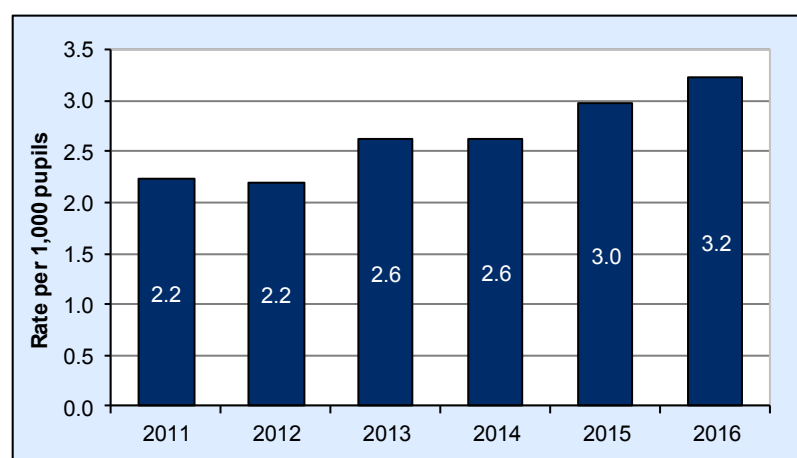


Pupils Educated Other than at School, 2015/16

This annual Statistical First Release reports on the number of pupils receiving education outside of school funded by Welsh local authorities and the number of pupils receiving elective home education in Wales. The information relates to the number of pupils receiving these forms of education during a census week in January for the academic years 2010/11 to 2015/16. During the 2015/16 academic year the census week was 11th to 15th January 2016.

Key Results

Chart 1: Rate of EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school



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

2,114 the number of EOTAS pupils.

1,512 the number of EOTAS pupils receiving their main education other than at school ([Table 1](#)).

3.2 out of 1,000 pupils in Wales received their main education other than at school ([Table 2](#)).

↑ The rate of EOTAS pupils receiving their main education other than at school continued to increase in 2015/16.

In 2015/16

➤ **Flintshire** had the highest rate of pupils whose main education is other than at school ([Table 2](#)).

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

➤ **Pupil referral units** were the most popular form of EOTAS education ([Table 7](#)).

733 the number of pupils who were registered at a single pupil referral unit ([Table 8](#)).

4.6 the rate of electively home educated pupils per 1,000 pupils in Wales. These pupils are not counted in the number of EOTAS pupils ([Table 10](#)).

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Introduction

[Chart 1](#) shows how the rate of EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school has changed over the years.

[Table 1](#) shows a breakdown of the number of EOTAS pupils in each local authority by enrolment status in PLASC for the 2015/16 academic year.

[Tables 2](#) and [3](#) show the number of EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school by local authority, gender and age for academic years 2011/12 to 2015/16 and show the rate per 1,000 pupils of these data, giving a more reliable measure of differences between groups of pupils.

[Tables 4](#) to [6](#) break down the number and percentage of pupils whose main education is other than at school by special educational need, free school meal entitlement and ethnic background.

[Table 7](#) shows the types of education being provided for pupils whose main education is other than at school. [Chart 2](#) ranks these data by the number of enrolments and [Chart 3](#) shows how the percentage of enrolments at different educational provisions have changed over the years.

[Tables 8](#) and [9](#) display the number of pupils who are registered at a single pupil referral unit or who are dual registered at a pupil referral unit by age, gender and local authority.

[Table 10](#) relates to pupils who are electively home educated and breaks down the figures by local authority. The pupils behind the elective home education data are not included in any other tables in this statistical release.

Table 1: Number of pupils educated other than at school, by local authority, 2015/16

Local Authority	EOTAS pupils whose main education is outside of school and who			EOTAS pupils who	
	are not on roll at a maintained school	have subsidiary enrolment status at a maintained school	Total	have main or current enrolment status at a maintained school	All pupils receiving EOTAS provision
Isle of Anglesey	20	0	20	5	25
Gwynedd	69	0	69	12	81
Conwy	55	0	55	0	55
Denbighshire	62	0	62	42	104
Flintshire	105	14	119	17	136
Wrexham	13	28	41	*	*
Powys	50	9	59	12	71
Ceredigion	11	20	31	10	41
Pembrokeshire	11	7	18	61	79
Carmarthenshire	13	59	72	45	117
Swansea	35	133	168	6	174
Neath Port Talbot	*	*	76	56	132
Bridgend	7	38	45	36	81
The Vale of Glamorgan	40	68	108	*	*
Rhondda Cynon Taff	82	78	160	33	193
Merthyr Tydfil	9	31	40	0	40
Caerphilly	7	63	70	120	190
Blaenau Gwent	5	38	43	*	*
Torfaen	24	0	24	32	56
Monmouthshire	5	7	12	14	26
Newport	*	*	87	22	109
Cardiff	128	5	133	72	205
Wales					
2015/16	909	603	1,512	602	2,114
2014/15	909	478	1,387	770	2,157
2013/14	958	267	1,225	1,142	2,367
2012/13	995	225	1,220	1,357	2,577
2011/12	841	185	1,026	1,551	2,577

