	16,258	441	15,579	32,937
Year 7	1,431	20,701	1,297	19,903	43,332
Year 8	1,836	21,697	1,783	21,187	46,503
Year 9	3,996	21,687	3,112	21,462	50,257
Year 10	4,831	21,538	4,074	21,749	52,192
Year 11	5,640	21,146	4,627	21,085	52,498
Year 12	7,530	16,259	7,102	16,018	46,909
Year 13	7,077	16,213	6,479	15,984	45,753
Total	33,678	243,178	29,357	239,427	545,640

**Table 4. New pupil numbers
by year group**

This table shows the number of pupils new to their school this academic year by year group, gender and day/boarding.

Year group	Boarders (boys)	Day pupils (boys)	Boarders (girls)	Day pupils (girls)	Total
Nursery	0	6,963	0	7,173	14,136
Reception	0	4,268	0	4,367	8,635
Year 1	0	1,041	0	1,053	2,094
Year 2	0	1,036	0	1,055	2,091
Year 3	25	2,859	21	2,397	5,302
Year 4	102	1,628	42	1,388	3,160
Year 5	125	1,693	64	1,743	3,625
Year 6	184	1,595	124	1,415	3,318
Year 7	579	11,145	867	11,219	23,810
Year 8	351	1,296	366	1,450	3,463
Year 9	3,253	4,026	2,063	2,809	12,151
Year 10	1,111	1,003	1,186	1,260	4,560
Year 11	855	331	820	352	2,358
Year 12	3,039	2,291	3,672	3,557	12,559
Year 13	214	407	265	396	1,282
Total	9,838	41,582	9,490	41,634	102,544

Table 5. Pupil numbers by region

This table shows the number of pupils by region. Please see Appendix Three, Figure 1 for definitions of regions.

Region ¹	No. of schools	Boarders (boys)	Day pupils (boys)	Boarders (girls)	Day pupils (girls)	Total boarders	Total day pupils	Total pupils
London	316	1,847	54,305	659	56,924	2,506	111,229	113,735
South Central	226	9,297	30,499	8,250	30,952	17,547	61,451	78,998
South East	200	6,561	33,967	6,485	31,822	13,046	65,789	78,835
East	152	2,982	29,811	2,916	27,703	5,898	57,514	63,412
West Midlands	107	2,381	15,846	2,082	15,687	4,463	31,533	35,996
South West	95	3,946	14,159	3,489	14,165	7,435	28,324	35,759
North West	95	1,093	17,087	809	16,631	1,902	33,718	35,620
East Midlands	75	2,046	10,364	1,473	10,388	3,519	20,752	24,271
Yorkshire and Humber	67	1,353	11,879	1,574	11,504	2,927	23,383	26,310
Scotland	33	1,164	11,084	936	11,096	2,100	22,180	24,280
Wales	20	626	2,950	488	2,981	1,114	5,931	7,045
North East	16	160	3,391	97	3,559	257	6,950	7,207
All²	1,423	33,678	243,178	29,357	239,427	63,035	482,605	545,640

¹ Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are not listed due to the small number of schools in these regions.

² The total includes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Table 6. Fees by region (including nursery fees) in September 2024

This table shows average termly fees by region and type of school (data from 904 schools that participated in the ISC fees survey in autumn 2024). Please see Appendix Three, Figure 1 for definitions of regions.

Region ¹	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
London	£15,862	£12,632	£7,639
South Central	£15,770	£8,638	£6,505
South East	£15,461	£9,079	£7,013
East	£14,206	£8,640	£6,611
West Midlands	£15,164	£7,324	£5,478
South West	£14,481	£7,753	£5,769
North West	£11,928	£5,238	£4,609
East Midlands	£15,130	£9,414	£5,604
Yorkshire and Humber	£10,014	£6,820	£5,279
Scotland	£15,081	£7,883	£5,653
Wales	£16,058	£6,783	£5,109
North East	£12,527	no data	£5,325
All²	£15,046	£8,352	£6,360

¹ Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are not listed due to the small number of schools in these regions.

² The total includes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Table 7. Fees by region (including nursery fees) in January 2025

This table shows average termly fees excluding VAT by region and type of school. Please see Appendix Three, Figure 1 for definitions of regions.

Region ¹	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
London	£15,972	£11,579	£7,436
South Central	£15,274	£8,497	£6,227
South East	£14,554	£8,785	£6,519
East	£13,584	£8,314	£6,394
West Midlands	£14,101	£6,774	£5,155
South West	£14,182	£7,467	£5,424
North West	£12,828	£6,039	£4,380
East Midlands	£14,407	£8,198	£5,545
Yorkshire and Humber	£9,246	£5,703	£5,117
Scotland	£13,914	£8,160	£5,379
Wales	£15,485	£6,152	£5,040
North East	£11,588	£5,818	£4,973
All²	£14,365	£8,015	£6,068

Table 8. Fees by age group (including nursery fees) in September 2024

This table shows average termly fees for different age groups in ISC schools (data from 904 schools that participated in the ISC fees survey in autumn 2024).

Age group	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
Sixth form	£15,579	£9,266	£6,975
Senior	£14,851	£8,778	£6,819
Junior	£10,584	£6,611	£5,858
Nursery		£4,298	£4,808
Overall including nursery	£15,046	£8,352	£6,360

Table 9. Fees by age group (including nursery fees) in January 2025

This table shows average termly fees excluding VAT for different age groups in ISC schools.

Age group	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
Sixth form	£14,966	£9,016	£6,652
Senior	£14,154	£8,472	£6,541
Junior	£10,223	£6,530	£5,572
Nursery		£4,248	£4,814
Overall including nursery	£14,365	£8,015	£6,068

Table 10a. Contributions to fees: senior, mixed-age and junior schools (termly values)

For ISC schools categorised by pupil age, this table shows the breakdown of contributions to fees by type of contribution.

	Senior (pupils)	Senior (value £m)	Mixed-age (pupils)	Mixed-age (value £m)	Junior (pupils)	Junior (value £m)	Total (pupils)	Total (value £m)	% of all pupils
The school	41,407	141.92	84,506	184.78	29,925	45.07	155,838	371.77	28.6
The school: means-tested: bursaries	11,489	73.88	20,421	81.99	5,008	14.57	36,918	170.44	6.8
The school: means-tested: scholarships	1,129	4.88	911	1.70	132	0.39	2,172	6.97	0.4
The school: means-tested: eligible families ¹	330	0.88	1,004	3.00	452	0.97	1,786	4.86	0.3
The school: non-means-tested: scholarships	21,775	30.58	33,912	40.10	2,600	2.72	58,287	73.40	10.7
The school: non-means-tested: eligible families ¹	13,066	31.70	40,839	57.98	23,198	26.36	77,103	116.04	14.1
The school: itrust ²	0	0.00	5	0.01	22	0.06	27	0.07	0.00
Early Years Funding	0	0.00	8,074	10.65	17,591	20.76	25,665	31.41	4.7
Local Authorities ³	1,597	21.82	4,987	56.54	384	3.22	6,968	81.58	1.3
Government support for military families, e.g. CEA	582	5.77	607	5.36	230	1.68	1,419	12.80	0.3
Government Music and Dance Scheme	549	3.32	472	4.50	6	0.01	1,027	7.82	0.2
All other sources	568	2.40	607	1.87	353	1.45	1,528	5.72	0.3
Total	43,398	175.22	95,245	263.70	44,844	72.18	183,487	511.11	34.5
Number of pupils helped as a % of all pupils	35.8		35.4		31.7		34.5		

¹ Includes HM Forces discounts, staff discounts, sibling discounts and clergy discounts.

² itrust is an IAPS charity supporting low-income families and families with short-term financial difficulties.

³ Excludes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Table 10b. Contributions to fees: single-sex and co-educational schools (termly values)

For ISC schools categorised by pupil gender, this table shows the breakdown of contributions to fees by type of contribution.

	Single-sex: boys' (pupils)	Single-sex: boys' (value £m)	Single-sex: girls' (pupils)	Single-sex: girls' (value £m)	Co-ed (pupils)	Co-ed (value £m)	Total (pupils)	Total (value £m)	% of all pupils
The school	7,523	25.97	18,572	47.71	129,743	298.10	155,838	371.77	28.6
The school: means-tested: bursaries	2,714	16.73	5,218	28.16	28,986	125.55	36,918	170.44	6.8
The school: means-tested: scholarships	161	1.18	63	0.17	1,948	5.61	2,172	6.97	0.4
The school: means-tested: eligible families ¹	171	0.42	264	0.47	1,351	3.97	1,786	4.86	0.3
The school: non-means-tested: scholarships	2,896	3.33	9,432	9.49	45,959	60.58	58,287	73.40	10.7
The school: non-means-tested: eligible families ¹	2,153	4.31	6,005	9.41	68,945	102.32	77,103	116.04	14.1
The school: itrust ²	0	0.00	1	0.00	26	0.07	27	0.07	0.00
Early Years Funding	494	0.60	1,025	1.17	24,146	29.64	25,665	31.41	4.7
Local Authorities ³	550	4.59	82	0.50	6,336	76.49	6,968	81.58	1.3
Government support for military families, e.g. CEA	13	0.13	20	0.05	1,386	12.62	1,419	12.80	0.3
Government Music and Dance Scheme	6	0.01	0	0.00	1,021	7.82	1,027	7.82	0.2
All other sources	104	0.86	132	0.44	1,292	4.43	1,528	5.72	0.3
Total	8,153	32.14	19,416	49.87	155,918	429.10	183,487	511.11	34.5
Number of pupils helped as a % of all pupils	21.1		27.1		37.0		34.5		

¹ Includes HM Forces discounts, staff discounts, sibling discounts and clergy discounts.

² itrust is an IAPS charity supporting low-income families and families with short-term financial difficulties.

³ Excludes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Table 10c. Contributions to fees: day and boarding schools (termly values)

For ISC schools categorised by day and boarding, this table shows the breakdown of contributions to fees by type of contribution.

	Schools with boarders (pupils)	Schools with boarders (value £m)	Day schools (pupils)	Day schools (value £m)	Total (pupils)	Total (value £m)	% of all pupils
The school	76,352	225.28	79,486	146.49	155,838	371.77	28.6
The school: means-tested: bursaries	18,181	98.29	18,737	72.15	36,918	170.44	6.8
The school: means-tested: scholarships	1,156	5.16	1,016	1.81	2,172	6.97	0.4
The school: means-tested: eligible families ¹	843	3.59	943	1.27	1,786	4.86	0.3
The school: non-means-tested: scholarships	32,899	47.83	25,388	25.57	58,287	73.40	10.7
The school: non-means-tested: eligible families ¹	36,041	70.38	41,062	45.65	77,103	116.04	14.1
The school: itrust ²	11	0.03	16	0.04	27	0.07	0.00
Early Years Funding	5,107	5.78	20,558	25.63	25,665	31.41	4.7
Local Authorities ³	1,649	17.99	5,319	63.59	6,968	81.58	1.3
Government support for military families, e.g. CEA	1,416	12.79	3	0.01	1,419	12.80	0.3
Government Music and Dance Scheme	1,027	7.82	0	0.00	1,027	7.82	0.2
All other sources	862	3.89	666	1.83	1,528	5.72	0.3
Total	82,787	273.55	100,700	237.56	183,487	511.11	34.5
Number of pupils helped as a % of all pupils	40.3		30.9		34.5		

¹ Includes HM Forces discounts, staff discounts, sibling discounts and clergy discounts.

² itrust is an IAPS charity supporting low-income families and families with short-term financial difficulties.

³ Excludes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Table 11. Non-British pupils whose parents live overseas

This table shows the number of non-British pupils whose parents live overseas by country/area of residence.

	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys ¹	Single-sex: girls ¹	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
France	183	155	54	17	19	356	383	9	392
Germany	984	1,079	11	27	51	1,996	2,063	11	2,074
Russia	541	229	21	12	14	765	781	10	791
Spain	467	464	287	51	112	1,055	1,163	55	1,218
Ireland	23	42	7	20	0	52	70	2	72
Italy	301	131	5	4	6	427	430	7	437
Poland	64	69	9	2	9	131	139	3	142
Romania	82	18	5	2	3	100	99	6	105
Ukraine	381	239	25	10	19	616	620	25	645
Remainder of Europe (EEA)	862	439	64	38	60	1,267	1,332	33	1,365
Remainder of Europe (non-EEA)	508	218	9	20	19	696	726	9	735
Nigeria	409	173	21	19	71	513	578	25	603
Rest of Africa	334	231	26	7	45	539	566	25	591
USA	184	167	38	24	37	328	374	15	389
Rest of North America	100	78	12	10	14	166	187	3	190
Central and South America	357	258	15	5	27	598	595	35	630
Middle East	531	150	13	21	19	654	666	28	694
Hong Kong	2,892	1,507	80	350	721	3,408	4,411	68	4,479
Mainland China	3,892	1,950	416	306	824	5,128	6,057	201	6,258
Taiwan	84	52	6	4	16	122	135	7	142
Japan	280	296	99	33	35	607	659	16	675
South Korea	221	89	21	28	31	272	315	16	331
Malaysia	179	37	2	11	23	184	207	11	218
Thailand	426	142	65	64	71	498	625	8	633
India	164	70	11	16	14	215	226	19	245
Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh	42	19	3	2	8	54	59	5	64
Central Asia	298	67	11	8	6	362	363	13	376
Remainder of Far East	717	159	38	31	86	797	889	25	914
Oceania	68	36	14	6	12	100	109	9	118
Total	15,574	8,564	1,388	1,148	2,372	22,006	24,827	699	25,526
As a % of all pupils	12.5%	3.1%	1.0%	2.7%	3.2%	5.1%	11.9%	0.2%	4.7%

Table 12. Non-British pupils whose parents live in the UK

This table shows the number of non-British pupils whose parents live in the UK by country/area of nationality.

