



Department  
for Education

# **Special educational needs in England: January 2017**

**Metadata Specification**

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# 1. Description

This document describes the data contained in the 2017 special educational needs (SEN) underlying data files, which contains school level SEN data.

The school level file (SFR37\_2017\_UD.csv) contains the number of pupils with Statements or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans and the number of pupils on SEN support.

The information contained in the underlying data files is based on January 2017 School Census, General hospital schools census 2017 and School Level Annual School Census (SLASC) 2017 returns. Information is shown for all schools in England.

# 2. Coverage

The list below details the school types that are included in the files:

- Maintained nursery
- Direct Grant nursery
- Maintained primary
- Maintained secondary
- City technology colleges
- Academies - primary, secondary, special and alternative provision converters, primary, secondary and special sponsor-led and primary, secondary, special and alternative provision free schools
- Maintained special (including general hospitals)
- Non-maintained special
- Pupil referral units
- Independent schools
- General hospital schools

All schools except general hospital and independent schools have provided pupil level data on the SEN provision of all pupils. General hospital and independent schools have provided school level data on the SEN provision of all pupils.

# 3. Overview

The information contained in the underlying data file relates to the SEN status of pupils as collected during the January 2017 School Census, General hospital schools census 2017 and School Level Annual School Census (SLASC) 2017.

Data has been produced for all pupils with sole and dual main registrations, except in independent schools, where all pupils are included.

Analyses produced from this data have been published, along with further tables relating to characteristics of SEN pupils, at national, regional and local authority level in the Statistical First Release (SFR), "Special Educational Needs in England, January 2017".

## 4. Underlying data files

Title: SFR37\_2017\_UD.csv

Variable names: A list of the headings used in the CSV file and the corresponding variable names/descriptions are shown at Annex A.

Variables starting "Primary\_need\_" – This is the primary need of the pupil. It is collected for pupils with statements of SEN/ EHC plans or on SEN support.

Variables starting "Prov\_" – This is the type of approved provision for special schools. This is collected for maintained and non-maintained special schools, excluding general hospital schools. Each school may have one or more provisions where a '1' indicates school has been approved for this type of provision and a '0' indicates school has not been approved for this type of provision.

## 5. Statistical disclosure control

To protect confidentiality the following conventions have been used:

- Low counts (pupil numbers of 1 or 2) have been suppressed and replaced by (x).
- 0 is shown only when the true value is 0.
- '!' not available, data item not collected for this school type or not provided.

Figures for the following variables have been rounded to the nearest '5':

21	Total Pupils
22	SEN support
23	Statement/ EHC plan

## 6. Data quality

Information about data sources and data quality can be found in the 'Quality and uses' document published alongside the SFR.

## Annex A – Variables in file

	Field name	Issue / description
1	country_code	Code for country of school
2	Country	Country of school location (England)
3	Region	Region of School location
4	Region code	Region code of School location
5	URN	School's Unique Reference Number
6	new_LA_code	New LA ONS codes (introduced Jan 2011)
7	old_LA_code	Old 3 digit LA code
8	LA name	Name of Local Authority of School Location
9	Estab	Establishment Number

10	School Name	School Name
11	OpenDate	Open date of the school sourced from Edubase, the Department's register of educational establishments. Open date is not available for all schools.
12	Sex of school description	Gender of school intake – boys, girls or mixed.
13	Denomination	School denomination
14	Phase-type grouping	Replaces phase information given in previous years to more accurately mirror how data is broken down in the statistical release tables.
15	TypeOfEstablishment	Type of school
16	Admissions policy	School admission policy
17	Parl Con code	Parliamentary Constituency Code
18	Parl Con name	Parliamentary Constituency name
19	Ward code	Ward Code
20	Ward name	Ward Name
21	Total Pupils	Includes sole and dual main registered pupils.
22	SEN support	Includes sole and dual main registered pupils with SEN without a statement or EHC plan (i.e. SEN support).  In independent schools includes all pupils with SEN without a statement or EHC plan (i.e. SEN support).
23	Statement / EHC plan	Includes sole and dual main registered pupils with a statement of SEN or EHC plan.  In independent schools includes all pupils with a statement of SEN or EHC plan.
24	Primary_need_spld	Sole and dual main registered pupils with specific learning difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
25	Primary_need_mld	Sole and dual main registered pupils with moderate learning difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
26	Primary_need_sld	Sole and dual main registered pupils with severe learning difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
27	Primary_need_pmld	Sole and dual main registered pupils with profound and multiple learning difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
28	Primary_need_semh	Sole and dual main registered pupils with social, emotional and mental health as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
29	Primary_need_slcn	Sole and dual main registered pupils with speech, language and communication needs as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.

30	Primary_need_hi	Sole and dual main registered pupils with hearing impairment as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
31	Primary_need_vi	Sole and dual main registered pupils with vision impairment as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
32	Primary_need_msi	Sole and dual main registered pupils with multi-sensory impairment as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
33	Primary_need_pd	Sole and dual main registered pupils with physical difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
34	Primary_need_asd	Sole and dual main registered pupils with autistic spectrum disorder as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
35	Primary_need_oth	Sole and dual main registered pupils with other learning difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
36	Prov_spld	School approved for specific learning difficulty (identified with a 1)
37	Prov_mld	School approved for moderate learning difficulty (identified with a 1)
38	Prov_sld	School approved for severe learning difficulty (identified with a 1)
39	Prov_pmld	School approved for profound and multiple learning difficulty (identified with a 1)
40	Prov_semh	School approved for social, emotional and mental health (identified with a 1)
41	Prov_slcn	School approved for speech, language and communication needs (identified with a 1)
42	Prov_hi	School approved for hearing impairment (identified with a 1)
43	Prov_vi	School approved for vision impairment (identified with a 1)
44	Prov_msi	School approved for multi-sensory impairment (identified with a 1)
45	Prov_pd	School approved for physical difficulty (identified with a 1)
46	Prov_asd	School approved for autistic spectrum disorder (identified with a 1)
47	Prov_oth	School approved for other difficulty (identified with a 1)
48	SEN_UNIT	A school is determined as having a SEN unit if one or more pupils in that school have been recorded as being a member of a SEN unit.
49	RP_UNIT	A school is determined as having resourced provision if one or more pupils in that school have

		been recorded as receiving support for their type of SEN from a specialist resourced provision.
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