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

Key points

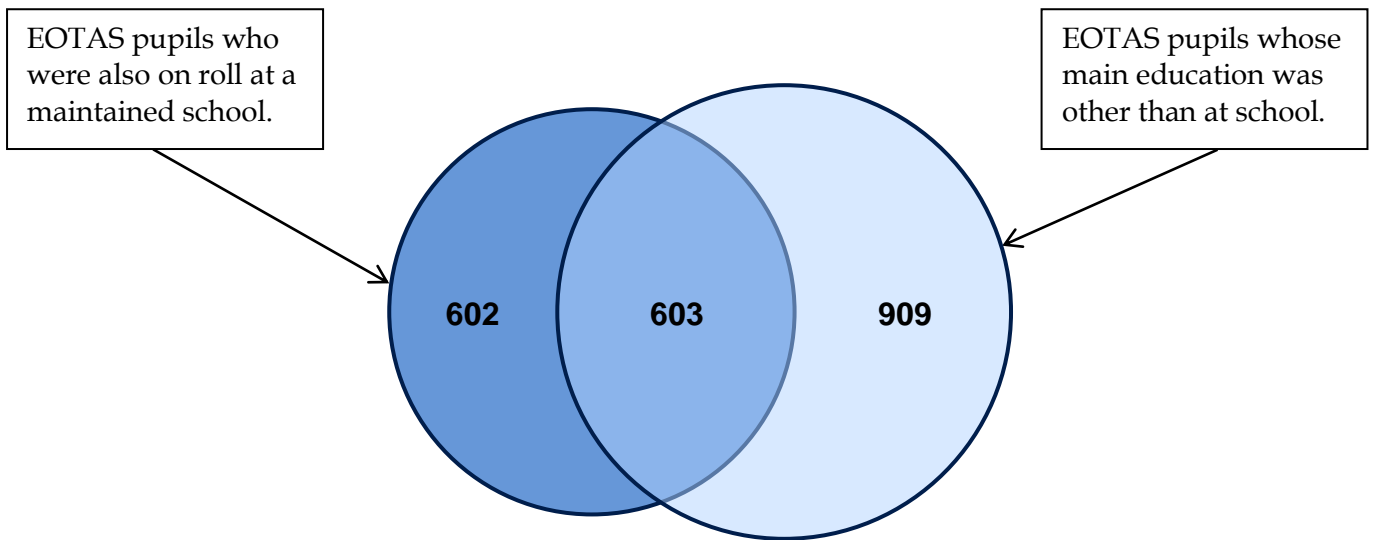
2,114 the number of EOTAS pupils.

1,512 the number of EOTAS pupils receiving their main education other than at school.

71.5% the percentage of EOTAS pupils receiving their main education other than at school.

- In 2015/16, 2,114 pupils were reported to be receiving education other than at school funded by their local authority during the census week (11th to 15th January 2016). In this statistical release such pupils will be referred to as 'EOTAS pupils'.
- Not all EOTAS pupils receive their education solely outside of the maintained school environment. In fact, many of them are still on roll at maintained schools. Of the 2,114 EOTAS pupils,
 - 909 pupils were not on roll at a maintained school in the January 2016 Pupil-Level Annual School Census (PLASC), so they only received education 'other than at school';

- 603 pupils had 'subsidiary' enrolment status in maintained schools in the January 2016 PLASC, meaning that their main education was 'other than at school'; and;
- 602 pupils had 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in maintained schools in the January 2016 PLASC, which means that their main education was in a maintained school.
- This breakdown can be seen in the following diagram. The circle on the left represents the EOTAS pupils who were on roll at a maintained school, while the circle on the right shows the EOTAS pupils whose main education was other than at school. The section where the circles overlap shows the number of EOTAS pupils whose main education was other than at school who had 'subsidiary' enrolment status in a maintained school.



- Since pupils with 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in the January 2016 PLASC are included in the [Schools' Census](#) publication, the main focus of this statistical release will be on the EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school - the pupils represented by the circle on the right.

Table 2: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by local authority, 2011/12-2015/16 (a)


	Number					Rate (a)				
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Isle of Anglesey	6	40	23	23	20	0.6	4.2	2.4	2.4	2.1
Gwynedd	40	47	31	29	69	2.3	2.7	1.8	1.7	4.0
Conwy	55	60	75	70	55	3.4	3.7	4.7	4.4	3.4
Denbighshire	60	68	66	45	62	3.8	4.3	4.2	2.8	3.9
Flintshire	53	111	137	145	119	2.2	4.7	5.7	6.1	5.0
Wrexham	63	62	59	47	41	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.4	2.1
Powys	49	50	59	58	59	2.6	2.6	3.2	3.2	3.3
Ceredigion	24	20	16	15	31	2.5	2.1	1.7	1.6	3.2
Pembrokeshire	10	10	8	10	18	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6	1.0
Carmarthenshire	17	23	30	50	72	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.8	2.6
Swansea	150	138	128	178	168	4.3	3.9	3.6	5.0	4.7
Neath Port Talbot	39	63	92	80	76	1.9	3.1	4.4	3.9	3.6
Bridgend	22	34	29	39	45	1.0	1.5	1.3	1.7	2.0
The Vale of Glamorgan	67	93	96	80	108	3.0	4.2	4.4	3.6	4.8
Rhondda Cynon Taf	91	84	87	102	160	2.3	2.1	2.2	2.6	4.1
Merthyr Tydfil	8	6	0	*	40	0.9	0.7	0.0	*	4.6
Caerphilly	32	45	16	142	70	1.1	1.6	0.6	4.9	2.4
Blaenau Gwent	5	13	43	33	43	0.5	1.3	4.5	3.5	4.6
Torfaen	17	19	20	26	24	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.6
Monmouthshire	4	5	6	*	12	0.3	0.4	0.5	*	1.0
Newport	68	78	67	68	87	2.8	3.2	2.7	2.7	3.4
Cardiff	146	151	137	139	133	2.9	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.5
Wales	1,026	1,220	1,225	1,387	1,512	2.2	2.6	2.6	3.0	3.2