	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
France	382	1,368	572	163	271	1,888	596	1,726	2,322
Germany	264	520	323	108	194	805	429	678	1,107
Russia	188	259	279	71	96	559	286	440	726
Spain	226	767	227	77	147	996	276	944	1,220
Ireland	437	683	253	123	265	985	630	743	1,373
Italy	377	542	304	139	242	842	355	868	1,223
Poland	108	226	77	17	64	330	144	267	411
Romania	65	151	82	19	32	247	114	184	298
Ukraine	342	592	312	51	176	1,019	609	637	1,246
Remainder of Europe (EEA)	1,017	1,739	1,057	352	572	2,889	1,296	2,517	3,813
Remainder of Europe (non-EEA)	180	381	242	33	112	658	312	491	803
Nigeria	192	407	121	39	93	588	328	392	720
Rest of Africa	211	710	300	63	158	1,000	511	710	1,221
USA	686	2,529	1,513	277	560	3,891	1,714	3,014	4,728
Rest of North America	123	276	166	41	96	428	190	375	565
Central and South America	130	377	181	19	73	596	247	441	688
Middle East	177	415	259	53	104	694	153	698	851
Hong Kong	874	1,601	272	316	602	1,829	1,561	1,186	2,747
Mainland China	1,161	2,245	1,295	600	950	3,151	2,240	2,461	4,701
Taiwan	7	35	23	3	12	50	22	43	65
Japan	142	297	242	38	117	526	232	449	681
South Korea	125	271	196	48	144	400	210	382	592
Malaysia	45	76	39	24	25	111	53	107	160
Thailand	28	22	21	5	9	57	58	13	71
India	226	1,080	460	153	392	1,221	369	1,397	1,766
Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh	92	301	102	51	104	340	122	373	495
Central Asia	48	86	59	16	30	147	83	110	193
Remainder of Far East	108	222	139	26	76	367	178	291	469
Oceania	209	425	335	59	123	787	394	575	969
Total	8,170	18,603	9,451	2,984	5,839	27,401	13,712	22,512	36,224
As a % of all pupils	6.5%	6.7%	6.7%	7.1%	8.0%	6.4%	6.6%	6.7%	6.6%

Table 13. New non-British pupils whose parents live overseas

This table shows the number of new non-British pupils whose parents live overseas by country/area of residence.

	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
France	94	93	34	5	7	209	215	6	221
Germany	672	780	2	13	37	1,404	1,449	5	1,454
Russia	195	74	7	6	2	268	273	3	276
Spain	298	331	234	39	82	742	830	33	863
Ireland	7	12	2	11	0	10	21	0	21
Italy	144	61	1	2	2	202	204	2	206
Poland	34	36	5	1	6	68	73	2	75
Romania	27	6	0	0	0	33	33	0	33
Ukraine	152	100	3	0	7	248	249	6	255
Remainder of Europe (EEA)	410	164	23	12	20	565	585	12	597
Remainder of Europe (non-EEA)	257	105	4	5	8	353	363	3	366
Nigeria	141	55	6	4	17	181	196	6	202
Rest of Africa	128	74	5	3	14	190	199	8	207
USA	64	75	23	14	13	135	151	11	162
Rest of North America	61	61	9	5	8	118	129	2	131
Central and South America	267	189	5	3	18	440	435	26	461
Middle East	260	55	5	5	6	309	307	13	320
Hong Kong	896	349	35	84	160	1,036	1,250	30	1,280
Mainland China	1,816	810	168	118	298	2,378	2,718	76	2,794
Taiwan	41	18	2	1	7	53	58	3	61
Japan	97	105	46	11	13	224	236	12	248
South Korea	84	39	12	5	8	122	126	9	135
Malaysia	83	16	1	3	9	88	91	9	100
Thailand	158	42	16	11	24	181	214	2	216
India	65	23	3	4	1	86	85	6	91
Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh	22	5	0	1	5	21	25	2	27
Central Asia	141	28	2	1	2	168	168	3	171
Remainder of Far East	347	65	22	12	31	391	423	11	434
Oceania	24	9	2	1	3	31	35	0	35
Total	6,985	3,780	677	380	808	10,254	11,141	301	11,442
As a % of all new pupils	23.0%	8.3%	2.6%	5.0%	6.7%	12.4%	24.7%	0.5%	11.2%

Table 14. New non-British pupils whose parents live in the UK

This table shows the number of new non-British pupils whose parents live in the UK by country/area of nationality.

	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
France	69	275	116	26	43	391	136	324	460
Germany	71	110	69	11	31	208	115	135	250
Russia	56	51	49	13	12	131	74	82	156
Spain	60	140	62	12	32	218	85	177	262
Ireland	75	111	63	30	33	186	123	126	249
Italy	73	90	42	17	38	150	68	137	205
Poland	26	60	17	3	13	87	44	59	103
Romania	9	36	15	6	8	46	24	36	60
Ukraine	82	93	47	6	34	182	111	111	222
Remainder of Europe (EEA)	220	357	224	57	92	652	274	527	801
Remainder of Europe (non-EEA)	50	124	52	6	27	193	95	131	226
Nigeria	56	82	23	10	34	117	71	90	161
Rest of Africa	50	136	62	6	29	213	112	136	248
USA	209	611	420	56	143	1,041	437	803	1,240
Rest of North America	31	59	41	8	25	98	31	100	131
Central and South America	41	106	57	8	17	179	71	133	204
Middle East	70	166	91	15	33	279	47	280	327
Hong Kong	214	286	47	64	133	350	290	257	547
Mainland China	304	479	361	130	202	812	558	586	1,144
Taiwan	4	10	5	1	4	14	8	11	19
Japan	36	84	85	13	35	157	64	141	205
South Korea	37	83	81	14	35	152	61	140	201
Malaysia	12	22	6	4	5	31	9	31	40
Thailand	6	3	5	2	2	10	8	6	14
India	56	215	100	35	82	254	85	286	371
Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh	20	69	19	14	19	75	24	84	108
Central Asia	12	30	11	5	12	36	14	39	53
Remainder of Far East	35	60	41	7	14	115	51	85	136
Oceania	54	92	94	15	22	203	95	145	240
Total	2,038	4,040	2,305	594	1,209	6,580	3,185	5,198	8,383
As a % of all new pupils	6.7%	8.8%	8.7%	7.8%	10.0%	7.9%	7.1%	9.1%	8.2%

Table 15. British pupils with parents living overseas

This table shows the number of British pupils whose parents live abroad or serve in HM Forces, as well as the number who are new to their school this year.

British pupils whose parents:	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Live abroad	1,936	875	230	294	306	2,441	2,942	99	3,041
Serve in HM Forces	1,342	1,814	1,272	119	260	4,049	3,754	674	4,428
New British pupils whose parents:									
Live abroad	511	254	80	64	58	723	817	28	845
Serve in HM Forces	264	282	225	27	39	705	690	81	771

Table 16. Destination of post-18 school leavers

This table shows the percentage of school leavers in all ISC schools arriving at various destinations post-18.

Non-deferred university entries	Senior	Mixed-age	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
% to UK universities	67.2	71.8	71.9	76.9	68.0	65.4	75.1	69.6
% to overseas universities	5.9	4.5	5.8	4.3	5.2	6.7	3.2	5.2
% to unknown university	3.2	2.0	0.5	0.8	3.1	3.0	2.1	2.6
Deferred university entries								
% to UK universities	8.6	5.1	7.0	5.8	6.9	8.2	4.9	6.7
% to overseas universities	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
% to unknown university (incl. planning post-qualification application)	5.3	4.5	6.2	5.0	4.7	5.3	4.4	4.9
Other								
% to other higher education courses	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.3
% to further education or training	1.2	2.2	1.2	1.0	1.9	1.5	2.0	1.7
% to re-take A-levels	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.2	0.8	0.8	1.1	0.9
% to employment	1.6	3.1	1.2	1.0	2.8	2.0	2.8	2.4
% to other	1.5	1.6	1.1	1.2	1.6	1.7	1.3	1.5
% to unknown	3.4	2.6	2.6	1.4	3.3	3.9	1.8	3.0
Total number recorded	21,921	23,939	3,888	6,471	35,501	25,850	20,010	45,860

Table 17. Destination of pupils going to non-UK universities

This table shows the destination of post-18 school leavers going to non-UK universities from ISC schools.

	Senior	Mixed-age	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
USA	638	502	157	158	825	791	349	1,140
Spain	85	72	8	17	132	111	46	157
Canada	88	56	8	19	117	87	57	144
Hong Kong	103	40	10	17	116	136	7	143
Italy	68	52	15	11	94	80	40	120
Netherlands	49	62	4	11	96	91	20	111
France	33	38	2	13	56	44	27	71
Germany	24	41	1	2	62	59	6	65
Japan	15	41	0	2	54	49	7	56
Australia	40	14	2	7	45	48	6	54
Switzerland	30	23	3	1	49	43	10	53
Ireland	21	15	8	5	23	22	14	36
Austria	7	12	0	1	18	18	1	19
Bulgaria	6	10	2	2	12	3	13	16
Poland	7	7	1	3	10	13	1	14
Belgium	5	8	1	0	12	12	1	13
Hungary	9	4	0	0	13	7	6	13
Thailand	7	4	1	0	10	11	0	11
Israel	1	9	0	1	9	0	10	10
Malta	7	1	0	2	6	7	1	8
Czechia	3	4	0	0	7	6	1	7
UAE	4	3	0	0	7	5	2	7
China	3	3	1	0	5	5	1	6
Greece	3	3	0	3	3	3	3	6
Russia	4	2	0	0	6	5	1	6
Sweden	3	3	0	1	5	3	3	6
New Zealand	2	3	1	0	4	4	1	5
Other countries	30	32	5	6	51	46	16	62
Total	1,295	1,064	230	282	1,847	1,709	650	2,359
% of all pupils going to higher education	6.5%	5.0%	6.4%	4.6%	5.8%	7.3%	3.6%	5.7%

Table 18. Size of schools

This table shows all ISC schools by type and various size brackets.

School size	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
1 - 50	32	20	25	4	1	72	7	70	77
51 - 100	21	40	69	7	6	117	14	116	130
101 - 150	21	37	116	8	9	157	26	148	174
151 - 200	18	36	96	13	14	123	41	109	150
201 - 250	17	34	81	7	10	115	35	97	132
251 - 300	10	28	76	9	13	92	26	88	114
301 - 350	14	22	54	8	8	74	41	49	90
351 - 400	11	25	39	7	9	59	29	46	75
401 - 450	10	21	32	1	10	52	27	36	63
451 - 500	11	29	14	2	8	44	19	35	54
501 - 550	15	21	6	2	9	31	23	19	42
551 - 600	14	17	5	1	5	30	21	15	36
601 - 650	12	15	3	0	7	23	18	12	30
651 - 700	7	15	3	1	4	20	12	13	25
701 - 750	5	19	1	0	5	20	10	15	25
751 - 800	5	20	1	4	5	17	11	15	26
801 - 850	19	12	1	4	6	22	21	11	32
851 - 900	7	9	0	0	2	14	7	9	16
901 - 950	4	15	0	0	7	12	7	12	19
951 - 1000	7	7	0	1	2	11	5	9	14
1001 - 1050	5	8	1	0	3	11	4	10	14
1051 - 1100	2	7	0	3	2	4	4	5	9
1101 - 1150	6	13	0	1	5	13	6	13	19
1151 - 1200	2	9	0	2	0	9	2	9	11
1201 - 1250	2	4	0	1	1	4	3	3	6
1251 - 1300	2	7	0	0	0	9	5	4	9
1301 - 1350	2	6	0	3	0	5	3	5	8
1351 - 1400	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
1401 - 1450	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	2	2
1451 - 1500	0	3	0	1	0	2	0	3	3
1501 - 1550	0	3	0	2	0	1	2	1	3
1551 - 1600	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	2	2
1601 - 1650	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1
1651 - 1700	0	3	0	1	0	2	0	3	3
1701+	0	8	0	0	0	8	3	5	8
Total	281	519	623	93	151	1,179	434	989	1,423
Mean size	444	537	228	452	484	365	481	341	383
Median size	384	443	204	284	419	253	399	222	273

Table 19. Boarders as a percentage of all pupils

This table shows all ISC schools grouped by type and percentage of boarders.

% boarders	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
0	126	355	508	62	116	811	0	989	989
1 - 4	2	19	18	4	2	33	39	0	39
5 - 9	10	34	27	4	2	65	71	0	71
10 - 14	10	29	17	3	6	47	56	0	56
15 - 19	2	25	14	1	0	40	41	0	41
20 - 24	10	11	9	1	2	27	30	0	30
25 - 29	5	9	8	1	3	18	22	0	22
30 - 34	8	8	6	0	1	21	22	0	22
35 - 39	6	7	4	2	2	13	17	0	17
40 - 44	10	3	4	1	2	14	17	0	17
45 - 49	13	3	1	1	4	12	17	0	17
50 - 54	6	3	2	2	0	9	11	0	11
55 - 59	7	3	0	2	1	7	10	0	10
60 - 64	4	4	1	0	1	8	9	0	9
65 - 69	3	2	0	0	0	5	5	0	5
70 - 74	4	0	0	0	0	4	4	0	4
75 - 79	13	2	1	1	2	13	16	0	16
80 - 84	13	0	0	0	1	12	13	0	13
85 - 89	6	0	0	0	2	4	6	0	6
90 - 94	7	0	1	2	2	4	8	0	8
95 - 99	11	0	0	1	1	9	11	0	11
100	5	2	2	5	1	3	9	0	9
Total	281	519	623	93	151	1,179	434	989	1,423
% boarders	33.0%	6.0%	3.7%	14.4%	8.9%	11.7%	30.2%	0.0%	11.6%

Table 20. Boys as a percentage of all pupils

This table shows all ISC schools grouped by type and percentage of boys.

% boys	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
0	47	64	23	0	134	0	33	101	134
1 - 4	0	16	4	0	12	8	9	11	20
5 - 9	0	5	4	0	3	6	0	9	9
10 - 14	3	2	2	0	2	5	2	5	7
15 - 19	1	2	2	0	0	5	2	3	5
20 - 24	2	3	3	0	0	8	3	5	8
25 - 29	2	1	4	0	0	7	0	7	7
30 - 34	3	1	2	0	0	6	1	5	6
35 - 39	5	10	11	0	0	26	7	19	26
40 - 44	5	17	31	0	0	53	9	44	53
45 - 49	20	53	87	0	0	160	36	124	160
50 - 54	51	139	205	0	0	395	127	268	395
55 - 59	54	96	118	0	0	268	114	154	268
60 - 64	27	42	40	0	0	109	32	77	109
65 - 69	10	12	13	0	0	35	10	25	35
70 - 74	9	12	5	0	0	26	6	20	26
75 - 79	5	9	5	0	0	19	1	18	19
80 - 84	3	4	3	0	0	10	2	8	10
85 - 89	5	6	2	1	0	12	3	10	13
90 - 94	2	2	10	3	0	11	2	12	14
95 - 99	3	5	7	5	0	10	7	8	15
100	24	18	42	84	0	0	28	56	84
Total	281	519	623	93	151	1,179	434	989	1,423
% boys	52.2%	47.9%	55.1%	99.7%	0.2%	54.5%	53.8%	48.8%	50.7%

Table 21. Teacher numbers¹

This table shows the number of teachers in all ISC schools by type of school.

