

Cookies on Explore Education Statistics

We use some essential cookies to make this service work.

We'd also like to use analytics cookies so we can understand how you use the service and make improvements.

Accept analytics cookies

Reject analytics cookies

[View cookies](#)



Explore education statistics

Shape the future of Explore education statistics

[Share your feedback to help us improve this service \(opens in new tab\)](#)

[Close](#)

New release page

You are viewing the new design of the Release page - if you would like to provide feedback, please complete [our feedback form \(opens in new window\)](#)

[Home](#) ▾ [Find statistics and data](#) ▾ Academy transfers and funding



Department for Education

Financial year 2025-26

Academy transfers and funding

Annual release on academy transfers in England, including why academies transferred and any associated grant funding that was provided.

Quick links

[Download all data \(ZIP\)](#)

[Create your own tables](#)

[Get email alerts](#)

Latest release

Next release **July 2027**

[All releases in this series](#)

Official statistics 

[Department for Education](#)

Published

30 July 2026

On this page

[Headline facts and figures](#)

[Background information](#)

[Number of academy transfers](#)

[Grant funding provided](#)

[Reason for academy transfers](#)

Technical Information

[—Academy transfers](#)

[—**Academy transfer grant
funding**](#)

[Contact us](#)

[Back to top](#)

Headline facts and figures

Total number of academies that have moved trust

263

Decrease from 280 in 2024-25

Percentage of academies where grant funding was provided

3%

Decrease from 16% in 2024-25

Percentage of academies that moved trust in England

2.2%

Decrease from 2.5% in 2024-25

1. The annual number of academy transfers increased year on year from 21 academies transferring trust in 2013-14, to 307 in 2018-19, before decreasing to 176 in 2021-22, rising to 280 in 2023-24, remaining at that level in 2024-25, then falling to 263 in 2025-26.
2. The total number of academy transfers that took place in the financial years 2013-14 to 2025-26 inclusive was 2,638, of which 528 (20%) have received grant funding.
3. The proportion of academy transfers over this time has increased from 0.5% of all open academies in England in 2013-14 to 3.6% in 2018-19. 2021-22 saw a decrease to 1.8%, which is likely linked to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant pause in Ofsted inspections. The financial years 2022-23 to 2025-26 have seen similar levels of transfers, which stood at 2.2% in 2025-26.
4. The proportion of academy transfers that have received grant funding each year decreased from 36% in 2016-17 to 7% in 2022-23. After a brief rise, this has fallen back to 3% in 2025-26.

Background information

This statistics publication provides data and analysis on the number of academies that have moved trust from the financial year 2013-14 to 2025-26 and the total grant funding provided in England only. It also provides information on the reasons for academies moving trust.

Due to differences in the way data was recorded in legacy systems compared to the current system, the grant funding for financial years 2013-14 to 2015-16 are not comparable with the grant funding in financial years 2016-17 to 2025-26 inclusive.

The following ancillary table is available to download from this release:

- List of all academy transfers during financial years 2013-14 to 2025-26 and how much grant funding was provided to each.

The above table can be found under 'Supporting data' in the 'Explore and download data' section.

When reviewing the tables, please note that the grant funding figures have been rounded to the nearest £100.

Number of academy transfers

A total of 2,638 academy transfers took place in the thirteen financial years 2013-14 to 2025-26 inclusive. Of these, 528 (20%) received grant funding for the transfer.

The number of academy transfers increased from 21 in financial year 2013-14, to 307 in 2018-19 before decreasing to 176 in 2021-22, rising to 280 in 2023-24, remaining at that level in 2024-25, then falling to 263 in 2025-26.

The proportion of academy transfers over this time has increased from 0.5% of all open academies in England in 2013-14 to 3.6% in 2018-19. 2021-22 saw a decrease to 1.8%, which is likely linked to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant pause in Ofsted inspections. After a rise to 2.7% in 2022-23, this has fallen back to 2.2% in 2025-26.

Due to differences in the way data was recorded in legacy systems compared to the current system, the grant funding for financial years 2013-14 to 2015-16 are not comparable with the grant funding in financial years 2016-17 to 2025-26 inclusive.