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

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

Key points

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

 The rate of pupils whose main education is other than at school has been increasing in general since 2011/12.

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

- In 2015/16, 3.2 out of every 1,000 pupils in Wales received their main education other than at school. This value has increased over the past five years.
- The rate of EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school is 1.0 percentage points higher than it was in 2011/12.
- Flintshire had the highest rate of EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school in 2015/16 (5.0 per 1,000 pupils). This local authority has had the highest rate since 2012/13.

Table 3: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by age and gender, 2011/12-2015/16 (a)

	Number					Rate (a)				
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Gender										
Boys	744	841	858	990	1,060	3.1	3.5	3.6	4.2	4.4
Girls	282	379	367	397	452	1.2	1.7	1.6	1.7	2.0
Pupils	1,026	1,220	1,225	1,387	1,512	2.2	2.6	2.6	3.0	3.2
Age (b)										
19 or over	0	3	0	*	0	0.0	21.0	0.0	*	0.0
18	13	20	23	25	18	8.4	12.8	14.9	17.6	12.2
17	27	45	36	47	49	2.1	3.6	2.9	3.7	4.1
16	64	65	65	75	80	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.9	5.5
15	428	493	546	609	718	12.4	13.7	15.8	18.2	22.2
14	168	233	213	262	243	4.7	6.7	6.4	8.1	7.6
13	114	120	120	132	150	3.3	3.6	3.7	4.1	4.9
12	75	77	68	83	90	2.2	2.4	2.1	2.7	2.8
11	34	47	40	48	42	1.1	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.3
10	30	23	32	19	35	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.6	1.1
9	17	27	18	29	21	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.6
8	25	14	22	17	15	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4
7	9	15	9	10	19	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5
6	9	11	7	10	7	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2
5	5	8	9	*	7	0.1	0.2	0.3	*	0.2
Under 5	8	19	17	14	18	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total	1,026	1,220	1,225	1,387	1,512	2.2	2.6	2.6	3.0	3.2

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

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

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

Key points

Pupils whose main education is other than at school:

7 out of 10 pupils were boys.



Pupils aged 15 had the highest rate of EOTAS pupils.

- Since 2011/12 there have been more boys whose main education is other than at school than girls and this continues to be the case in 2015/16. Around 7 out of 10 pupils whose main education is other than at school were boys.
- The rate of boys whose main education is other than school has been increasing since 2011/12. The rate of girls has risen and fallen between 2011/12 and 2015/16, but in general has been increasing as well.
- The age group with the highest rate of pupils receiving their main education other than at school was 15-year-olds. A little under 5 out of 10 EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school were aged 15.
- The rate of pupils aged 11-15 whose main education is other than at school increases as the pupils' ages increase. This trend can be seen in the 'Rate' section in [Table 3](#). In 2015/16, 1.3 out of every 1,000 pupils aged 11 were receiving their main education other than at school and as pupils' ages increase this rate also increases, to 22.2 out of every 1,000 pupils aged 15.

Table 4: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by special educational need (SEN) provision, 2011/12-2015/16 (a)

SEN provision	Number of pupils					Percentage of pupils (a)				
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Statement of SEN	365	443	424	463	472	35.6	36.3	34.6	33.4	31.2
School Action Plus	503	553	594	645	705	49.0	45.3	48.5	46.5	46.6
School Action	54	36	41	87	123	5.3	3.0	3.3	6.3	8.1
No SEN	104	188	166	192	212	10.1	15.4	13.6	13.8	14.0
Total	1,026	1,220	1,225	1,387	1,512	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

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

Key points

Pupils whose main education is other than at school:

86.0% Percentage of pupils with special educational needs in 2015/16.



The percentage of pupils with special educational needs has been decreasing slightly since 2013/14.

- In 2015/16 the percentage of pupils whose main education is other than at school with special educational needs continued to decrease slightly. It has fallen from 86.4 per cent in 2013/14 to 86.0 per cent in 2015/16.
- School Action Plus has been the most common SEN provision for EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school since 2011/12.

Table 5: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by free school meal (FSM) entitlement, 2011/12-2015/16 (a)

Free school meal entitlement	Number of pupils					Percentage of pupils (a)				
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Entitled to FSM	315	379	407	484	629	30.7	31.1	33.2	34.9	41.6
Not entitled to FSM	711	841	818	903	883	69.3	68.9	66.8	65.1	58.4
Total	1,026	1,220	1,225	1,387	1,512	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

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

Key points

Pupils whose main education is other than at school:

Around **2 out of 5** pupils were entitled to free school meals.