Full-time	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Men	6,976	9,694	3,261	2,400	1,667	15,864	10,214	9,717	19,931
Women	6,559	14,686	7,744	1,554	4,593	22,842	11,591	17,398	28,989
Total	13,535	24,380	11,005	3,954	6,260	38,706	21,805	27,115	48,920
Part-time									
Men	1,352	1,817	568	395	452	2,890	1,693	2,044	3,737
Women	3,568	7,623	3,800	734	3,048	11,209	5,526	9,465	14,991
Total	4,920	9,440	4,368	1,129	3,500	14,099	7,219	11,509	18,728
Part-time hours									
Men	23,596	33,345	9,917	6,885	8,319	51,654	30,036	36,823	66,858
Women	67,397	155,397	77,765	14,911	58,022	227,626	109,903	190,655	300,559
Total	90,993	188,742	87,681	21,796	66,341	279,280	139,939	227,478	367,417
Overall full-time equivalent (32.5 hours = 1 full-time)									
Men	7,702	10,720	3,566	2,612	1,923	17,453	11,138	10,850	21,988
Women	8,633	19,467	10,137	2,013	6,378	29,846	14,973	23,264	38,237
Total	16,335	30,187	13,703	4,625	8,301	47,299	26,111	34,114	60,225

¹ Excludes nursery staff.

Table 22. Teaching assistant numbers¹

This table shows the number of teaching assistants in all ISC schools by type of school.

Full-time	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Men	153	484	383	97	40	883	306	714	1,020
Women	480	2,921	3,283	341	554	5,789	1,641	5,043	6,684
Total	633	3,405	3,666	438	594	6,672	1,947	5,757	7,704
Part-time									
Men	70	203	96	34	16	319	136	233	369
Women	453	2,534	2,435	249	606	4,567	1,596	3,826	5,422
Total	523	2,737	2,531	283	622	4,886	1,732	4,059	5,791
Part-time hours									
Men	1,177	3,758	1,787	646	259	5,817	2,532	4,190	6,722
Women	7,983	53,177	52,065	5,363	11,104	96,757	33,075	80,150	113,225
Total	9,160	56,936	53,852	6,010	11,364	102,574	35,607	84,340	119,947
Overall full-time equivalent (32.5 hours = 1 full-time)									
Men	189	600	438	117	48	1,062	384	843	1,227
Women	726	4,557	4,885	506	896	8,766	2,659	7,509	10,168
Total	915	5,157	5,323	623	944	9,828	3,043	8,352	11,395

¹ Excludes nursery staff.

Table 23. Pupil-teacher ratios

This table shows the pupil and teacher gender ratios, along with the overall pupil-teacher ratio in ISC schools.

Pupils	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Boys	65,081	133,506	78,269	41,894	163	234,799	112,433	164,423	276,856
Girls	59,657	145,339	63,788	136	72,889	195,759	96,357	172,427	268,784
Total	124,738	278,845	142,057	42,030	73,052	430,558	208,790	336,850	545,640
Gender ratios									
Boys:girls (pupils)	1.1:1	0.9:1	1.2:1	308.0:1	0.0:1	1.2:1	1.2:1	1.0:1	1.0:1
Men:women (teachers) ¹	0.9:1	0.6:1	0.4:1	1.3:1	0.3:1	0.6:1	0.7:1	0.5:1	0.6:1
Men:women (teaching assistants) ¹	0.3:1	0.1:1	0.1:1	0.2:1	0.1:1	0.1:1	0.1:1	0.1:1	0.1:1
Pupil-teacher ratio ²	7.6:1	8.9:1	9.0:1	8.9:1	8.6:1	8.5:1	7.7:1	9.2:1	8.6:1

¹ Excludes nursery staff.

² Pupil-teacher ratios exclude nursery teachers and nursery pupils.

Table 24. Changes to full-time teachers

This table shows the number of full-time teachers coming into ISC schools (broken down by previous occupation) and leaving ISC schools (broken down by destination).

Arriving from	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Independent schools	648	998	590	166	342	1,728	1,054	1,182	2,236
State-funded schools	555	1,408	395	120	321	1,917	881	1,477	2,358
ITT at university or training college	60	146	59	13	36	216	102	163	265
New graduates	100	111	55	21	25	220	142	124	266
Industry	88	172	32	18	44	230	163	129	292
Outside the UK	142	239	72	28	50	375	241	212	453
Retirement	15	16	11	1	6	35	21	21	42
Maternity leave	116	217	120	45	82	326	187	266	453
Part-time	171	385	134	31	107	552	325	365	690
Other	198	410	162	63	103	604	355	415	770
Total	2,093	4,102	1,630	506	1,116	6,203	3,471	4,354	7,825
Going to									
Independent schools	517	710	404	122	296	1,213	739	892	1,631
State-funded schools	230	709	186	39	142	944	464	661	1,125
Industry	93	187	81	19	42	300	196	165	361
Outside the UK	161	265	120	49	67	430	274	272	546
Retirement	192	383	164	58	103	578	351	388	739
Maternity leave	157	341	241	54	128	557	241	498	739
Part-time	242	512	215	74	211	684	411	558	969
Other	628	1,126	440	147	355	1,692	1,028	1,166	2,194
Total	2,220	4,233	1,851	562	1,344	6,398	3,704	4,600	8,304
Net gain									
Independent schools	131	288	186	44	46	515	315	290	605
State-funded schools	325	699	209	81	179	973	417	816	1,233
Industry	-5	-15	-49	-1	2	-70	-33	-36	-69
Outside the UK	-19	-26	-48	-21	-17	-55	-33	-60	-93
Retirement	-177	-367	-153	-57	-97	-543	-330	-367	-697
Maternity leave	-41	-124	-121	-9	-46	-231	-54	-232	-286
Part-time	-71	-127	-81	-43	-104	-132	-86	-193	-279
Other	-430	-716	-278	-84	-252	-1,088	-673	-751	-1,424
Total	-127	-131	-221	-56	-228	-195	-233	-246	-479
Full-time teachers									
Turnover as % of full-time teachers	16.4	17.4	16.8	14.2	21.5	16.5	17.0	17.0	17.0
Gain as % of full-time teachers	-0.9	-0.5	-2.0	-1.4	-3.6	-0.5	-1.1	-0.9	-1.0
Total	13,535	24,380	11,005	3,954	6,260	38,706	21,805	27,115	48,920

Table 25. SEND pupils¹

This table shows the number of pupils who have been identified with SEND.

Types of SEND	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Specific learning difficulty (SpLD)	18,470	28,932	9,453	3,659	7,041	46,155	26,918	29,937	56,855
Moderate learning difficulty (MLD)	1,127	1,759	988	371	498	3,005	1,534	2,340	3,874
Severe learning difficulty (SLD)	77	108	75	7	16	237	77	183	260
Profound and multiple learning difficulty (PMLD)	42	71	34	1	20	126	55	92	147
Social, emotional and mental health (SEMH)	7,973	13,532	3,912	2,091	3,506	19,820	10,468	14,949	25,417
Speech, language and communication needs (SLCN)	1,186	4,855	3,544	803	725	8,057	2,829	6,756	9,585
Hearing impairment (HI)	441	1,095	440	156	299	1,521	686	1,290	1,976
Visual impairment (VI)	630	1,330	388	291	249	1,808	900	1,448	2,348
Multi-Sensory impairment (MSI)	83	439	139	15	50	596	194	467	661
Physical difficulty (PD)	808	1,562	430	298	405	2,097	1,075	1,725	2,800
Autistic spectrum disorder (ASD)	3,596	9,091	2,754	1,007	1,679	12,755	5,063	10,378	15,441
Down syndrome (DS)	2	13	11	1	1	24	6	20	26
Other difficulty/disability	1,962	4,165	1,310	904	916	5,617	3,024	4,413	7,437
SEN support but no specialist assessment of type of need	2,791	7,626	5,743	1,174	1,572	13,414	6,273	9,887	16,160
Total	32,313	60,924	24,381	8,688	13,817	95,113	49,603	68,015	117,618
% pupils with SEND	25.9%	21.8%	17.2%	20.7%	18.9%	22.1%	23.8%	20.2%	21.6%

¹ Some pupils have more than one SEND; they are counted under each individual category of SEND, but are counted only once in the total.

Appendix Two

Comparative Tables

Unless otherwise stated, tables in Appendix Two show comparative figures for the 1,380 schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025. In each table the 2025 figures are printed in bold and the 2024 figures are printed in italics. Figures highlighted in yellow show the percentage change between the two years. Where schools are categorised by age, gender and by day and boarding, the categorisation is based on the school as it is in 2025; in a small number of cases this will differ from how the school would have been categorised in 2024.

Table 1. Changes to pupil numbers by category of school

This table shows total school and pupil numbers for schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025, including a breakdown by category of school. The girls at “single-sex: boys” schools and the boys at “single-sex: girls” schools are all in the nursery.

Schools	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Number of schools	268	502	610	92	148	1,140	429	951	1,380
Pupils									
Boarders (boys)	21,439	8,805	3,254	6,042	0	27,456	33,498	0	33,498
	<i>22,030</i>	<i>9,493</i>	<i>3,527</i>	<i>6,201</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>28,849</i>	<i>35,013</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>35,050</i>
	-2.7%	-7.2%	-7.7%	-2.6%		-4.8%	-4.3%	-100.0%	-4.4%
Boarders (girls)	19,488	7,810	1,944	0	6,468	22,774	29,242	0	29,242
	<i>19,895</i>	<i>8,613</i>	<i>1,973</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>6,871</i>	<i>23,610</i>	<i>30,469</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>30,481</i>
	-2.0%	-9.3%	-1.5%		-5.9%	-3.5%	-4.0%	-100.0%	-4.1%
Day pupils (boys)	43,260	122,417	74,300	35,740	163	204,074	78,418	161,559	239,977
	<i>43,559</i>	<i>124,405</i>	<i>77,143</i>	<i>36,233</i>	<i>155</i>	<i>208,719</i>	<i>79,727</i>	<i>165,380</i>	<i>245,107</i>
	-0.7%	-1.6%	-3.7%	-1.4%	5.2%	-2.2%	-1.6%	-2.3%	-2.1%
Day pupils (girls)	39,157	135,004	61,337	136	65,443	169,919	66,738	168,760	235,498
	<i>39,566</i>	<i>138,243</i>	<i>63,131</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>67,483</i>	<i>173,332</i>	<i>68,648</i>	<i>172,292</i>	<i>240,940</i>
	-1.0%	-2.3%	-2.8%	8.8%	-3.0%	-2.0%	-2.8%	-2.1%	-2.3%
Total (boys)	64,699	131,222	77,554	41,782	163	231,530	111,916	161,559	273,475
	<i>65,589</i>	<i>133,898</i>	<i>80,670</i>	<i>42,434</i>	<i>155</i>	<i>237,568</i>	<i>114,740</i>	<i>165,417</i>	<i>280,157</i>
	-1.4%	-2.0%	-3.9%	-1.5%	5.2%	-2.5%	-2.5%	-2.3%	-2.4%
Total (girls)	58,645	142,814	63,281	136	71,911	192,693	95,980	168,760	264,740
	<i>59,461</i>	<i>146,856</i>	<i>65,104</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>74,354</i>	<i>196,942</i>	<i>99,117</i>	<i>172,304</i>	<i>271,421</i>
	-1.4%	-2.8%	-2.8%	8.8%	-3.3%	-2.2%	-3.2%	-2.1%	-2.5%
Total	123,344	274,036	140,835	41,918	72,074	424,223	207,896	330,319	538,215
	<i>125,050</i>	<i>280,754</i>	<i>145,774</i>	<i>42,559</i>	<i>74,509</i>	<i>434,510</i>	<i>213,857</i>	<i>337,721</i>	<i>551,578</i>
	-1.4%	-2.4%	-3.4%	-1.5%	-3.3%	-2.4%	-2.8%	-2.2%	-2.4%

Table 2. Changes to pupil numbers by age

This table shows the number of pupils in ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025 by age, gender and day/boarding.

Age	Boarders (boys)	Day pupils (boys)	Boarders (girls)	Day pupils (girls)	Total
0-2	0	5,878	0	5,910	11,788
	0	5,727	0	5,935	11,662
		2.6%		-0.4%	1.1%
3	0	7,976	0	8,221	16,197
	0	8,006	0	8,177	16,183
		-0.4%		0.5%	0.1%
4	0	9,537	0	9,620	19,157
	0	10,156	0	10,093	20,249
		-6.1%		-4.7%	-5.4%
5	0	10,288	0	10,193	20,481
	0	10,998	0	10,583	21,581
		-6.5%		-3.7%	-5.1%
6	0	11,155	2	10,804	21,961
	3	11,636	2	11,459	23,100
	-100.0%	-4.1%	0.0%	-5.7%	-4.9%
7	56	12,725	53	12,366	25,200
	51	13,451	50	13,040	26,592
	9.8%	-5.4%	6.0%	-5.2%	-5.2%
8	180	13,884	139	13,474	27,677
	209	14,141	139	14,119	28,608
	-13.9%	-1.8%	0.0%	-4.6%	-3.3%
9	403	14,855	260	14,784	30,302
	436	15,387	306	14,722	30,851
	-7.6%	-3.5%	-15.0%	0.4%	-1.8%
10	660	16,086	449	15,445	32,640
	746	16,620	451	15,906	33,723
	-11.5%	-3.2%	-0.4%	-2.9%	-3.2%
11	1,367	20,395	1,258	19,538	42,558
	1,503	21,207	1,473	20,577	44,760
	-9.0%	-3.8%	-14.6%	-5.0%	-4.9%
12	1,794	21,423	1,775	20,770	45,762
	2,002	22,135	1,800	21,405	47,342
	-10.4%	-3.2%	-1.4%	-3.0%	-3.3%
13	3,885	21,360	3,001	21,013	49,259
	4,035	21,101	3,257	21,144	49,537
	-3.7%	1.2%	-7.9%	-0.6%	-0.6%
14	4,535	21,220	3,805	21,233	50,793
	4,897	20,772	4,146	20,567	50,382
	-7.4%	2.2%	-8.2%	3.2%	0.8%
15	5,476	20,759	4,730	20,574	51,539
	5,918	21,111	5,027	21,107	53,163
	-7.5%	-1.7%	-5.9%	-2.5%	-3.1%
16	7,062	16,113	6,493	15,717	45,385
	7,146	16,381	6,560	15,708	45,795
	-1.2%	-1.6%	-1.0%	0.1%	-0.9%
17	6,845	15,177	6,229	14,704	42,955
	6,736	14,962	6,061	15,110	42,869
	1.6%	1.4%	2.8%	-2.7%	0.2%
18	1,119	961	934	920	3,934
	1,222	1,104	1,080	1,030	4,436
	-8.4%	-13.0%	-13.5%	-10.7%	-11.3%
19	116	185	114	212	627
	146	212	129	258	745
	-20.5%	-12.7%	-11.6%	-17.8%	-15.8%
Total	33,498	239,977	29,242	235,498	538,215
	35,050	245,107	30,481	240,940	551,578
	-4.4%	-2.1%	-4.1%	-2.3%	-2.4%

Table 3. Changes to pupil numbers by year group

This table shows the number of pupils in ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025 by year group, gender and day/boarding.

