

## Maintained schools and academies inspections and outcomes as at 31 August 2017

This release contains:

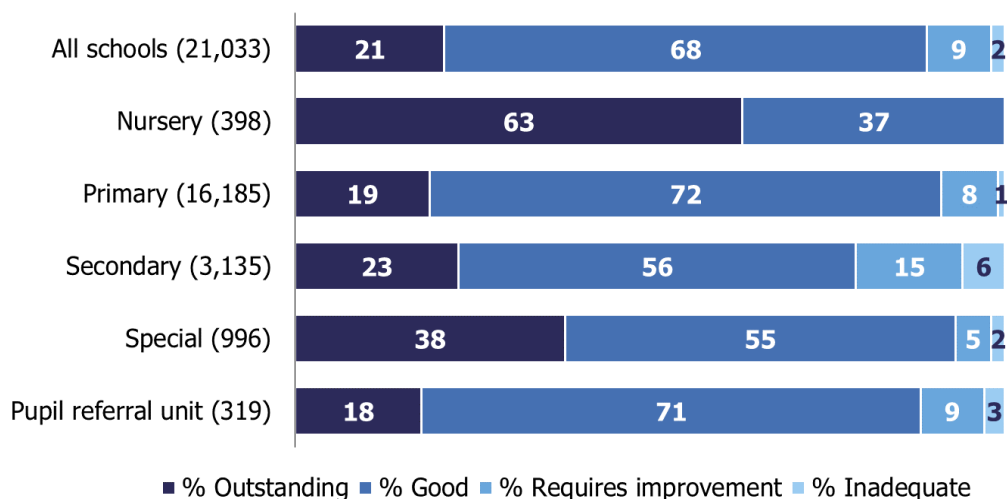
- most recent inspection outcomes as at 31 August 2017
- provisional data for inspections completed between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017

The proportion of good or outstanding schools has increased for secondary schools, special schools and pupil referral units this year

Overall the proportion of good or outstanding schools has remained unchanged since 31 August 2016 at 89%, but has increased for:

- Pupil referral units - 88% good or outstanding, an increase from 86%
- Secondary schools - 79%, a small increase from 78%
- Special schools - 94%, a small increase from 93%

**Figure 1: Overall effectiveness of maintained schools and academies at their most recent inspection, 31 August 2017**



Schools that require improvement that do not improve to good or outstanding commonly have higher proportions of deprived pupils

Fifty-five per cent of the schools which currently require improvement have high proportions of pupils from deprived areas. Of schools inspected this year that had previously been judged to require improvement, those with high proportions of pupils from deprived areas were less likely to improve than those with pupils from more affluent areas.

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## Acknowledgements

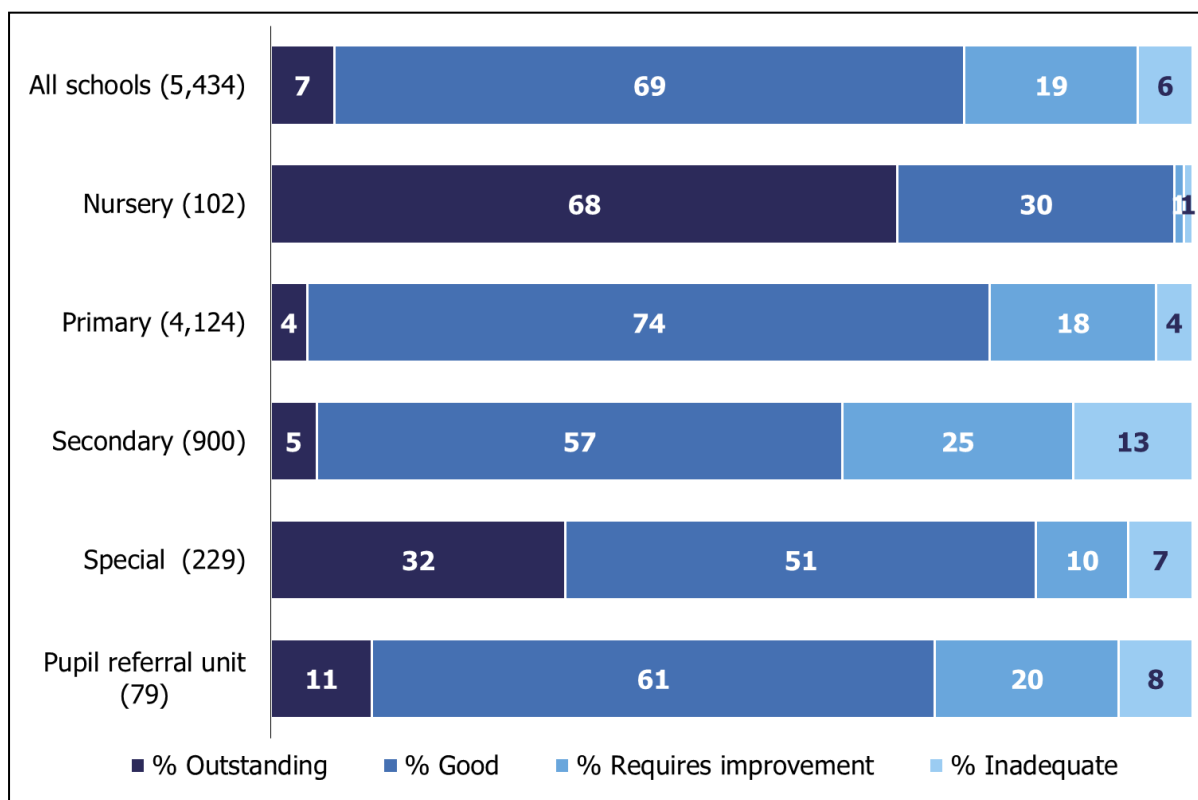
Thanks to the following for their contribution to this statistical release: John Willman, James Jordan, Issa Mohamed and Chris Foley.