- 41.6 per cent (just over 2 out of 5) of pupils whose main education is other than at school were entitled to free school meals in 2015/16.
- The percentage of pupils whose main education is other than at school who were entitled to free school meals has been rising since 2011/12.

Table 6: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by ethnic background, 2011/12-2015/16 (a)

Ethnic background	Number of pupils					Percentage of pupils (a)				
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
White	892	1,089	1,113	1,275	1,419	86.9	89.3	90.9	91.9	93.8
White - British	874	1,049	1,081	1,237	1,388	85.2	86.0	88.2	89.2	91.8
Traveller	7	6	*	9	7	0.7	0.5	*	0.6	0.5
Gypsy/Roma	1	5	*	6	8	0.1	0.4	*	0.4	0.5
Any other white background	10	29	24	23	16	1.0	2.4	2.0	1.7	1.1
Mixed	23	34	25	32	32	2.2	2.8	2.0	2.3	2.1
White and Black Caribbean	7	14	7	11	11	0.7	1.1	0.6	0.8	0.7
White and Black African	3	1	*	*	*	0.3	0.1	*	*	*
White and Asian	3	5	*	*	*	0.3	0.4	*	*	*
Any other mixed background	10	14	13	12	13	1.0	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.9
Asian	8	4	*	7	10	0.8	0.3	*	0.5	0.7
Indian	0	0	0	*	*	0.0	0.0	0.0	*	*
Pakistani	4	1	*	*	*	0.4	0.1	*	*	*
Bangladeshi	2	2	*	*	*	0.2	0.2	*	*	*
Any other Asian background	2	1	0	*	*	0.2	0.1	0.0	*	*
Black	6	5	*	*	*	0.6	0.4	*	*	*
Caribbean	2	2	0	0	0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
African	2	2	*	*	0	0.2	0.2	*	*	0.0
Any other Black background	2	1	*	*	*	0.2	0.1	*	*	*
Chinese or Chinese British	1	1	*	0	0	0.1	0.1	*	0.0	0.0
Any other ethnic group	2	14	5	*	5	0.2	1.1	0.4	*	0.3
Total with valid category	932	1,147	1,150	1,320	1,467	90.8	94.0	93.9	95.2	97.0
Unknown or not stated	94	73	75	67	45	9.2	6.0	6.1	4.8	3.0
All pupils	1,026	1,220	1,225	1,387	1,512	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

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

Table 7: Pupils whose main education is other than at school, by educational provision, 2015/16

Since pupils may attend more than one educational provision in a week, some pupils may be counted against more than one provision. That is why the number of enrolments is higher than the number of pupils whose main education is other than at school (1,512 pupils) in [Table 1](#).

Educational provision	Number of enrolments	Percentage of enrolments	Average number of hours a pupil is scheduled to attend in a week
Pupil referral unit	733	46.4	23.0
Further education college	90	5.7	21.4
Maintained school	36	2.3	12.6
Non-maintained special school	76	4.8	26.1
Individual tuition	243	15.4	12.1
Youth Gateway	0	0.0	.
Work-related education	8	0.5	11.9
Training provider	93	5.9	22.8
Voluntary organisation	1	0.1	5.0
Bought in private sector provision	37	2.3	19.4
Independent school	187	11.8	25.5
Provision not maintained by, or is outside of, authority	17	1.1	24.8
Awaiting provision or not currently in provision	19	1.2	.
Other	40	2.5	18.5
Total	1,580	100.0	20.9

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

"." data item is not applicable.

Key points

Pupils whose main education is other than at school:

46.4% Percentage of pupil enrolments at pupil referral units.

15.4% Percentage of pupil enrolments at individual tuition.

19 Number of pupils not receiving educational provision during the census week.

- In 2015/16 there were 733 enrolments at pupil referral units, which accounted for 46.4 per cent of all EOTAS educational enrolments. Looking at [Chart 2](#), you can see that pupil referral units were used much more frequently to educate EOTAS pupils than other provisions.
- Individual tuition was the next most popular educational provision, accounting for 15.4 per cent of EOTAS educational enrolments.
- Although the EOTAS data collection refers to pupils educated other than at school, in some circumstances EOTAS pupils are placed into a maintained school as part of their provision. 36 pupils received EOTAS education in a maintained school. On average, these pupils only received 12.6 hours of education each week at maintained schools. This is just over half of the standard school week of 25 hours.
- The average number of hours of education provided to pupils whose main education is outside of school was 20.9 hours during the census week. Pupils enrolled at non-maintained special schools received the most number of hours of provision during the census week, with an average of 26.1 hours provided per pupil.