Year group	Boarders (boys)	Day pupils (boys)	Boarders (girls)	Day pupils (girls)	Total
Nursery	0	13,927	0	14,139	28,066
	0	14,024	0	14,236	28,260
		-0.7%		-0.7%	-0.7%
Reception	0	9,546	0	9,613	19,159
	0	10,110	0	10,082	20,192
		-5.6%		-4.7%	-5.1%
Year 1	0	10,301	0	10,253	20,554
	0	11,055	0	10,604	21,659
		-6.8%		-3.3%	-5.1%
Year 2	0	11,200	2	10,794	21,996
	1	11,646	2	11,492	23,141
	-100.0%	-3.8%	0.0%	-6.1%	-4.9%
Year 3	49	12,740	54	12,359	25,202
	49	13,471	50	13,064	26,634
	0.0%	-5.4%	8.0%	-5.4%	-5.4%
Year 4	203	13,918	135	13,518	27,774
	238	14,155	143	14,096	28,632
	-14.7%	-1.7%	-5.6%	-4.1%	-3.0%
Year 5	426	14,880	251	14,775	30,332
	445	15,436	307	14,760	30,948
	-4.3%	-3.6%	-18.2%	0.1%	-2.0%
Year 6	659	16,104	441	15,427	32,631
	777	16,614	453	15,907	33,751
	-15.2%	-3.1%	-2.6%	-3.0%	-3.3%
Year 7	1,425	20,416	1,297	19,498	42,636
	1,532	21,328	1,490	20,579	44,929
	-7.0%	-4.3%	-13.0%	-5.3%	-5.1%
Year 8	1,833	21,421	1,783	20,745	45,782
	2,052	22,103	1,822	21,379	47,356
	-10.7%	-3.1%	-2.1%	-3.0%	-3.3%
Year 9	3,986	21,363	3,111	21,049	49,509
	4,168	21,061	3,389	21,115	49,733
	-4.4%	1.4%	-8.2%	-0.3%	-0.5%
Year 10	4,824	21,253	4,071	21,327	51,475
	5,356	20,939	4,407	20,745	51,447
	-9.9%	1.5%	-7.6%	2.8%	0.1%
Year 11	5,603	20,874	4,611	20,682	51,770
	5,874	21,195	4,977	21,131	53,177
	-4.6%	-1.5%	-7.4%	-2.1%	-2.6%
Year 12	7,457	16,048	7,052	15,673	46,230
	7,613	16,212	7,046	15,707	46,578
	-2.0%	-1.0%	0.1%	-0.2%	-0.7%
Year 13	7,033	15,986	6,434	15,646	45,099
	6,945	15,758	6,395	16,043	45,141
	1.3%	1.4%	0.6%	-2.5%	-0.1%
Total	33,498	239,977	29,242	235,498	538,215
	35,050	245,107	30,481	240,940	551,578
	-4.4%	-2.1%	-4.1%	-2.3%	-2.4%

Table 4. Changes to new pupil numbers by year group

This table shows the number of new pupils in ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025 by year group, gender and day/boarding.

Year group	Boarders (boys)	Day pupils (boys)	Boarders (girls)	Day pupils (girls)	Total
Nursery	0	6,869	0	7,067	13,936
	0	7,144	0	7,149	14,293
		-3.8%		-1.1%	-2.5%
Reception	0	4,171	0	4,297	8,468
	0	4,514	0	4,535	9,049
		-7.6%		-5.2%	-6.4%
Year 1	0	1,022	0	1,039	2,061
	0	1,094	0	1,104	2,198
		-6.6%		-5.9%	-6.2%
Year 2	0	1,023	0	1,047	2,070
	1	1,191	0	1,250	2,442
	-100.0%	-14.1%		-16.2%	-15.2%
Year 3	25	2,843	21	2,374	5,263
	29	2,926	21	2,680	5,656
	-13.8%	-2.8%	0.0%	-11.4%	-6.9%
Year 4	102	1,610	42	1,371	3,125
	115	1,784	52	1,611	3,562
	-11.3%	-9.8%	-19.2%	-14.9%	-12.3%
Year 5	125	1,671	64	1,726	3,586
	124	1,726	100	1,873	3,823
	0.8%	-3.2%	-36.0%	-7.8%	-6.2%
Year 6	184	1,568	124	1,396	3,272
	208	1,676	128	1,485	3,497
	-11.5%	-6.4%	-3.1%	-6.0%	-6.4%
Year 7	576	11,070	867	11,012	23,525
	714	11,436	973	11,722	24,845
	-19.3%	-3.2%	-10.9%	-6.1%	-5.3%
Year 8	350	1,273	366	1,426	3,415
	389	1,373	401	1,413	3,576
	-10.0%	-7.3%	-8.7%	0.9%	-4.5%
Year 9	3,252	4,005	2,063	2,782	12,102
	3,461	4,009	2,228	2,891	12,589
	-6.0%	-0.1%	-7.4%	-3.8%	-3.9%
Year 10	1,111	986	1,186	1,241	4,524
	1,383	963	1,355	1,254	4,955
	-19.7%	2.4%	-12.5%	-1.0%	-8.7%
Year 11	836	324	809	349	2,318
	853	364	919	351	2,487
	-2.0%	-11.0%	-12.0%	-0.6%	-6.8%
Year 12	2,983	2,269	3,634	3,524	12,410
	3,067	2,348	3,762	3,495	12,672
	-2.7%	-3.4%	-3.4%	0.8%	-2.1%
Year 13	213	387	261	370	1,231
	223	445	229	479	1,376
	-4.5%	-13.0%	14.0%	-22.8%	-10.5%
Total	9,757	41,091	9,437	41,021	101,306
	10,567	42,993	10,168	43,292	107,020
	-7.7%	-4.4%	-7.2%	-5.2%	-5.3%

Table 5. Changes to pupil numbers by region

For ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025, this table shows the number of pupils by region. Please see Appendix Three, Figure 1 for definitions of regions.

Region ¹	No. of schools	Boarders (boys)	Day pupils (boys)	Boarders (girls)	Day pupils (girls)	Total boarders	Total day pupils	Total pupils
London	304	1,847	53,587	659	55,907	2,506	109,494	112,000
	304	1,899	54,399	679	56,674	2,578	111,073	113,651
		-2.7%	-1.5%	-2.9%	-1.4%	-2.8%	-1.4%	-1.5%
South Central	221	9,297	30,251	8,250	30,765	17,547	61,016	78,563
	221	9,660	30,857	8,615	31,492	18,275	62,349	80,624
		-3.8%	-2.0%	-4.2%	-2.3%	-4.0%	-2.1%	-2.6%
South East	194	6,476	33,700	6,415	31,542	12,891	65,242	78,133
	194	6,681	34,429	6,437	32,387	13,118	66,816	79,934
		-3.1%	-2.1%	-0.3%	-2.6%	-1.7%	-2.4%	-2.3%
East	149	2,920	29,659	2,871	27,634	5,791	57,293	63,084
	149	3,053	30,293	2,982	28,421	6,035	58,714	64,749
		-4.4%	-2.1%	-3.7%	-2.8%	-4.0%	-2.4%	-2.6%
West Midlands	102	2,381	15,753	2,082	15,540	4,463	31,293	35,756
	102	2,443	16,254	2,203	16,000	4,646	32,254	36,900
		-2.5%	-3.1%	-5.5%	-2.9%	-3.9%	-3.0%	-3.1%
South West	95	3,946	14,159	3,489	14,165	7,435	28,324	35,759
	95	4,138	14,374	3,759	14,462	7,897	28,836	36,733
		-4.6%	-1.5%	-7.2%	-2.1%	-5.9%	-1.8%	-2.7%
North West	90	1,093	16,633	809	16,235	1,902	32,868	34,770
	90	1,231	17,065	917	16,664	2,148	33,729	35,877
		-11.2%	-2.5%	-11.8%	-2.6%	-11.5%	-2.6%	-3.1%
East Midlands	71	2,013	10,226	1,473	10,313	3,486	20,539	24,025
	71	2,103	10,600	1,496	10,622	3,599	21,222	24,821
		-4.3%	-3.5%	-1.5%	-2.9%	-3.1%	-3.2%	-3.2%
Yorkshire and Humber	67	1,353	11,879	1,574	11,504	2,927	23,383	26,310
	67	1,450	12,140	1,681	11,813	3,131	23,953	27,084
		-6.7%	-2.1%	-6.4%	-2.6%	-6.5%	-2.4%	-2.9%
Scotland	33	1,164	11,084	936	11,096	2,100	22,180	24,280
	33	1,275	11,309	952	11,319	2,227	22,628	24,855
		-8.7%	-2.0%	-1.7%	-2.0%	-5.7%	-2.0%	-2.3%
Wales	19	626	2,897	488	2,924	1,114	5,821	6,935
	19	685	3,014	530	3,075	1,215	6,089	7,304
		-8.6%	-3.9%	-7.9%	-4.9%	-8.3%	-4.4%	-5.1%
North East	16	160	3,391	97	3,559	257	6,950	7,207
	16	180	3,481	111	3,648	291	7,129	7,420
		-11.1%	-2.6%	-12.6%	-2.4%	-11.7%	-2.5%	-2.9%
All²	1,380	33,498	239,977	29,242	235,498	62,740	475,475	538,215
	1,380	35,050	245,107	30,481	240,940	65,531	486,047	551,578
		-4.4%	-2.1%	-4.1%	-2.3%	-4.3%	-2.2%	-2.4%

¹ Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are not listed due to the small number of schools in these regions.

² The total includes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

**Table 6. Changes to fees by region
between January 2024 and September 2024**

For the 892 ISC schools that participated in both the Census in January 2024 and the ISC fees survey in autumn 2024, this table shows the average termly fees by region. The September 2024 figures are printed in bold and the January 2024 figures are printed in italics. Figures highlighted in yellow show the percentage change between the two time points. Please see Appendix Three, Figure 1 for definitions of regions.

Region ¹	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
London	£15,862	£12,632	£7,634
	<i>£14,790</i>	<i>£11,793</i>	<i>£7,157</i>
	7.2%	7.1%	6.7%
South Central	£15,785	£8,728	£6,536
	<i>£14,694</i>	<i>£8,166</i>	<i>£6,136</i>
	7.4%	6.9%	6.5%
South East	£15,461	£9,086	£6,883
	<i>£14,395</i>	<i>£8,643</i>	<i>£6,396</i>
	7.4%	5.1%	7.6%
East	£14,206	£8,419	£6,541
	<i>£13,255</i>	<i>£7,656</i>	<i>£6,142</i>
	7.2%	10.0%	6.5%
West Midlands	£15,164	£7,111	£5,572
	<i>£14,495</i>	<i>£6,680</i>	<i>£5,163</i>
	4.6%	6.5%	7.9%
South West	£14,486	£7,628	£5,694
	<i>£13,803</i>	<i>£7,185</i>	<i>£5,358</i>
	4.9%	6.2%	6.3%
North West	£11,928	£5,288	£4,619
	<i>£11,080</i>	<i>£5,093</i>	<i>£4,355</i>
	7.7%	3.8%	6.1%
East Midlands	£15,130	£7,573	£5,495
	<i>£13,886</i>	<i>£7,062</i>	<i>£5,144</i>
	9.0%	7.2%	6.8%
Yorkshire and Humber	£10,014	£6,155	£5,297
	<i>£9,414</i>	<i>£5,681</i>	<i>£4,964</i>
	6.4%	8.3%	6.7%
Scotland	£15,081	£8,402	£5,640
	<i>£13,988</i>	<i>£7,559</i>	<i>£5,148</i>
	7.8%	11.2%	9.6%
Wales	£16,058	£6,783	£5,109
	<i>£14,717</i>	<i>£6,369</i>	<i>£4,847</i>
	9.1%	6.5%	5.4%
North East	£12,527	£5,993	£5,233
	<i>£10,979</i>	<i>£5,559</i>	<i>£4,968</i>
	14.1%	7.8%	5.3%
All²	£15,052	£8,236	£6,341
	<i>£14,049</i>	<i>£7,715</i>	<i>£5,930</i>
	7.1%	6.8%	6.9%

¹ Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are not listed due to the small number of schools in these regions.

² The total includes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

**Table 7. Changes to fees by region
between September 2024 and January 2025**

For the 892 ISC schools that participated in both the Census in January 2025 and the ISC fees survey in autumn 2024, this table shows the average termly fees excluding VAT by region. The January 2025 figures are printed in bold and the September 2024 figures are printed in italics. Figures highlighted in yellow show the percentage change between the two time points. Please see Appendix Three, Figure 1 for definitions of regions.