Chart

Table

► Export options

Academy Transfers and Funding 2013-14 and 2025-26

	Total number of academies that have moved trust	Percentage of academies that moved trust in England
2013-14	21	0.5%
2014-15	64	1.3%
2015-	92	1.7%

2015-16	192	1.7%
2016-17	196	3.0%
2017-18	255	3.3%
2018-19	307	3.6%
2019-20	240	2.6%
2020-21	189	2.0%
2021-22	176	1.8%
2022-23	275	2.7%
2023-24	280	2.6%
2024-25	280	2.5%
2025-26	263	2.2%

[Show full screen table](#)

[Data symbols](#) 

[Back to top](#)

Footnotes

1. We define financial year as the period 1 April to 31 March the following year.

Source: Regions Group management information.

Explore and edit this data online

Use our table tool to explore this data.

Explore data

► Export options

Number of academy transfers between 2013-14 and 2025-26.

Number of academies where grant funding was provided	Number of academies where no grant funding was provided	Total number of academies that have moved trust	Percentage of academies where grant funding was	Percentage of academies where no grant funding was	Number of academies in England as at 31 March	Percentage of academies that move trust Englar
--	---	--	---	--	---	---

				provided	provided		
2013-14	3	18	21	14%	86%	3,908	0.5
2014-15	40	24	64	63%	38%	4,902	1.3
2015-16	34	58	92	37%	63%	5,553	1.7
2016-17	71	125	196	36%	64%	6,518	3.0
2017-18	71	184	255	28%	72%	7,613	3.3
2018-19	73	234	307	24%	76%	8,490	3.6
2019-20	36	204	240	15%	85%	9,094	2.6
2020-21	54	135	189	29%	71%	9,496	2.0
2021-22	38	138	176	22%	78%	9,887	1.8
2022-23	19	256	275	7%	93%	10,254	2.7
2023-24	37	243	280	13%	87%	10,746	2.6

24							
2024-25	44	236	280	16%	84%	11,411	2.5
2025-26	8	255	263	3%	97%	11,904	2.2

[Show full screen table](#)

[Data symbols](#) ?

[Back to top](#)

Footnotes

- 1. Due to differences in the way data was recorded in legacy systems compared to the current system, the grant funding for financial years 2013-14 to 2015-16 are not comparable with the grant funding in financial years 2016-17 to 2025-26. More information is available in the Technical Information section.
- 2. We define financial year as the period 1 April to 31 March the following year.

Source: Regions Group management information.

Explore and edit this data online

Use our table tool to explore this data.

Explore data

Grant funding provided

In the financial year 2013-14, total grant funding of £566,000 was provided for academy transfers. This increased to over £4.2 million in financial year 2015-16. This increase in grant funding was driven by an increase in the number of academies transferring trusts over these years.

In the financial year 2016-17, total grant funding was £8.4 million. This then saw a steady decrease year on year (with the exception of 2020-21, which saw a small increase to £4.6 million), until 2021-22 when the amount of grant funding provided was £1.3 million. Since then, the amount of grant funding rose to £3.7 million in 2023-24, followed by a small drop to £3.1 million in 2024-25, then a further drop to £1 million in 2025-26, the lowest it has been in the period where the data is comparable. More detail can be found in Table 2.

The total grant funding provided to academy transfers in financial years 2016-17 to 2025-26 inclusive are not comparable with earlier years due to differences in what it has been possible to include in the total costs compiled (see Technical Information).

Academies may have received funding for transfer in the financial year that it joined a new trust or in the years pre- or post- a trust move. In this publication we are not including costs paid out to academies in 2025-26 which have not yet joined a new academy trust.

It is not possible to calculate an average payment per financial year as some trusts can receive grant funding for an academy over several years.