Chart 2: Number of pupil enrolments, by educational provision, 2015/16

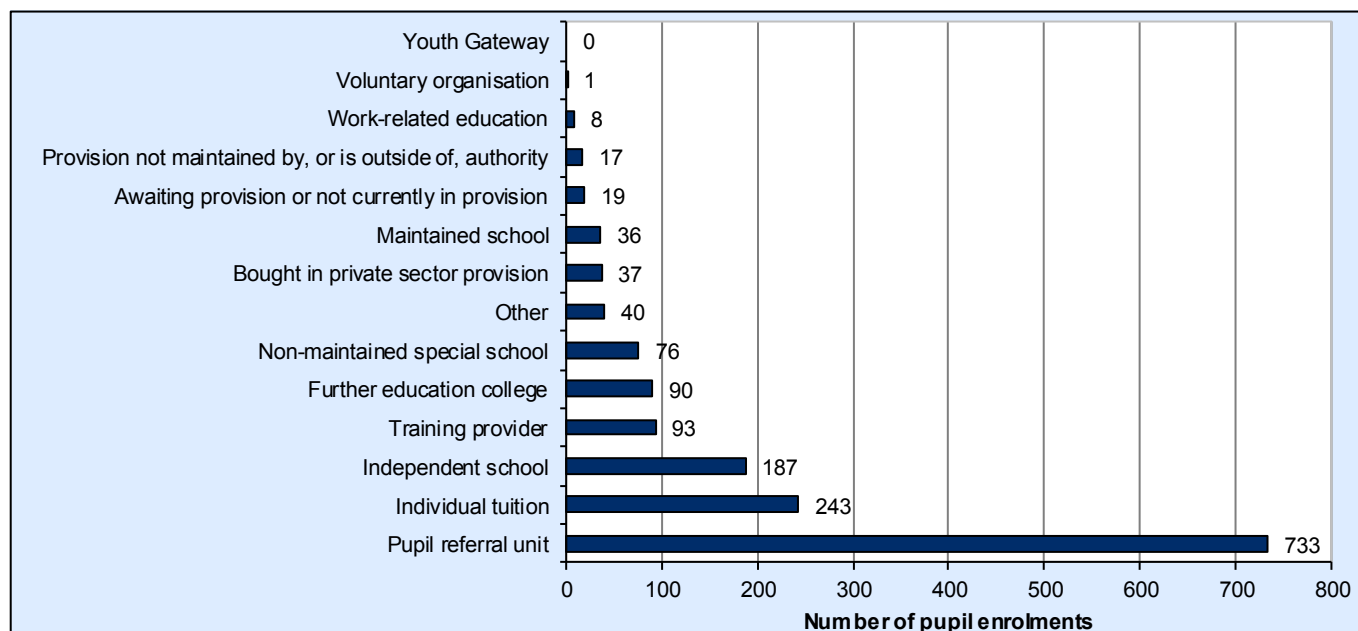
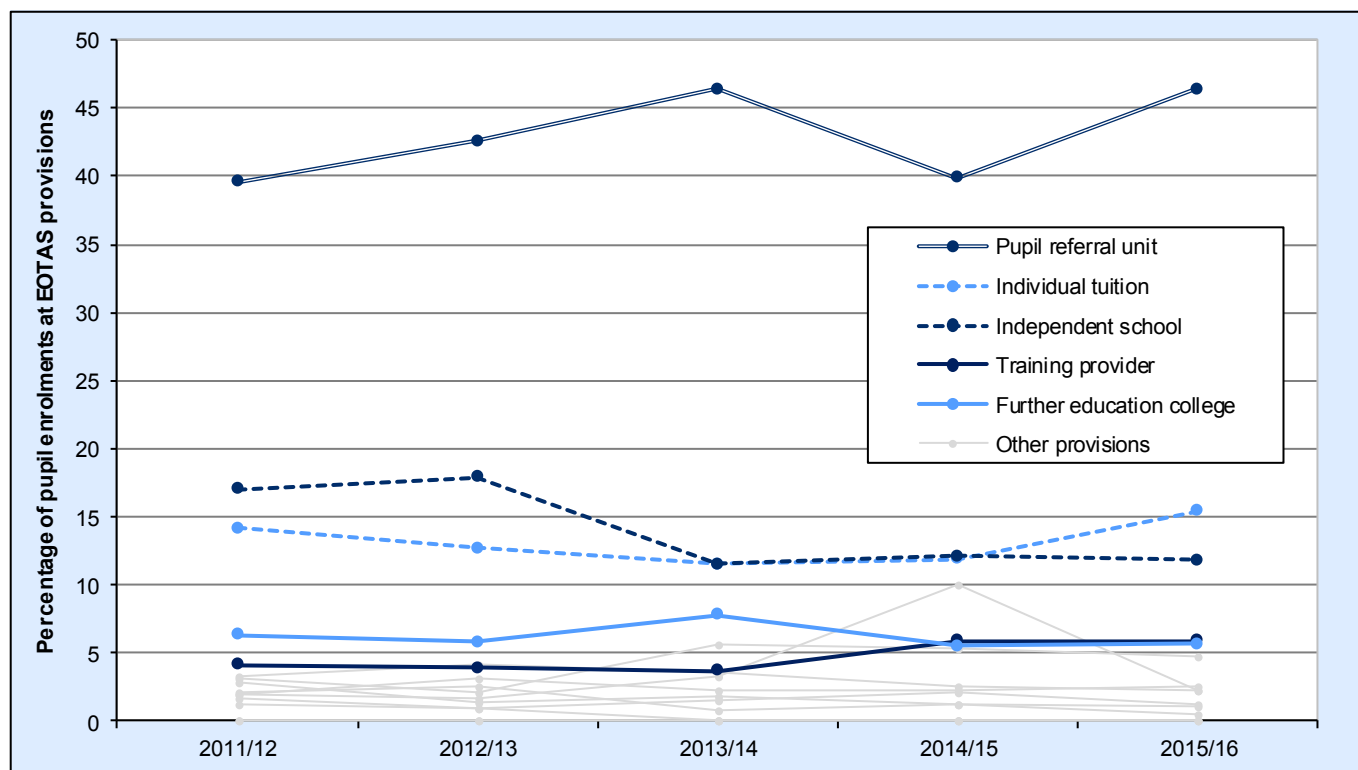