Region ¹	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
London	£14,983	£12,618	£7,262
	<i>£15,862</i>	<i>£12,632</i>	<i>£7,634</i>
	-5.5%	-0.1%	-4.9%
South Central	£15,204	£8,358	£6,265
	<i>£15,785</i>	<i>£8,728</i>	<i>£6,536</i>
	-3.7%	-4.2%	-4.2%
South East	£14,464	£8,633	£6,476
	<i>£15,461</i>	<i>£9,086</i>	<i>£6,883</i>
	-6.5%	-5.0%	-5.9%
East	£13,354	£7,933	£6,255
	<i>£14,206</i>	<i>£8,419</i>	<i>£6,541</i>
	-6.0%	-5.8%	-4.4%
West Midlands	£14,189	£6,645	£5,212
	<i>£15,164</i>	<i>£7,111</i>	<i>£5,572</i>
	-6.4%	-6.6%	-6.5%
South West	£14,000	£7,346	£5,398
	<i>£14,486</i>	<i>£7,628</i>	<i>£5,694</i>
	-3.4%	-3.7%	-5.2%
North West	£11,174	£5,031	£4,387
	<i>£11,928</i>	<i>£5,288</i>	<i>£4,619</i>
	-6.3%	-4.9%	-5.0%
East Midlands	£13,996	£7,319	£5,278
	<i>£15,130</i>	<i>£7,573</i>	<i>£5,495</i>
	-7.5%	-3.4%	-4.0%
Yorkshire and Humber	£9,322	£5,991	£5,052
	<i>£10,014</i>	<i>£6,155</i>	<i>£5,297</i>
	-6.9%	-2.7%	-4.6%
Scotland	£14,217	£7,539	£5,407
	<i>£15,081</i>	<i>£8,402</i>	<i>£5,640</i>
	-5.7%	-10.3%	-4.1%
Wales	£15,548	£6,443	£4,836
	<i>£16,058</i>	<i>£6,783</i>	<i>£5,109</i>
	-3.2%	-5.0%	-5.3%
North East	£11,588	£5,818	£4,922
	<i>£12,527</i>	<i>£5,993</i>	<i>£5,233</i>
	-7.5%	-2.9%	-5.9%
All²	£14,267	£7,843	£6,030
	<i>£15,052</i>	<i>£8,236</i>	<i>£6,341</i>
	-5.2%	-4.8%	-4.9%

**Table 8. Changes to fees by region
between January 2024 and January 2025**

For ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025, this table shows the average termly fees excluding VAT by region. Please see Appendix Three, Figure 1 for definitions of regions.

Region ¹	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
London	£15,972	£11,579	£7,373
	£15,785	£10,857	£7,268
	1.2%	6.7%	1.5%
South Central	£15,283	£8,497	£6,185
	£14,808	£8,256	£6,025
	3.2%	2.9%	2.7%
South East	£14,561	£8,784	£6,493
	£14,368	£8,755	£6,362
	1.3%	0.3%	2.0%
East	£13,649	£8,344	£6,346
	£13,370	£8,194	£6,186
	2.1%	1.8%	2.6%
West Midlands	£14,101	£6,774	£5,110
	£14,346	£6,731	£5,066
	-1.7%	0.6%	0.9%
South West	£14,201	£7,467	£5,436
	£14,159	£7,352	£5,328
	0.3%	1.6%	2.0%
North West	£12,828	£6,039	£4,413
	£12,261	£6,053	£4,310
	4.6%	-0.2%	2.4%
East Midlands	£14,069	£7,701	£5,269
	£14,127	£7,514	£5,149
	-0.4%	2.5%	2.3%
Yorkshire and Humber	£9,246	£5,703	£5,130
	£9,469	£5,649	£5,002
	-2.4%	1.0%	2.6%
Scotland	£13,914	£8,160	£5,379
	£14,024	£8,304	£5,126
	-0.8%	-1.7%	4.9%
Wales	£15,485	£6,152	£4,834
	£14,639	£6,014	£4,800
	5.8%	2.3%	0.7%
North East	£11,588	£5,818	£4,973
	£10,979	£5,559	£4,999
	5.6%	4.6%	-0.5%
All²	£14,364	£7,996	£6,047
	£14,142	£7,874	£5,919
	1.6%	1.5%	2.2%

¹ Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are not listed due to the small number of schools in these regions.

² The total includes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Table 9. Changes to fees by school type and age group between January 2024 and September 2024

For the 892 ISC schools that participated in both the Census in January 2024 and the ISC fees survey in autumn 2024, this table shows the average termly fees for different age groups. The September 2024 figures are printed in bold and the January 2024 figures are printed in italics. Figures highlighted in yellow show the percentage change between the two time points.

	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
Sixth form	£15,582	£9,185	£6,934
	<i>£14,609</i>	<i>£8,743</i>	<i>£6,512</i>
	6.7%	5.0%	6.5%
Senior	£14,856	£8,706	£6,792
	<i>£13,895</i>	<i>£8,160</i>	<i>£6,374</i>
	6.9%	6.7%	6.6%
Junior	£10,635	£6,682	£5,849
	<i>£9,956</i>	<i>£6,281</i>	<i>£5,483</i>
	6.8%	6.4%	6.7%
Nursery		£4,273	£4,794
		<i>£3,899</i>	<i>£4,398</i>
		9.6%	9.0%
Overall including nursery	£15,052	£8,236	£6,341
	<i>£14,049</i>	<i>£7,715</i>	<i>£5,930</i>
	7.1%	6.8%	6.9%

Table 10. Changes to fees by school type and age group between September 2024 and January 2025

For the 892 ISC schools that participated in both the Census in January 2025 and the ISC fees survey in autumn 2024, this table shows the average termly fees excluding VAT for different age groups. The January 2025 figures are printed in bold and the September 2024 figures are printed in italics. Figures highlighted in yellow show the percentage change between the two time points.

	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
Sixth form	£14,818	£8,807	£6,587
	<i>£15,582</i>	<i>£9,185</i>	<i>£6,934</i>
	-4.9%	-4.1%	-5.0%
Senior	£14,074	£8,284	£6,460
	<i>£14,856</i>	<i>£8,706</i>	<i>£6,792</i>
	-5.3%	-4.9%	-4.9%
Junior	£10,026	£6,350	£5,554
	<i>£10,635</i>	<i>£6,682</i>	<i>£5,849</i>
	-5.7%	-5.0%	-5.0%
Nursery		£4,396	£4,775
		<i>£4,273</i>	<i>£4,794</i>
		2.9%	-0.4%
Overall including nursery	£14,267	£7,843	£6,030
	<i>£15,052</i>	<i>£8,236</i>	<i>£6,341</i>
	-5.2%	-4.8%	-4.9%

Table 11. Changes to fees by school type and age group between January 2024 and January 2025

For ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025, this table shows average termly fees excluding VAT for different age groups.

	Boarding fee	Day fee (boarding schools)	Day fee (day schools)
Sixth form	£15,006	£9,024	£6,652
	<i>£14,760</i>	<i>£8,925</i>	<i>£6,565</i>
	1.7%	1.1%	1.3%
Senior	£14,128	£8,451	£6,493
	<i>£13,955</i>	<i>£8,351</i>	<i>£6,359</i>
	1.2%	1.2%	2.1%
Junior	£10,244	£6,495	£5,571
	<i>£10,168</i>	<i>£6,425</i>	<i>£5,488</i>
	0.7%	1.1%	1.5%
Nursery		£4,248	£4,827
		<i>£3,824</i>	<i>£4,437</i>
		11.1%	8.8%
Overall including nursery	£14,364	£7,996	£6,047
	<i>£14,142</i>	<i>£7,874</i>	<i>£5,919</i>
	1.6%	1.5%	2.2%

Table 12a. Changes to contributions to fees: senior, mixed-age and junior schools (termly values)

For ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025, this table shows the breakdown of contributions to fees by type of contribution.

	Senior (pupils)	Senior (value £m)	Mixed-age (pupils)	Mixed-age (value £m)	Junior (pupils)	Junior (value £m)	Total (pupils)	Total (value £m)	% of all pupils
The school									
	41,159	141.3	84,074	184.5	29,820	44.9	155,053	370.7	28.8
	42,028	136.4	84,745	176.8	30,596	43.3	157,369	356.4	28.5
	-2.1%	3.6%	-0.8%	4.4%	-2.5%	3.9%	-1.5%	4.0%	1.0%
The school: means-tested: bursaries									
	11,448	73.6	20,251	82.0	4,999	14.5	36,698	170.1	6.8
	12,041	71.3	21,229	80.1	5,071	13.8	38,341	165.2	7.0
	-4.9%	3.3%	-4.6%	2.3%	-1.4%	5.2%	-4.3%	3.0%	-1.9%
The school: means-tested: scholarships									
	1,078	4.8	908	1.7	132	0.4	2,118	6.9	0.4
	867	4.4	894	1.6	197	0.4	1,958	6.4	0.4
	24.3%	9.8%	1.6%	6.2%	-33.0%	-8.1%	8.2%	7.8%	10.9%
The school: means-tested: eligible families¹									
	327	0.9	1,004	3.0	451	1.0	1,782	4.8	0.3
	997	2.2	1,321	4.4	557	0.8	2,875	7.4	0.5
	-67.2%	-60.3%	-24.0%	-31.5%	-19.0%	22.6%	-38.0%	-34.3%	-36.5%
The school: non-means-tested: scholarships									
	21,672	30.4	33,831	40.1	2,594	2.7	58,097	73.2	10.8
	21,575	27.6	34,575	37.3	2,545	2.7	58,695	67.6	10.6
	0.4%	10.2%	-2.2%	7.3%	1.9%	2.4%	-1.0%	8.3%	1.4%
The school: non-means-tested: eligible families¹									
	13,015	31.6	40,638	57.8	23,105	26.2	76,758	115.6	14.3
	12,254	30.9	39,698	53.3	23,797	25.5	75,749	109.8	13.7
	6.2%	2.0%	2.4%	8.3%	-2.9%	2.9%	1.3%	5.3%	3.8%
The school: itrust²									
	0	0.00	5	0.01	22	0.06	27	0.07	0.01
	0	0.00	16	0.05	28	0.06	44	0.11	0.01
			-68.8%	-83.8%	-21.4%	10.1%	-38.6%	-34.4%	-37.1%
Early Years Funding									
	0	0.0	8,018	10.6	17,487	20.6	25,505	31.2	4.7
	0	0.0	6,868	7.9	15,595	16.7	22,463	24.6	4.1
			16.7%	34.0%	12.1%	23.1%	13.5%	26.6%	16.4%
Local Authorities³									
	1,481	19.6	4,479	46.2	350	2.7	6,310	68.5	1.2
	1,353	17.0	4,086	39.4	275	2.1	5,714	58.6	1.1
	9.5%	15.0%	9.6%	17.2%	27.3%	25.7%	10.4%	16.9%	13.2%
Government Music and Dance Scheme									
	738	5.2	640	6.1	6	0.0	1,384	11.3	0.3
	722	5.4	689	6.2	48	0.2	1,459	11.8	0.3
	2.2%	-2.6%	-7.1%	-1.4%	-87.5%	-97.2%	-5.1%	-3.7%	-2.8%
All other sources									
	555	2.2	596	1.8	353	1.4	1,504	5.5	0.3
	590	1.9	663	1.6	276	1.4	1,529	4.9	0.3
	-5.9%	17.4%	-10.1%	16.0%	27.9%	5.9%	-1.6%	13.7%	0.8%
Total									
	42,889	168.3	94,283	249.2	44,582	69.6	181,754	487.2	34.5
	43,688	160.7	93,931	231.8	43,579	63.7	181,198	456.3	33.6
	-1.8%	4.7%	0.4%	7.5%	2.3%	9.3%	0.3%	6.8%	2.8%
Number of pupils as a % of all pupils									
	35.8		35.3		31.8		34.5		
	35.9		34.4		30.0		33.6		
	-0.5%		2.8%		5.9%		2.8%		

¹ Includes HM Forces discounts, staff discounts, sibling discounts and clergy discounts.

² itrust is an IAPS charity supporting low-income families and families with short-term financial difficulties.

³ Excludes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Table 12b. Changes to contributions to fees: single-sex and co-educational schools (termly values)

For ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025, this table shows the breakdown of contributions to fees by type of contribution.

	Single-sex: boys' (pupils)	Single-sex: boys' (value £m)	Single-sex: girls' (pupils)	Single-sex: girls' (value £m)	Co-ed (pupils)	Co-ed (value £m)	Total (pupils)	Total (value £m)	% of all pupils
The school									
	7,521	26.0	18,342	47.3	129,190	297.5	155,053	370.7	28.8
	7,212	25.7	18,571	44.3	131,586	286.5	157,369	356.4	28.5
	4.3%	1.1%	-1.2%	6.7%	-1.8%	3.8%	-1.5%	4.0%	1.0%
The school: means-tested: bursaries									
	2,712	16.7	5,159	27.8	28,827	125.5	36,698	170.1	6.8
	2,793	16.6	5,399	26.3	30,149	122.4	38,341	165.2	7.0
	-2.9%	1.0%	-4.4%	6.0%	-4.4%	2.6%	-4.3%	3.0%	-1.9%
The school: means-tested: scholarships									
	161	1.2	63	0.2	1,894	5.5	2,118	6.9	0.4
	164	1.1	47	0.2	1,747	5.1	1,958	6.4	0.4
	-1.8%	6.8%	34.0%	-6.0%	8.4%	8.5%	8.2%	7.8%	10.9%
The school: means-tested: eligible families¹									
	171	0.4	264	0.5	1,347	4.0	1,782	4.8	0.3
	153	0.2	584	0.8	2,138	6.3	2,875	7.4	0.5
	11.8%	79.9%	-54.8%	-44.0%	-37.0%	-37.2%	-38.0%	-34.3%	-36.5%
The school: non-means-tested: scholarships									
	2,896	3.3	9,326	9.4	45,875	60.5	58,097	73.2	10.8
	2,943	3.8	9,428	8.9	46,324	54.9	58,695	67.6	10.6
	-1.6%	-11.3%	-1.1%	5.9%	-1.0%	10.0%	-1.0%	8.3%	1.4%
The school: non-means-tested: eligible families¹									
	2,153	4.3	5,934	9.4	68,671	101.9	76,758	115.6	14.3
	1,756	4.0	5,847	8.1	68,146	97.7	75,749	109.8	13.7
	22.6%	7.1%	1.5%	16.1%	0.8%	4.3%	1.3%	5.3%	3.8%
The school: itrust²									
	0	0.00	1	0.00	26	0.07	27	0.07	0.01
	0	0.00	12	0.04	32	0.07	44	0.11	0.01
			-91.7%	-91.9%	-18.8%	2.3%	-38.6%	-34.4%	-37.1%
Early Years Funding									
	494	0.6	1,025	1.2	23,986	29.4	25,505	31.2	4.7
	414	0.4	1,200	1.2	20,849	23.0	22,463	24.6	4.1
	19.3%	37.6%	-14.6%	-4.6%	15.0%	28.0%	13.5%	26.6%	16.4%
Local Authorities³									
	549	4.6	82	0.5	5,679	63.4	6,310	68.5	1.2
	500	3.7	53	0.3	5,161	54.6	5,714	58.6	1.1
	9.8%	24.7%	54.7%	54.8%	10.0%	16.1%	10.4%	16.9%	13.2%
Government Music and Dance Scheme									
	6	0.0	0	0.0	1,378	11.3	1,384	11.3	0.3
	16	0.0	0	0.0	1,443	11.8	1,459	11.8	0.3
	-62.5%	-52.3%			-4.5%	-3.7%	-5.1%	-3.7%	-2.8%
All other sources									
	104	0.9	132	0.4	1,268	4.2	1,504	5.5	0.3
	97	0.8	157	0.5	1,275	3.6	1,529	4.9	0.3
	7.2%	9.8%	-15.9%	-9.4%	-0.5%	17.7%	-1.6%	13.7%	0.8%
Total									
	8,148	32.0	19,169	49.4	154,437	405.8	181,754	487.2	34.5
	7,693	30.6	19,567	46.3	153,938	379.4	181,198	456.3	33.6
	5.9%	4.7%	-2.0%	6.6%	0.3%	7.0%	0.3%	6.8%	2.8%
Number of pupils as a % of all pupils									
	21.1		27.1		37.0		34.5		
	19.6		26.7		36.0		33.6		
	7.6%		1.3%		2.7%		2.8%		

¹ Includes HM Forces discounts, staff discounts, sibling discounts and clergy discounts.