► Export options

Academy Transfers and Funding 2013-14 to 2025-26

	Grant funding provided in 2023-24	Grant funding provided in 2024-25	Grant funding provided in 2025-26	Total grant funding provided	Number of academies where grant funding was provided	Number of academies where no grant funding was provided	Percentage of academies where grant funding was provided
2013-14	£0	£0	£0	£467,300	3	18	14%
2014-15	£0	£0	£0	£4,502,500	40	24	63%
2015-16	£0	£0	£0	£4,766,700	34	58	37%
2016-17	£0	£0	£0	£6,818,400	71	125	36%
2017-18	£0	£0	£0	£7,063,800	71	184	28%
2018-19	£0	£0	£0	£8,226,500	73	234	24%
2019-20	£0	£0	£0	£3,004,700	36	204	15%

2013-20	£0	£0	£0	£3,904,700	30	204	13%
2020-21	£0	£0	£0	£3,162,600	54	135	29%
2021-22	£0	£0	£0	£1,734,300	38	138	22%
2022-23	£292,200	£0	£0	£1,657,400	19	256	7%
2023-24	£2,805,000	£0	£0	£2,955,000	37	243	13%
2024-25	£580,000	£3,134,400	£0	£3,714,400	44	236	16%
2025-26	£0	£0	£1,010,000	£1,010,000	8	255	3%

[Show full screen table](#)

[Data symbols](#) 

[Back to top](#)

Footnotes

1. Due to differences in the way data was recorded in legacy systems compared to the current system, the grant funding for financial years 2013-14 to 2015-16 are not comparable with the grant funding in financial years 2016-17 to 2025-26. More information is available in the Technical Information section.

2. We define financial year as the period 1 April to 31 March the following year.

[Show 2 more footnotes](#)

Source: Regions Group management information.

Explore and edit this data online

Use our table tool to explore this data.

Explore data

[Back to top](#)

Reason for academy transfers

Out of the 263 academy transfers in 2025-26, 243 (92%) were initiated by the outgoing trust, and 20 (8%)

[Release home](#)

[Explore and download data](#)

[Methodology](#)

[Help and related information](#)

judgment, where an academy was not making necessary improvements, or where there were financial, governance or safeguarding failures.

Note that the number of transfers due to intervention in 2020-21 and 2021-22 was affected by the pause in

Ofsted inspections as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pause in inspections in Autumn of 2025 due to the change in inspection framework is expected to have had little effect on the figures for 2025-26, but may become apparent the following year.

[Chart](#)

[Table](#)

► Export options

Type of academy transfer in England between 2017-18 and 2025-26

	Transfer due to intervention	Transfer due to sponsor or trust closure	Transfer initiated by trust
2016-17	x	x	x
2017-18	61	22	172
2018-19	57	67	183
2019-20	64	7	169
2020-21	42	29	118
2021-22	25	25	126

2022-23	32	39	204
2023-24	43	21	216
2024-25	43	14	223
2025-26	20	x	243

[Show full screen table](#)

[Data symbols](#) 

Footnotes

1. We define financial year as the period 1 April to 31 March the following year.

Source: Regions Group management information.

Explore and edit this data online

Use our table tool to explore this data.

Explore data

Technical Information

Academy transfers

An academy transfer is when an academy moves from its current trust to another trust. An academy can change trust arrangements only with the agreement of the Regional Director (RD) acting on behalf of the Secretary of State (prior to 2014 decisions were taken by the Secretary of State). The academy trust may apply to transfer an academy voluntarily – for example, a single academy trust may apply because it wants to benefit from the greater capacity and school improvement that is offered from being part of a trust that runs more than one academy; or the transfer may be initiated by the RD because of concerns about the performance of the academy or the academy trust responsible for it.

Not all academy transfers are awarded grant funding. Transfer funding can be awarded on educational grounds, based on Ofsted ratings. In addition, since February 2019, academies transferring on governance and financial grounds could receive academy transfer grant funding. The first transfer from one trust to another was carried out in 2012. Much like the early sponsored academies, funding for academy transfers was agreed on a case-by-case basis according to the particular circumstances and needs of the case.

As academies moving trust became more systematically implemented, the process changed to align more closely with that used for establishing sponsored academies. This included establishing guidelines for academy transfer grant funding so that it was applied to academy transfer cases in a similar way to the academy transfer grant funding that was applied to sponsored academy projects.