Chart 3: Percentage of pupil enrolments, by educational provision, 2011/12-2015/16

[Table 7](#) shows the percentage of pupil enrolments at EOTAS provisions during the census week in 2015/16. [Chart 3](#) shows how the percentages of pupil enrolments have changed since 2011/12. All provisions have been plotted on this chart, but only the five most popular provisions in 2015/16 have been highlighted to make it easier to read.



- Pupil referral units have been the most frequently-used EOTAS provision since 2011/12. Their usage peaked in 2013/14, fell in 2014/15 and then rose again in 2015/16.

- In 2015/16 the use of individual tuition rose, while the use of independent schools as EOTAS provision decreased. This means that for the first time since 2011/12 individual tuition was the second most popular provision for EOTAS pupils.
- Brought in private sector provision, which was the fourth most popular provision in 2014/15, was not used as much in 2015/16. In 2015/16 training providers were the fourth and further education colleges the fifth most popular education provisions used for EOTAS pupils.

Table 8: Number of pupils attending pupil referral units in Wales, by age, 2015/16

Age (a)	Pupils who are registered at a single PRU (b)			Pupils who are dually registered at a PRU (c)		
	Boys	Girls	Pupils	Boys	Girls	Pupils
19 or over	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	0	0	0	0	*	*
17	0	*	*	*	0	*
16	0	*	*	*	0	*
15	241	134	375	21	15	36
14	86	37	123	27	30	57
13	69	23	92	23	17	40
12	40	6	46	*	*	31
11	15	0	15	*	*	25
10	19	0	19	*	*	19
9	*	*	10	*	*	18
8	*	*	10	*	*	19
7	13	0	13	*	*	6
6	5	0	5	*	*	13
5	*	0	*	*	0	*
Under 5	*	*	15	*	0	*
Total	518	215	733	193	79	272

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

(a) Age as on 31 August 2015.

(b) Figures relate to pupils educated at only one PRU and include pupils receiving other EOTAS provisions or being recorded as having 'subsidiary' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2015/16 Pupil-Level Annual School Census (PLASC), but exclude those with 'main' or 'current' enrolment in a maintained or special school in PLASC.

(c) Figures relate to pupils educated at more than one PRU or educated at a PRU while having 'main' or 'current' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2015/16 PLASC.

Key points

EOTAS pupils registered at PRUs:

733 pupils were registered at a single PRU.

272 pupils were dually registered at a PRU.

- During the 2015/16 census week 733 EOTAS pupils were singly registered at a pupil referral unit (PRU). A little under three quarters of these pupils were boys.
- In [Table 3](#) it was seen that the rate of pupils aged 11-15 whose main education is other than at school increased as the pupils' age increase. A similar trend can be seen in enrolments at pupil referral units. The number of pupils registered at PRUs increases with each age group from age 11 up to age 15.
- 272 pupils were dually registered at a PRU during the 2015/16 census week. This means that they were either attending more than one PRU or were on roll at one PRU but receiving their main education in a maintained school.

Around **15 out of every 30** pupils registered at a single PRU were aged 15.

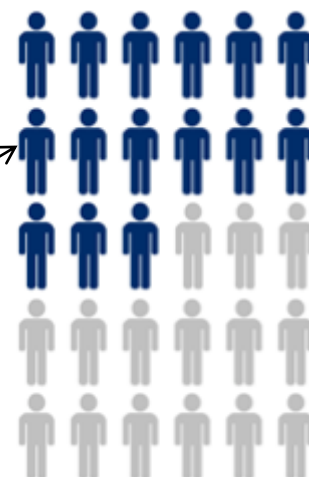


Table 9: Number of pupils attending pupil referral units in Wales, by local authority, 2015/16

Local Authority (a)	Pupils who are registered at a single PRU (b)			Pupils who are dually registered at a PRU (c)		
	Boys	Girls	Pupils	Boys	Girls	Pupils
Isle of Anglesey	*	*	11	0	0	0
Gwynedd	0	0	0	0	0	0
Conwy	29	14	43	*	0	*
Denbighshire	9	9	18	30	11	41
Flintshire	61	23	84	*	*	14
Wrexham	28	11	39	*	0	*
Powys	17	8	25	*	*	6
Ceredigion	16	6	22	*	0	*
Pembrokeshire	*	*	8	39	8	47
Carmarthenshire	29	24	53	*	*	21
Swansea	51	25	76	*	0	*
Neath Port Talbot	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bridgend	21	24	45	14	22	36
The Vale of Glamorgan	49	14	63	0	0	0
Rhondda Cynon Taf	92	6	98	27	5	32
Merthyr Tydfil	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caerphilly	32	20	52	*	*	*
Blaenau Gwent	26	12	38	*	*	*
Torfaen	*	*	*	20	11	31
Monmouthshire	5	0	5	*	*	8
Newport	*	*	19	*	*	11
Cardiff	19	11	30	*	*	9
Wales	518	215	733	193	79	272

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

- (a) Refers to the local authority in which pupils attended PRUs, not the local authority funding the provision.
- (b) Figures relate to pupils educated at only one PRU and include pupils receiving other EOTAS provisions or being recorded as having 'subsidiary' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2015/16 Pupil-Level Annual School Census (PLASC), but exclude those with 'main' or 'current' enrolment in a maintained or special school in PLASC.
- (c) Figures relate to pupils educated at more than one PRU or educated at a PRU while having 'main' or 'current' enrolment status at a maintained or special school in the 2015/16 PLASC.