² itrust is an IAPS charity supporting low-income families and families with short-term financial difficulties.

³ Excludes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Table 12c. Changes to contributions to fees: day and boarding schools (termly values)

For ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025, this table shows the breakdown of contributions to fees by type of contribution.

	Schools with boarders (pupils)	Schools with boarders (value £m)	Day schools (pupils)	Day schools (value £m)	Total (pupils)	Total (value £m)	% of all pupils
The school							
	76,148	224.9	78,905	145.8	155,053	370.7	28.8
	77,391	216.9	79,978	139.6	157,369	356.4	28.5
	-1.6%	3.7%	-1.3%	4.4%	-1.5%	4.0%	1.0%
The school: means-tested: bursaries							
	18,181	98.3	18,517	71.8	36,698	170.1	6.8
	19,324	95.7	19,017	69.5	38,341	165.2	7.0
	-5.9%	2.7%	-2.6%	3.3%	-4.3%	3.0%	-1.9%
The school: means-tested: scholarships							
	1,156	5.2	962	1.7	2,118	6.9	0.4
	1,004	4.6	954	1.7	1,958	6.4	0.4
	15.1%	11.3%	0.8%	-1.6%	8.2%	7.8%	10.9%
The school: means-tested: eligible families¹							
	843	3.6	939	1.3	1,782	4.8	0.3
	1,856	5.9	1,019	1.5	2,875	7.4	0.5
	-54.6%	-39.1%	-7.9%	-15.2%	-38.0%	-34.3%	-36.5%
The school: non-means-tested: scholarships							
	32,808	47.7	25,289	25.5	58,097	73.2	10.8
	33,325	44.1	25,370	23.5	58,695	67.6	10.6
	-1.6%	8.2%	-0.3%	8.5%	-1.0%	8.3%	1.4%
The school: non-means-tested: eligible families¹							
	35,909	70.2	40,849	45.4	76,758	115.6	14.3
	34,657	66.5	41,092	43.3	75,749	109.8	13.7
	3.6%	5.5%	-0.6%	5.0%	1.3%	5.3%	3.8%
The school: itrust²							
	11	0.03	16	0.04	27	0.07	0.01
	19	0.04	25	0.07	44	0.11	0.01
	-42.1%	-35.0%	-36.0%	-34.1%	-38.6%	-34.4%	-37.1%
Early Years Funding							
	5,084	5.8	20,421	25.4	25,505	31.2	4.7
	4,173	4.2	18,290	20.4	22,463	24.6	4.1
	21.8%	37.2%	11.7%	24.4%	13.5%	26.6%	16.4%
Local Authorities³							
	1,385	11.6	4,925	56.9	6,310	68.5	1.2
	1,320	9.8	4,394	48.8	5,714	58.6	1.1
	4.9%	18.4%	12.1%	16.6%	10.4%	16.9%	13.2%
Government Music and Dance Scheme							
	1,384	11.3	0	0.0	1,384	11.3	0.3
	1,458	11.8	1	0.0	1,459	11.8	0.3
	-5.1%	-3.7%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-5.1%	-3.7%	-2.8%
All other sources							
	852	3.8	652	1.7	1,504	5.5	0.3
	841	3.0	688	1.9	1,529	4.9	0.3
	1.3%	28.6%	-5.2%	-10.3%	-1.6%	13.7%	0.8%
Total							
	81,999	257.4	99,755	229.7	181,754	487.2	34.5
	82,685	245.6	98,513	210.7	181,198	456.3	33.6
	-0.8%	4.8%	1.3%	9.1%	0.3%	6.8%	2.8%
Number of pupils as a % of all pupils							
	40.1		31.0		34.5		
	39.3		29.9		33.6		
	2.0%		3.5%		2.8%		

¹ Includes HM Forces discounts, staff discounts, sibling discounts and clergy discounts.

² itrust is an IAPS charity supporting low-income families and families with short-term financial difficulties.

³ Excludes data for schools in Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Table 13. Changes to non-British pupils whose parents live overseas
For ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025, this table shows the number of non-British pupils whose parents live overseas broken down by country/area of residence.

	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys ¹	Single-sex: girls ¹	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
France	180	155	54	17	19	353	380	9	389
	194	139	49	19	16	347	374	8	382
	-7.2%	11.5%	10.2%	-10.5%	18.8%	1.7%	1.6%	12.5%	1.8%
Germany	973	1,079	11	27	51	1,985	2,052	11	2,063
	919	1,041	11	24	48	1,899	1,959	12	1,971
	5.9%	3.7%	0.0%	12.5%	6.3%	4.5%	4.7%	-8.3%	4.7%
Russia	532	228	21	12	14	755	771	10	781
	652	253	34	17	21	901	910	29	939
	-18.4%	-9.9%	-38.2%	-29.4%	-33.3%	-16.2%	-15.3%	-65.5%	-16.8%
Spain	465	463	287	51	112	1,052	1,160	55	1,215
	508	548	304	69	117	1,174	1,305	55	1,360
	-8.5%	-15.5%	-5.6%	-26.1%	-4.3%	-10.4%	-11.1%	0.0%	-10.7%
Ireland	23	42	7	20	0	52	70	2	72
	25	48	4	19	1	57	76	1	77
	-8.0%	-12.5%	75.0%	5.3%	-100.0%	-8.8%	-7.9%	100.0%	-6.5%
Italy	295	131	5	4	6	421	424	7	431
	280	127	10	1	9	407	407	10	417
	5.4%	3.1%	-50.0%	300.0%	-33.3%	3.4%	4.2%	-30.0%	3.4%
Poland	64	69	9	2	9	131	139	3	142
	62	84	6	1	12	139	149	3	152
	3.2%	-17.9%	50.0%	100.0%	-25.0%	-5.8%	-6.7%	0.0%	-6.6%
Romania	74	18	5	2	3	92	91	6	97
	73	26	3	1	5	96	100	2	102
	1.4%	-30.8%	66.7%	100.0%	-40.0%	-4.2%	-9.0%	200.0%	-4.9%
Ukraine	373	239	25	10	19	608	612	25	637
	447	275	27	15	20	714	695	54	749
	-16.6%	-13.1%	-7.4%	-33.3%	-5.0%	-14.8%	-11.9%	-53.7%	-15.0%
Remainder of Europe (EEA)	849	439	64	38	60	1,254	1,319	33	1,352
	762	530	47	39	66	1,234	1,309	30	1,339
	11.4%	-17.2%	36.2%	-2.6%	-9.1%	1.6%	0.8%	10.0%	1.0%
Remainder of Europe (non-EEA)	499	218	9	20	19	687	717	9	726
	471	202	9	21	15	646	663	19	682
	5.9%	7.9%	0.0%	-4.8%	26.7%	6.3%	8.1%	-52.6%	6.5%
Nigeria	387	173	21	19	71	491	556	25	581
	506	205	44	24	72	659	714	41	755
	-23.5%	-15.6%	-52.3%	-20.8%	-1.4%	-25.5%	-22.1%	-39.0%	-23.0%
Rest of Africa	332	229	26	7	45	535	562	25	587
	401	258	25	14	41	629	657	27	684
	-17.2%	-11.2%	4.0%	-50.0%	9.8%	-14.9%	-14.5%	-7.4%	-14.2%
USA	183	167	38	24	37	327	373	15	388
	203	157	30	14	51	325	377	13	390
	-9.9%	6.4%	26.7%	71.4%	-27.5%	0.6%	-1.1%	15.4%	-0.5%
Rest of North America	99	78	12	10	14	165	186	3	189
	92	48	5	8	16	121	140	5	145
	7.6%	62.5%	140.0%	25.0%	-12.5%	36.4%	32.9%	-40.0%	30.3%
Central and South America	354	258	15	5	27	595	592	35	627
	352	233	11	5	44	547	585	11	596
	0.6%	10.7%	36.4%	0.0%	-38.6%	8.8%	1.2%	218.2%	5.2%
Middle East	527	150	13	21	19	650	662	28	690
	562	201	12	15	22	738	737	38	775
	-6.2%	-25.4%	8.3%	40.0%	-13.6%	-11.9%	-10.2%	-26.3%	-11.0%
Hong Kong	2,875	1,499	80	350	721	3,383	4,386	68	4,454
	3,103	1,846	115	367	802	3,895	4,986	78	5,064
	-7.3%	-18.8%	-30.4%	-4.6%	-10.1%	-13.1%	-12.0%	-12.8%	-12.0%
Mainland China	3,836	1,931	416	306	824	5,053	5,982	201	6,183
	3,533	1,931	335	269	763	4,767	5,571	228	5,799
	8.6%	0.0%	24.2%	13.8%	8.0%	6.0%	7.4%	-11.8%	6.6%
Taiwan	84	52	6	4	16	122	135	7	142
	86	44	2	5	12	115	128	4	132
	-2.3%	18.2%	200.0%	-20.0%	33.3%	6.1%	5.5%	75.0%	7.6%
Japan	277	294	99	33	35	602	654	16	670
	291	299	66	39	25	592	648	8	656
	-4.8%	-1.7%	50.0%	-15.4%	40.0%	1.7%	0.9%	100.0%	2.1%
South Korea	219	88	21	28	31	269	312	16	328
	279	103	16	23	47	328	380	18	398
	-21.5%	-14.6%	31.3%	21.7%	-34.0%	-18.0%	-17.9%	-11.1%	-17.6%
Malaysia	175	37	2	11	23	180	203	11	214
	218	33	3	14	31	209	247	7	254
	-19.7%	12.1%	-33.3%	-21.4%	-25.8%	-13.9%	-17.8%	57.1%	-15.7%
Thailand	423	142	65	64	71	495	622	8	630
	459	166	54	48	65	566	671	8	679
	-7.8%	-14.5%	20.4%	33.3%	9.2%	-12.5%	-7.3%	0.0%	-7.2%
India	163	70	11	16	14	214	225	19	244
	163	72	8	19	17	207	231	12	243
	0.0%	-2.8%	37.5%	-15.8%	-17.6%	3.4%	-2.6%	58.3%	0.4%
Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh	42	19	3	2	8	54	59	5	64
	34	22	5	1	5	55	55	6	61
	23.5%	-13.6%	-40.0%	100.0%	60.0%	-1.8%	7.3%	-16.7%	4.9%
Central Asia	286	67	10	8	6	349	351	12	363
	295	61	4	5	6	349	349	11	360
	-3.1%	9.8%	150.0%	60.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	9.1%	0.8%
Remainder of Far East	710	159	38	31	86	790	882	25	907
	643	170	33	44	69	733	811	35	846
	10.4%	-6.5%	15.2%	-29.5%	24.6%	7.8%	8.8%	-28.6%	7.2%
Oceania	68	36	14	6	12	100	109	9	118
	66	25	6	5	16	76	95	2	97
	3.0%	44.0%	133.3%	20.0%	-25.0%	31.6%	14.7%	350.0%	21.6%
Total	15,367	8,530	1,387	1,148	2,372	21,764	24,586	698	25,284
	15,679	9,147	1,278	1,145	2,434	22,525	25,329	775	26,104
	-2.0%	-6.7%	8.5%	0.3%	-2.5%	-3.4%	-2.9%	-9.9%	-3.1%

Table 14. Changes to non-British pupils whose parents live in the UK
For ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025, this table shows the number of non-British pupils whose parents live in the UK broken down by country/area of nationality.