These changes were introduced in Autumn 2016.

Academy transfer grant funding

The indicative academy transfer grant funding levels are currently: a basic, fast track level (£70,000 primary, £80,000 secondary); an intermediate level (£90,000 primary, £115,000 secondary) and a full level (£110,000 primary, £150,000 secondary). The amounts of the awarded grant are typically offset against any surplus that will transfer with the academy to the incoming sponsor trust. The grants tend to be paid to the incoming trust in one instalment rather than claimed annually, however on occasion some transfers will be paid in multiple instalments both before and after the academy is transferred to the incoming academy trust, and which may involve payments in different financial years.

From February 2019, if the transfer is on financial or governance grounds then a grant of £25,000 can be considered as a contribution towards the costs of the transfer, such as legal costs.

The data in this release has been compiled by Regions Group (RG) within the Department for Education (DfE).

The figures in this publication are derived from the Academies Management Information System, and reflect the operational data that was held on this system as of June 2026. Amendments to this operational Management Information after this date will not be included in this publication. Therefore, revisions may be made to the previous year's figures in future publications, should this operational data change.

Academies will only be listed in this publication if the academy trust transfer has concluded during that financial year which is being reported on (i.e. when a new funding agreement is entered into concluding an academy transfer). Therefore, in cases where trusts receive an advance payment ahead of the transfer concluding, the case will not be listed until it has concluded which could be in the next financial year. Where trusts receive payments over more than one year, the separate payments are shown in each financial year. This can mean that in the future year's publications, revisions to the previous year's figures are highly likely.

Academies operate under a strict system of oversight and accountability and RDs require the incoming trust to provide details on how the academy transfer grant will be used and the impact that it is expected to have. They monitor the academy's performance to ensure the necessary improvements are made and that value for money is achieved.

Academies may receive funding for transfer in the financial year that it joins a new trust or in the years pre- or post- a trust move. In this publication we are not including costs paid out to academies in 2025-26 which have not yet joined a new academy trust.

Due to differences in the way data was recorded in legacy systems compared to the current system, the academy transfer grant funding for financial years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015- 16 are not comparable with the academy transfer grant funding in financial years 2016-17 to 2025-26 inclusive. The academy transfer grant funding included for each financial year are set out below:

Financial years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16

- Legal costs
- Environmental Improvement Grant
- ICT costs
- Project management support costs
- Financial management support
- Education consultancy costs
- Recruitment / training costs
- School Improvement Grant
- Sponsor Grant
- Staff restructure/redundancy costs

Activities excluded from funding were:

- Deficit payments
- Diseconomies of scale

Financial years 2016-17 to 2025-26 inclusive

- Leadership support, teaching and learning interventions, curriculum re-design, pupil-focused support

- Staff re-structuring
- Legal services relating to the transfer
- Communications and marketing support, including re-branding
- HR and recruitment services to support any TUPE process and senior leader appointments
- Financial management and advice to establish the academy trust's finance and management information systems in the academy

Activity excluded from funding were:

- Deficit payments
- Diseconomies of scale
- Environmental improvement grant
- Capital costs e.g. ICT hardware, building works
- Redundancies
- Costs of undertaking due diligence

[Back to top](#)

Contact us

If you have a specific enquiry about Academy transfers and funding statistics and data:

Academies Data Team

Email: Academies.DATA@education.gov.uk

Contact name: James Micklefield

Press office

If you have a media enquiry:

Telephone: 020 7783 8300

Public enquiries

If you have a general enquiry about the Department for Education (DfE) or education:

Phone: 0370 000 2288

Opening times

Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 5.30pm (closed on bank holidays)

[Back to top](#)

Is this page useful?

Yes

No

[Report a problem with this page](#)



[Cookies](#) [Privacy notice](#) [Contact us](#) [Accessibility statement](#) [Glossary](#) [Help and support](#)

This service is maintained by the [Department for Education](#)

Our statistical practice is regulated by the [Office for Statistics Regulation](#) (OSR)

OGI All content is available under the [Open Government Licence v3.0](#), except where otherwise stated

Build: 20260714.22



[© Crown copyright](#)