- Rhondda Cynon Taf had the most number of pupils registered at a single pupil referral unit (98 pupils).
- Gwynedd, Neath Port Talbot and Merthyr Tydfil had no pupils on roll at a pupil referral unit during the 2015/16 census week.

Table 10: Number of pupils of compulsory school age educated at home, by local authority, 2011/12-2015/16 (a)

	Number					Rate (b)				
	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Isle of Anglesey (c)	2	27	23	21	23	0.3	3.6	3.1	2.8	3.0
Gwynedd	53	55	69	55	64	3.8	3.9	5.0	4.0	4.6
Conwy	53	58	40	62	108	4.2	4.6	3.2	5.0	8.6
Denbighshire	50	43	58	55	47	4.0	3.5	4.7	4.4	3.8
Flintshire	40	51	39	46	59	2.2	2.7	2.1	2.5	3.1
Wrexham	20	21	20	30	47	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.9	3.0
Powys	99	101	120	112	122	6.5	6.7	8.0	7.6	8.4
Ceredigion	117	122	112	111	113	15.2	15.9	14.7	14.9	15.0
Pembrokeshire	70	92	92	106	123	4.9	6.5	6.5	7.6	8.9
Carmarthenshire (c)	82	74	122	160	209	3.8	3.4	5.7	7.4	9.6
Swansea	69	69	81	104	128	2.5	2.5	2.9	3.7	4.5
Neath Port Talbot	36	41	34	58	91	2.1	2.5	2.0	3.5	5.4
Bridgend	43	38	43	67	74	2.5	2.2	2.5	3.9	4.2
The Vale of Glamorgan	17	32	30	35	32	1.0	1.9	1.8	2.1	1.9
Rhondda Cynon Taff	37	51	55	63	83	1.2	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.8
Merthyr Tydfil	9	14	13	17	20	1.3	2.0	1.8	2.4	2.8
Caerphilly (d)	29	..	31	29	42	1.3	..	1.4	1.3	1.9
Blaenau Gwent	8	12	19	14	15	1.0	1.5	2.4	1.8	2.0
Torfaen	16	21	32	36	50	1.3	1.7	2.7	3.0	4.2
Monmouthshire	17	28	24	27	31	1.8	3.0	2.6	2.9	3.3
Newport	27	24	26	33	36	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.7	1.8
Cardiff	92	129	142	158	165	2.3	3.3	3.5	3.9	4.0
Wales	986	1,103	1,225	1,399	1,682	2.7	3.2	3.4	3.8	4.6

Sources: EOTAS Pupil Census, Welsh Government

- (a) Data relate to pupils aged 5 to 15 on 31 August before the start of the academic year. Where local authorities do not know a pupil's age they were asked to provide an estimate.
- (b) Rate per 1,000 pupils aged 5-15 on 31 August before the start of the academic year. The denominator includes pupils whose main education is other than at school, pupils who had 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in the January PLASC and pupils who are known to be electively home educated.
- (c) Isle of Anglesey did not provide the ages of elective home educated pupils for 2012/13 and Carmarthenshire did not provide the ages of some pupils in 2013/14 so it is unknown whether their data include pupils outside of the 5-15 age range for this year. It was not mandatory to provide such information.
- (d) Caerphilly was not able to supply data for electively home educated pupils in 2012/13. All 22 local authorities provided data in other years.
- ".." means that the data item is not available.

Key points

Electively home educated pupils in 2015/16:

1,682 pupils were electively home educated.

Ceredigion had the highest rate of elective home educated pupils.

- In the 2015/16 academic year 1,682 children were known to be electively home educated in Wales. This means that the parents of these pupils decided to educate their children at home instead of sending them to school.
- The rate of elective home educated pupils continues to rise. In 2011/12 2.7 out of 1,000 pupils were electively home educated, but by 2015/16 this value had increased to 4.6 out of 1,000 pupils. The increase between 2014/15 and 2015/16 (an increase of 0.7 percentage points) was the largest increase since 2011/12.

- Newport had the lowest rate of electively home educated children (1.8 per 1,000 pupils) while Ceredigion had the highest rate (15.0 per 1,000 pupils). Ceredigion has had the highest rate of electively home educated children since 2011/12.
- As parents notify their local authority that they are home educating their children on a voluntary basis (unless they have withdrawn their child from school), these data may not include all electively home educated children).