	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
France	353	1,365	568	162	249	1,875	596	1,690	2,286
	406	1,553	601	173	267	2,120	594	1,966	2,560
	-13.1%	-12.1%	-5.5%	-6.4%	-6.7%	-11.6%	0.3%	-14.0%	-10.7%
Germany	248	518	316	105	184	793	429	653	1,082
	272	561	310	123	216	804	448	695	1,143
	-8.8%	-7.7%	1.9%	-14.6%	-14.8%	-1.4%	-4.2%	-6.0%	-5.3%
Russia	180	256	274	70	91	549	283	427	710
	216	323	315	72	128	654	346	508	854
	-16.7%	-20.7%	-13.0%	-2.8%	-28.9%	-16.1%	-18.2%	-15.9%	-16.9%
Spain	213	761	227	77	138	986	273	928	1,201
	232	802	340	85	164	1,125	329	1,045	1,374
	-8.2%	-5.1%	-33.2%	-9.4%	-15.9%	-12.4%	-17.0%	-11.2%	-12.6%
Ireland	423	683	252	123	253	982	630	728	1,358
	426	625	246	118	257	922	567	730	1,297
	-0.7%	9.3%	2.4%	4.2%	-1.6%	6.5%	11.1%	-0.3%	4.7%
Italy	344	541	298	137	218	828	355	828	1,183
	372	623	343	146	246	946	406	932	1,338
	-7.5%	-13.2%	-13.1%	-6.2%	-11.4%	-12.5%	-12.6%	-11.2%	-11.6%
Poland	107	225	77	17	63	329	144	265	409
	109	257	92	18	67	373	150	308	458
	-1.8%	-12.5%	-16.3%	-5.6%	-6.0%	-11.8%	-4.0%	-14.0%	-10.7%
Romania	64	151	82	19	30	248	114	183	297
	70	142	71	13	27	243	114	169	283
	-8.6%	6.3%	15.5%	46.2%	11.1%	2.1%	0.0%	8.3%	4.9%
Ukraine	339	589	312	51	173	1,016	607	633	1,240
	362	611	320	63	172	1,058	655	638	1,293
	-6.4%	-3.6%	-2.5%	-19.0%	0.6%	-4.0%	-7.3%	-0.8%	-4.1%
Remainder of Europe (EEA)	960	1,736	1,034	343	530	2,857	1,295	2,435	3,730
	1,042	1,794	1,048	351	629	2,904	1,412	2,472	3,884
	-7.9%	-3.2%	-1.3%	-2.3%	-15.7%	-1.6%	-8.3%	-1.5%	-4.0%
Remainder of Europe (non-EEA)	172	375	238	33	106	646	311	474	785
	201	365	258	56	115	653	307	517	824
	-14.4%	2.7%	-7.8%	-41.1%	-7.8%	-1.1%	1.3%	-8.3%	-4.7%
Nigeria	186	404	121	39	91	581	326	385	711
	184	470	138	47	84	661	369	423	792
	1.1%	-14.0%	-12.3%	-17.0%	8.3%	-12.1%	-11.7%	-9.0%	-10.2%
Rest of Africa	209	701	298	63	156	989	509	699	1,208
	212	730	315	68	197	992	523	734	1,257
	-1.4%	-4.0%	-5.4%	-7.4%	-20.8%	-0.3%	-2.7%	-4.8%	-3.9%
USA	666	2,521	1,479	267	541	3,858	1,713	2,953	4,666
	613	2,330	1,348	281	457	3,553	1,624	2,667	4,291
	8.6%	8.2%	9.7%	-5.0%	18.4%	8.6%	5.5%	10.7%	8.7%
Rest of North America	117	272	163	39	96	417	188	364	552
	102	308	160	30	84	456	206	364	570
	14.7%	-11.7%	1.9%	30.0%	14.3%	-8.6%	-8.7%	0.0%	-3.2%
Central and South America	119	374	179	19	69	584	246	426	672
	103	359	157	20	55	544	231	388	619
	15.5%	4.2%	14.0%	-5.0%	25.5%	7.4%	6.5%	9.8%	8.6%
Middle East	171	402	246	51	102	666	153	666	819
	148	362	232	44	96	602	156	586	742
	15.5%	11.0%	6.0%	15.9%	6.3%	10.6%	-1.9%	13.7%	10.4%
Hong Kong	871	1,597	271	316	594	1,829	1,558	1,181	2,739
	805	1,484	310	286	556	1,757	1,529	1,070	2,599
	8.2%	7.6%	-12.6%	10.5%	6.8%	4.1%	1.9%	10.4%	5.4%
Mainland China	1,159	2,237	1,285	595	947	3,139	2,235	2,446	4,681
	1,101	2,129	1,301	522	980	3,029	2,177	2,354	4,531
	5.3%	5.1%	-1.2%	14.0%	-3.4%	3.6%	2.7%	3.9%	3.3%
Taiwan	7	35	23	3	12	50	22	43	65
	3	40	29	4	5	63	31	41	72
	-12.5%	-20.7%	-25.0%	140.0%	-20.6%	-29.0%	4.9%	-9.7%	
Japan	137	297	235	38	114	517	232	437	669
	128	271	232	39	107	485	215	416	631
	7.0%	9.6%	1.3%	-2.6%	6.5%	6.6%	7.9%	5.0%	6.0%
South Korea	124	271	194	48	144	397	210	379	589
	114	226	173	58	120	335	185	328	513
	8.8%	19.9%	12.1%	-17.2%	20.0%	18.5%	13.5%	15.5%	14.8%
Malaysia	45	76	37	24	25	109	53	105	158
	46	81	46	22	44	107	56	117	173
	-2.2%	-6.2%	-19.6%	9.1%	-43.2%	1.9%	-5.4%	-10.3%	-8.7%
Thailand	28	22	21	5	9	57	58	13	71
	20	33	12	4	7	54	48	17	65
	40.0%	-33.3%	75.0%	25.0%	28.6%	5.6%	20.8%	-23.5%	9.2%
India	224	1,075	456	153	390	1,212	368	1,387	1,755
	239	1,067	466	166	422	1,184	357	1,415	1,772
	-6.3%	0.7%	-2.1%	-7.8%	-7.6%	2.4%	3.1%	-2.0%	-1.0%
Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh	89	298	101	51	100	337	122	366	488
	85	309	94	51	110	327	113	375	488
	4.7%	-3.6%	7.4%	0.0%	-9.1%	3.1%	8.0%	-2.4%	0.0%
Central Asia	47	85	57	16	29	144	83	106	189
	68	60	49	19	22	136	75	102	177
	-30.9%	41.7%	16.3%	-15.8%	31.8%	5.9%	10.7%	3.9%	6.8%
Remainder of Far East	107	218	137	26	75	361	177	285	462
	93	218	152	19	78	366	179	284	463
	15.1%	0.0%	-9.9%	36.8%	-3.8%	-1.4%	-1.1%	0.4%	-0.2%
Oceania	203	425	334	59	118	785	394	568	962
	232	421	288	68	151	722	392	549	941
	-12.5%	1.0%	16.0%	-13.2%	-21.9%	8.7%	0.5%	3.5%	2.2%
Total	7,912	18,510	9,315	2,949	5,647	27,141	13,684	22,053	35,737
	8,004	18,554	9,446	2,966	5,863	27,175	13,794	22,210	36,004
	-1.1%	-0.2%	-1.4%	-0.6%	-3.7%	-0.1%	-0.8%	-0.7%	-0.7%

Table 15. Changes to British pupils whose parents live overseas

For ISC schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025, this table shows the number of British pupils whose parents live overseas and the number of British pupils whose parents serve in HM Forces and those who are new to their school this year.

British pupils whose parents:	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Live abroad	1,933	873	230	294	306	2,436	2,938	98	3,036
	2,058	894	145	262	369	2,466	2,970	127	3,097
	-6.1%	-2.3%	58.6%	12.2%	-17.1%	-1.2%	-1.1%	-22.8%	-2.0%
Serve in HM Forces	1,340	1,808	1,226	119	259	3,996	3,753	621	4,374
	1,382	1,827	1,261	88	246	4,136	3,906	564	4,470
	-3.0%	-1.0%	-2.8%	35.2%	5.3%	-3.4%	-3.9%	10.1%	-2.1%
New British pupils whose parents:									
Live abroad	511	254	80	64	58	723	817	28	845
	582	317	43	56	81	805	904	38	942
	-12.2%	-19.9%	86.0%	14.3%	-28.4%	-10.2%	-9.6%	-26.3%	-10.3%
Serve in HM Forces	264	282	225	27	39	705	690	81	771
	237	242	257	13	36	687	655	81	736
	11.4%	16.5%	-12.5%	107.7%	8.3%	2.6%	5.3%	0.0%	4.8%

Table 16. Changes to teacher numbers¹

This table shows the number of teachers in ISC schools that participated in the Census in 2024 and 2025.

Full-time	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Men	6,919	9,546	3,240	2,397	1,647	15,661	10,160	9,545	19,705
	6,960	9,644	3,335	2,424	1,702	15,813	10,315	9,624	19,939
	-0.6%	-1.0%	-2.8%	-1.1%	-3.2%	-1.0%	-1.5%	-0.8%	-1.2%
Women	6,465	14,398	7,686	1,548	4,529	22,472	11,520	17,029	28,549
	6,460	14,513	7,844	1,569	4,680	22,568	11,590	17,227	28,817
	0.1%	-0.8%	-2.0%	-1.3%	-3.2%	-0.4%	-0.6%	-1.1%	-0.9%
Total	13,384	23,944	10,926	3,945	6,176	38,133	21,680	26,574	48,254
	13,420	24,157	11,179	3,993	6,382	38,381	21,905	26,851	48,756
	-0.3%	-0.9%	-2.3%	-1.2%	-3.2%	-0.6%	-1.0%	-1.0%	-1.0%
Part-time									
Men	1,329	1,795	559	393	445	2,845	1,684	1,999	3,683
	1,255	1,689	565	376	420	2,713	1,609	1,900	3,509
	5.9%	6.3%	-1.1%	4.5%	6.0%	4.9%	4.7%	5.2%	5.0%
Women	3,492	7,539	3,771	732	3,004	11,066	5,497	9,305	14,802
	3,481	7,581	3,703	676	2,992	11,097	5,569	9,196	14,765
	0.3%	-0.6%	1.8%	8.3%	0.4%	-0.3%	-1.3%	1.2%	0.3%
Total	4,821	9,334	4,330	1,125	3,449	13,911	7,181	11,304	18,485
	4,736	9,270	4,268	1,052	3,412	13,810	7,178	11,096	18,274
	1.8%	0.7%	1.5%	6.9%	1.1%	0.7%	0.0%	1.9%	1.2%
Part-time (hours)									
Men	23,171	32,925	9,789	6,845	8,144	50,896	29,848	36,038	65,885
	21,387	31,231	10,317	6,297	7,509	49,130	28,556	34,380	62,936
	8.3%	5.4%	-5.1%	8.7%	8.5%	3.6%	4.5%	4.8%	4.7%
Women	66,108	153,823	77,170	14,879	57,127	225,095	109,368	187,733	297,101
	65,300	152,817	75,029	13,730	57,586	221,830	107,944	185,202	293,146
	1.2%	0.7%	2.9%	8.4%	-0.8%	1.5%	1.3%	1.4%	1.3%
Total	89,279	186,748	86,959	21,724	65,271	275,991	139,216	223,770	362,986
	86,688	184,049	85,346	20,027	65,095	270,960	136,500	219,582	356,082
	3.0%	1.5%	1.9%	8.5%	0.3%	1.9%	2.0%	1.9%	1.9%
Overall full-time equivalent (32.5 hours = 1 full-time)									
Men	7,632	10,559	3,541	2,608	1,898	17,227	11,078	10,654	21,732
	7,618	10,605	3,652	2,618	1,933	17,325	11,194	10,682	21,875
	0.2%	-0.4%	-3.0%	-0.4%	-1.8%	-0.6%	-1.0%	-0.3%	-0.7%
Women	8,499	19,131	10,060	2,006	6,287	29,398	14,885	22,805	37,691
	8,469	19,215	10,153	1,991	6,452	29,394	14,911	22,926	37,837
	0.4%	-0.4%	-0.9%	0.7%	-2.6%	0.0%	-0.2%	-0.5%	-0.4%
Total	16,131	29,690	13,602	4,613	8,184	46,625	25,964	33,459	59,423
	16,087	29,820	13,805	4,609	8,385	46,718	26,105	33,607	59,712
	0.3%	-0.4%	-1.5%	0.1%	-2.4%	-0.2%	-0.5%	-0.4%	-0.5%

¹ Excludes nursery staff.

Table 17. Changes to teaching assistant numbers¹

This table shows the number of teaching assistants in ISC schools that participated in the Census in 2024 and 2025.

Full-time	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Men	148	423	381	96	40	816	297	655	952
	154	447	398	114	48	837	316	683	999
	-3.9%	-5.4%	-4.3%	-15.8%	-16.7%	-2.5%	-6.0%	-4.1%	-4.7%
Women	468	2,724	3,220	334	554	5,524	1,592	4,820	6,412
	465	2,722	3,319	351	570	5,585	1,586	4,920	6,506
	0.6%	0.1%	-3.0%	-4.8%	-2.8%	-1.1%	0.4%	-2.0%	-1.4%
Total	616	3,147	3,601	430	594	6,340	1,889	5,475	7,364
	619	3,169	3,717	465	618	6,422	1,902	5,603	7,505
	-0.5%	-0.7%	-3.1%	-7.5%	-3.9%	-1.3%	-0.7%	-2.3%	-1.9%
Part-time									
Men	67	187	96	34	16	300	133	217	350
	57	193	108	30	25	303	131	227	358
	17.5%	-3.1%	-11.1%	13.3%	-36.0%	-1.0%	1.5%	-4.4%	-2.2%
Women	441	2,481	2,409	248	601	4,482	1,581	3,750	5,331
	466	2,495	2,442	226	618	4,559	1,603	3,800	5,403
	-5.4%	-0.6%	-1.4%	9.7%	-2.8%	-1.7%	-1.4%	-1.3%	-1.3%
Total	508	2,668	2,505	282	617	4,782	1,714	3,967	5,681
	523	2,688	2,550	256	643	4,862	1,734	4,027	5,761
	-2.9%	-0.7%	-1.8%	10.2%	-4.0%	-1.6%	-1.2%	-1.5%	-1.4%
Part-time hours									
Men	1,081	3,587	1,787	646	259	5,550	2,491	3,964	6,455
	922	3,749	2,062	519	444	5,770	2,360	4,373	6,733
	17.3%	-4.3%	-13.3%	24.5%	-41.7%	-3.8%	5.5%	-9.3%	-4.1%
Women	7,720	51,908	51,627	5,347	11,011	94,896	32,717	78,538	111,255
	8,204	52,378	51,301	4,824	11,791	95,267	32,422	79,460	111,882
	-5.9%	-0.9%	0.6%	10.8%	-6.6%	-0.4%	0.9%	-1.2%	-0.6%
Total	8,801	55,496	53,414	5,994	11,270	100,446	35,208	82,502	117,710
	9,126	56,127	53,363	5,343	12,235	101,037	34,783	83,833	118,615
	-3.6%	-1.1%	0.1%	12.2%	-7.9%	-0.6%	1.2%	-1.6%	-0.8%
Overall full-time equivalent (32.5 hours = 1 full-time)									
Men	181	533	436	116	48	987	374	777	1,151
	182	562	461	130	62	1,015	389	818	1,206
	-0.6%	-5.2%	-5.5%	-10.8%	-22.2%	-2.7%	-3.9%	-5.0%	-4.6%
Women	706	4,321	4,809	499	893	8,444	2,599	7,237	9,835
	717	4,334	4,897	499	933	8,516	2,584	7,365	9,949
	-1.7%	-0.3%	-1.8%	-0.2%	-4.3%	-0.9%	0.6%	-1.7%	-1.1%
Total	887	4,855	5,245	614	941	9,431	2,972	8,014	10,986
	900	4,896	5,359	629	994	9,531	2,972	8,182	11,155
	-1.4%	-0.8%	-2.1%	-2.4%	-5.4%	-1.1%	0.0%	-2.1%	-1.5%

¹ Excludes nursery staff.