Notes

1 Context

1.1 Policy/Operational

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

In practice, local authorities respond to that duty in widely varying ways, relating to their individual circumstances, such as their geography, socio-economic situation and educational policies. In September 2015 the Welsh Government established an EOTAS Task and Finish Group, chaired by former Estyn Chief Inspector Ann Keane. The Task and Finish Group has been asked to develop practical solutions for implementing the recommendations made by the University of Edinburgh, the Children's Commissioner for Wales and Estyn.

1.2 Related Publications

England publishes the number of pupils on roll at Pupil Referral Units in the statistical release entitled 'Schools, pupils and their characteristics: January 2015'. [The latest available statistics can be found here.](#)

2 Data Source

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

3 Definitions

3.1 Coverage

The information in this Statistical First Release relates to pupils receiving local authority-funded education outside of the mainstream school environment during a census week each January and the number of pupils of compulsory school age (aged 5 to 15 on 31 August before the start of the academic year) known by local authorities to be electively home educated. For the 2015/16 academic year the census week was 11 to 15 January 2016.

In 2015/16 data were received on 2,114 pupils receiving education other than at school from all 22 local authorities in Wales. Of the 2,114 pupils receiving EOTAS provision 602 were recorded in the January 2016 Pupil-Level Annual School Census as having 'main' or 'current' enrolment status in maintained primary, secondary or special schools and were therefore considered to be receiving their main education in a maintained school. The remaining 1,512 pupils were considered to be receiving their main education other than at school. The focus of this Statistical First Release is on pupils mainly educated other than at school, but to give a complete picture it was necessary to include all pupils receiving EOTAS provision in Tables 1, 8 and 9.

Local authorities reported that in 2015/16 1,787 pupils were known to be electively home educated. Of these pupils 105 were known to not be of compulsory school age so they were excluded from the figures contained in this release, leaving a total of 1,682 pupils.

From 2010/11 to 2011/12 Pembrokeshire did not provide a gender breakdown of their electively home educated pupils. In 2012/13 Isle of Anglesey did not provide the age of their electively home educated pupils and in 2013/14 Carmarthenshire did not provide the age for 9 of their electively home educated pupils, meaning that it was not possible to determine whether they were of compulsory school age or not. In 2012/13 Caerphilly did not provide any information regarding electively home educated pupils. It is not mandatory for local authorities to provide this information.

3.2 Definitions of Pupils Educated Other than at School

In the context of this statistical release:

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

3.3 Free school meal (FSM) eligibility

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

- Income Support.
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance.
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and their annual income does not exceed £16,190.
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' - the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.
- Universal Credit.

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

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

3.4 Special educational needs (SEN)

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

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

4 Rounding and Symbols

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

The following symbols have been used throughout this publication:

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

5 Key Quality Information

This section provides a summary of information on this output against five dimensions of quality: Relevance, Accuracy, Timeliness and Punctuality, Accessibility and Clarity, and Comparability.

5.1 Relevance

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

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

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

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

5.2 Accuracy

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

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

5.3 Timeliness and Punctuality

DEWi was available for uploading files on 18 January 2016, with local authorities asked to submit data for all pupils receiving or awaiting local authority-funded education outside of the maintained school environment during the census week of 11 to 15 January 2016. Local authorities were then asked to validate their data within the validation period, which closed on 8 June 2016.

5.4 Accessibility and Clarity

This Statistical First Release is pre-announced and then published on the Statistics section of the Welsh Government's website.

5.5 Comparability

Tables 8 and 9 contain the number of pupils only on roll at Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) in Wales by gender, age and local authority, which in previous years have been published in the Welsh Government's publication entitled 'Schools in Wales: General Statistics.' Prior to 2009/10 the figures for this table were collected directly from PRUs via the STATS1 form. Tables 8 and 9 are now based upon data from the EOTAS Pupil Census and the January Pupil-Level Annual School Census. Because of the change in methodology used, the number of pupils that would have been reported as only being on roll at a PRU in the STATS1 form may differ slightly from those that have been produced for this statistical first release.

In the 2009/10 edition of this release Table 4 presented the number of pupils only registered at a PRU (which included pupils registered at more than one PRU) and the number of pupils registered at a PRU and other educational institutions. To meet with user demand, this table (now Table 8) was changed in the 2010/11 edition to present the number of pupils only registered at a single PRU and the number of pupils dual registered at more than one PRU or at a PRU and another maintained school. The new definitions have also been used in Table 9 and match the definitions previously used when presenting the number of pupils attending PRUs. Since Table 4 in the 2009/10 release and the same table in subsequent releases have different definitions for single and dual registered pupils it is not recommended that they be compared. Comparable data are available from the school statistics team within the Welsh Government on request.

Tables and charts in this statistical first release contain data about different groups of EOTAS pupils as defined in section 3.2. Whether the tables and charts are referring to EOTAS pupils whose main education is other than at school, whose main education is at a maintained school or all EOTAS pupils is clearly indicated, so before comparing two tables or charts please check that they are referring to the same group of EOTAS pupils.

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

Due to the fact that Pembrokeshire did not provide elective home education data by gender between 2010/11 and 2011/12 and Isle of Anglesey didn't provide these data by age in 2012/13 it was decided to remove the table presenting these data by age and gender because of issues with comparability between years. However, these data are available from the Welsh Government on request. In addition to this, Caerphilly did not provide any electively home educated pupil data in 2012/13, whereas it did in previous years. Caution should therefore be used when comparing these data with other years.



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