Table 18. Changes to pupil-teacher ratios

This table shows the pupil and teacher gender ratios along with pupil-teacher ratio in ISC schools that participated in the Census in 2024 and 2025.

Full-time	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Boys	64,699	131,222	77,554	41,782	163	231,530	111,916	161,559	273,475
	65,589	133,898	80,670	42,434	155	237,568	114,740	165,417	280,157
	-1.4%	-2.0%	-3.9%	-1.5%	5.2%	-2.5%	-2.5%	-2.3%	-2.4%
Girls	58,645	142,814	63,281	136	71,911	192,693	95,980	168,760	264,740
	59,461	146,856	65,104	125	74,354	196,942	99,117	172,304	271,421
	-1.4%	-2.8%	-2.8%	8.8%	-3.3%	-2.2%	-3.2%	-2.1%	-2.5%
Total	123,344	274,036	140,835	41,918	72,074	424,223	207,896	330,319	538,215
	125,050	280,754	145,774	42,559	74,509	434,510	213,857	337,721	551,578
	-1.4%	-2.4%	-3.4%	-1.5%	-3.3%	-2.4%	-2.8%	-2.2%	-2.4%
Ratios									
Pupil-teacher¹	7.6:1	8.9:1	9.0:1	8.9:1	8.6:1	8.5:1	7.7:1	9.2:1	8.6:1
	7.8:1	9.1:1	9.2:1	9.1:1	8.7:1	8.7:1	7.9:1	9.4:1	8.8:1
	-1.6%	-2.0%	-2.5%	-1.9%	-0.9%	-2.3%	-2.4%	-1.8%	-2.0%
Boys:girls (pupils)	1.1:1	0.9:1	1.2:1	307.2:1	0.0:1	1.2:1	1.2:1	1.0:1	1.0:1
	1.1:1	0.9:1	1.2:1	339.5:1	0.0:1	1.2:1	1.2:1	1.0:1	1.0:1
	0.0%	0.8%	-1.1%	-9.5%	8.7%	-0.4%	0.7%	-0.3%	0.1%
Men:women (teachers)²	0.9:1	0.6:1	0.4:1	1.3:1	0.3:1	0.6:1	0.7:1	0.5:1	0.6:1
	0.9:1	0.6:1	0.4:1	1.3:1	0.3:1	0.6:1	0.8:1	0.5:1	0.6:1
	-0.2%	0.0%	-2.2%	-1.1%	0.7%	-0.6%	-0.9%	0.3%	-0.3%
Men:women (teaching assistants)²	0.3:1	0.1:1	0.1:1	0.2:1	0.1:1	0.1:1	0.1:1	0.1:1	0.1:1
	0.3:1	0.1:1	0.1:1	0.3:1	0.1:1	0.1:1	0.2:1	0.1:1	0.1:1
	1.1%	-4.9%	-3.8%	-10.7%	-18.7%	-1.9%	-4.4%	-3.3%	-3.5%

¹ Pupil-teacher ratio excludes nursery teachers and nursery pupils.

² Excludes nursery staff.

Table 19. Changes to full-time teachers

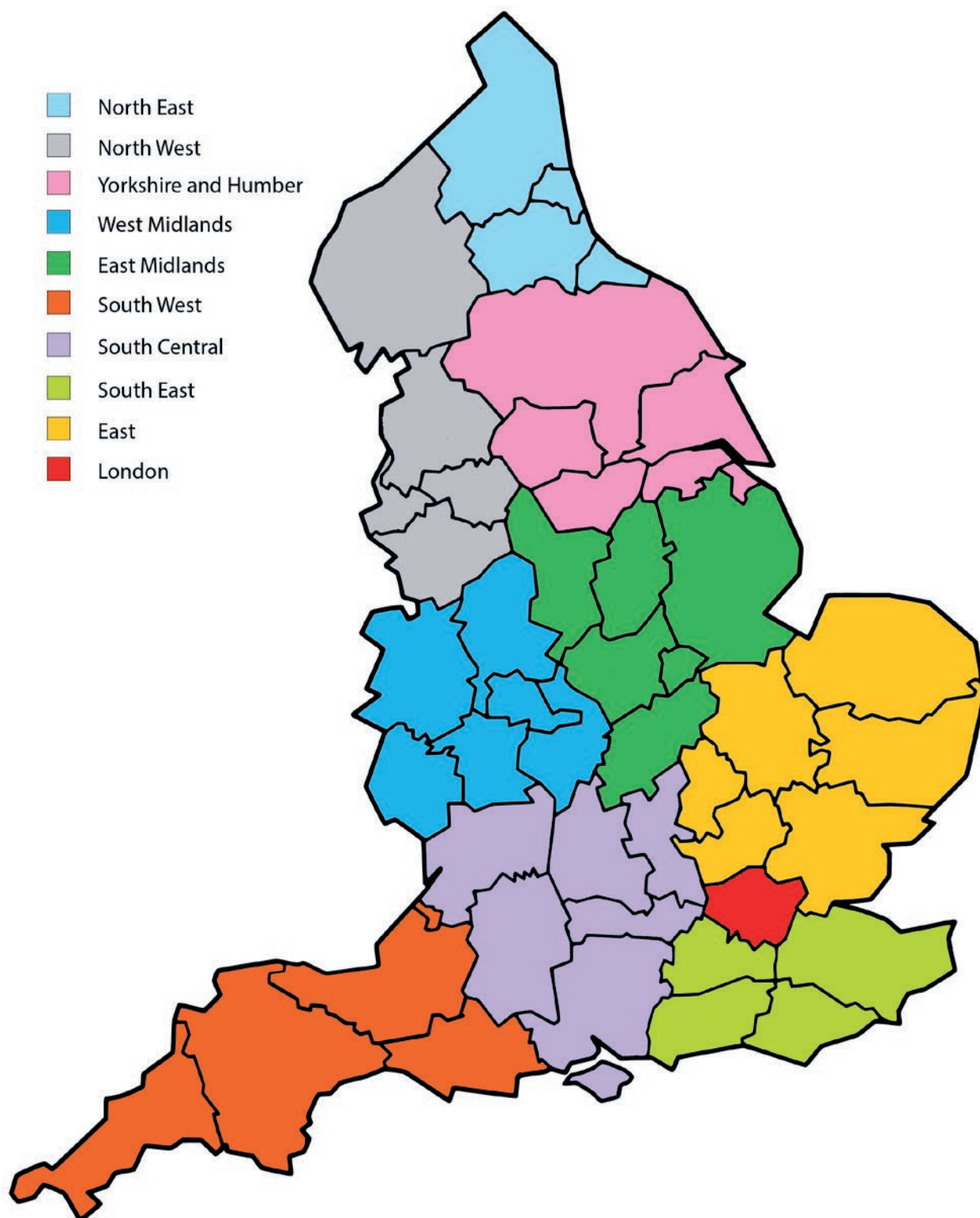
This table shows the number of full-time teaching staff coming into ISC schools (broken down by previous occupation) and leaving schools (broken down by destination). This table comprises those schools that participated in the Census in both 2024 and 2025.

Arriving from	Senior	Mixed-age	Junior	Single-sex: boys'	Single-sex: girls'	Co-ed	Schools with boarders	Day schools	Total
Independent schools	635	986	588	166	334	1,709	1,048	1,161	2,209
	722	1,126	659	175	397	1,935	1,121	1,386	2,507
	-12.0%	-12.4%	-10.8%	-5.1%	-15.9%	-11.7%	-6.5%	-16.2%	-11.9%
State-funded schools	551	1,372	391	120	316	1,878	874	1,440	2,314
	580	1,457	548	166	349	2,070	966	1,619	2,585
	-5.0%	-5.8%	-28.6%	-27.7%	-9.5%	-9.3%	-9.5%	-11.1%	-10.5%
ITT at university or training college	57	141	59	13	34	210	102	155	257
	85	158	57	20	41	239	129	171	300
	-32.9%	-10.8%	3.5%	-35.0%	-17.1%	-12.1%	-20.9%	-9.4%	-14.3%
New graduates	100	108	55	21	25	217	141	122	263
	126	122	56	17	55	232	127	177	304
	-20.6%	-11.5%	-1.8%	23.5%	-54.5%	-6.5%	11.0%	-31.1%	-13.5%
Industry	88	168	32	18	44	226	162	126	288
	84	122	25	12	42	177	119	112	231
	4.8%	37.7%	28.0%	50.0%	4.8%	27.7%	36.1%	12.5%	24.7%
Outside the UK	140	234	72	28	48	370	241	205	446
	110	234	80	33	40	351	188	236	424
	27.3%	0.0%	-10.0%	-15.2%	20.0%	5.4%	28.2%	-13.1%	5.2%
Other	495	1,014	425	140	296	1,498	879	1,055	1,934
	625	1,054	420	108	311	1,680	958	1,141	2,099
	-20.8%	-3.8%	1.2%	29.6%	-4.8%	-10.8%	-8.2%	-7.5%	-7.9%
Total	2,066	4,023	1,622	506	1,097	6,108	3,447	4,264	7,711
	2,332	4,273	1,845	531	1,235	6,684	3,608	4,842	8,450
	-11.4%	-5.9%	-12.1%	-4.7%	-11.2%	-8.6%	-4.5%	-11.9%	-8.7%
Going to									
Independent schools	508	703	402	122	288	1,203	739	874	1,613
	553	816	459	137	245	1,446	802	1,026	1,828
	-8.1%	-13.8%	-12.4%	-10.9%	17.6%	-16.8%	-7.9%	-14.8%	-11.8%
State-funded schools	230	692	185	39	142	926	463	644	1,107
	217	556	222	41	82	872	383	612	995
	6.0%	24.5%	-16.7%	-4.9%	73.2%	6.2%	20.9%	5.2%	11.3%
Industry	91	181	78	17	41	292	193	157	350
	91	188	88	21	41	305	148	219	367
	0.0%	-3.7%	-11.4%	-19.0%	0.0%	-4.3%	30.4%	-28.3%	-4.6%
Outside the UK	159	264	118	48	66	427	274	267	541
	133	247	124	38	70	396	229	275	504
	19.5%	6.9%	-4.8%	26.3%	-5.7%	7.8%	19.7%	-2.9%	7.3%
Other (incl. retirement)	1,205	2,332	1,056	333	785	3,475	2,020	2,573	4,593
	1,171	2,199	1,101	356	698	3,417	1,941	2,530	4,471
	2.9%	6.0%	-4.1%	-6.5%	12.5%	1.7%	4.1%	1.7%	2.7%
Total	2,193	4,172	1,839	559	1,322	6,323	3,689	4,515	8,204
	2,165	4,006	1,994	593	1,136	6,436	3,503	4,662	8,165
	1.3%	4.1%	-7.8%	-5.7%	16.4%	-1.8%	5.3%	-3.2%	0.5%
Net gain									
Independent schools	127	283	186	44	46	506	309	287	596
	169	310	200	38	152	489	319	360	679
	-24.9%	-8.7%	-7.0%	15.8%	-69.7%	3.5%	-3.1%	-20.3%	-12.2%
State-funded schools	321	680	206	81	174	952	411	796	1,207
	363	901	326	125	267	1,198	583	1,007	1,590
	-11.6%	-24.5%	-36.8%	-35.2%	-34.8%	-20.5%	-29.5%	-21.0%	-24.1%
Industry	-3	-13	-46	1	3	-66	-31	-31	-62
	-7	-66	-63	-9	1	-128	-29	-107	-136
	57.1%	80.3%	27.0%	111.1%	200.0%	48.4%	-6.9%	71.0%	54.4%
Outside the UK	-19	-30	-46	-20	-18	-57	-33	-62	-95
	-23	-13	-44	-5	-30	-45	-41	-39	-80
	17.4%	-130.8%	-4.5%	-300.0%	40.0%	-26.7%	19.5%	-59.0%	-18.8%
Other	-710	-1,318	-631	-193	-489	-1,977	-1,141	-1,518	-2,659
	-546	-1,145	-681	-248	-387	-1,737	-983	-1,389	-2,372
	-30.0%	-15.1%	7.3%	22.2%	-26.4%	-13.8%	-16.1%	-9.3%	-12.1%
Total	-127	-149	-217	-53	-225	-215	-242	-251	-493
	167	267	-149	-62	99	248	105	180	285
	-176.0%	-155.8%	-45.6%	14.5%	-327.3%	-186.7%	-330.5%	-239.4%	-273.0%
Full-time teachers									
Turnover as % of full-time teachers	16.4	17.4	16.8	14.2	21.4	16.6	17.0	17.0	17.0
	16.1	16.6	17.8	14.9	17.8	16.8	16.0	17.4	16.7
	1.6%	5.1%	-5.6%	-4.6%	20.3%	-1.1%	6.4%	-2.1%	1.5%
Gain as % of full-time teachers	-0.9	-0.6	-2.0	-1.3	-3.6	-0.6	-1.1	-0.9	-1.0
	1.2	1.1	-1.3	-1.6	1.6	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.6
	-176.3%	-156.3%	-49.0%	13.5%	-334.9%	-187.3%	-332.9%	-240.9%	-274.8%

Appendix Three

ISC Regions

Fig 1. ISC English Regions



Constituent Associations:

Association of Governing Bodies of
Independent Schools

Girls' Schools Association

HMC (The Heads' Conference)

Independent Association of Prep Schools

Independent Schools Association

The Independent Schools' Bursars Association

The Society of Heads



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