## Inspections between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017

In the 2016/17 academic year we carried out 5,434 full or short inspections of state-funded schools, where the reports were published by 30 September 2017. These consisted of 2,613 short inspections that didn't convert to full inspections, 1,064 short inspections which did convert, and a further 1,757 section 5 inspections. The section 5 inspections include section 8 inspections deemed section 5 inspections.

Seventy-five per cent of schools were judged good or outstanding in 2016/17. The proportion is higher for schools with younger pupils; 98% for nursery schools and 78% for primary schools, compared with 62% for secondary schools. A higher proportion of secondary schools were judged to be inadequate; 13% compared with four per cent of primary schools and one per cent of nursery schools.

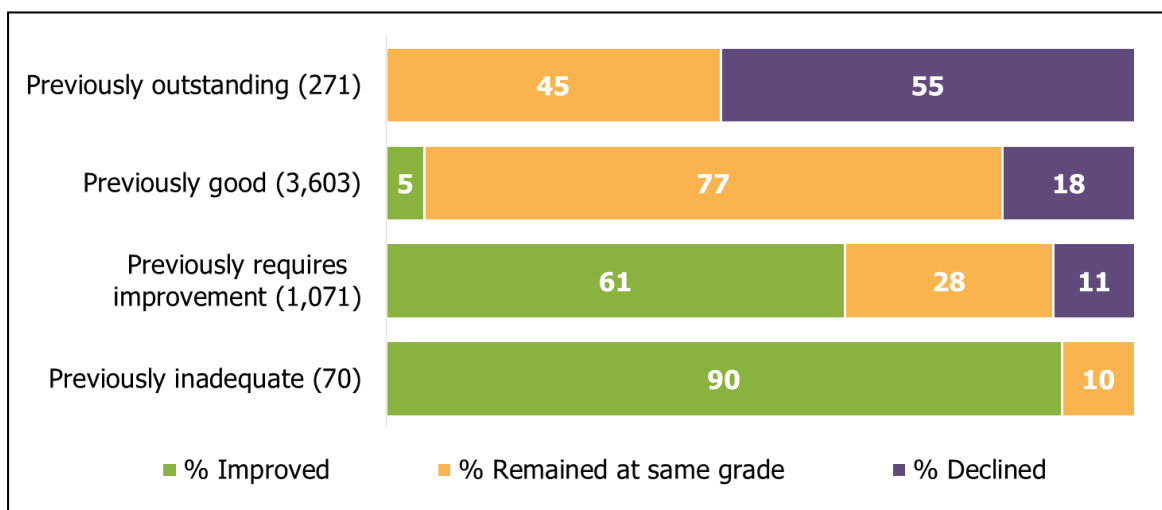
**Figure 2: Overall effectiveness of schools inspected in 2016/17, by phase (includes most recent outcome for short inspections which did not convert<sup>1</sup>)**



<sup>1</sup> Short inspections which did not convert confirm the grade of the previous inspection. Those outcomes are included here and will always be good or outstanding.

Of all 5,434 inspections, 3,872 were inspections of schools that were good or outstanding at their previous inspection. Of these, 3,677 were short inspections; 29% of which converted to full inspections. Conversion rates were higher for secondary schools than primary schools: 38% compared with 28%.

**Figure 3: Overall effectiveness of schools inspected in 2016/17, by previous inspection outcome (includes most recent outcome for short inspections which did not convert<sup>2</sup>)**

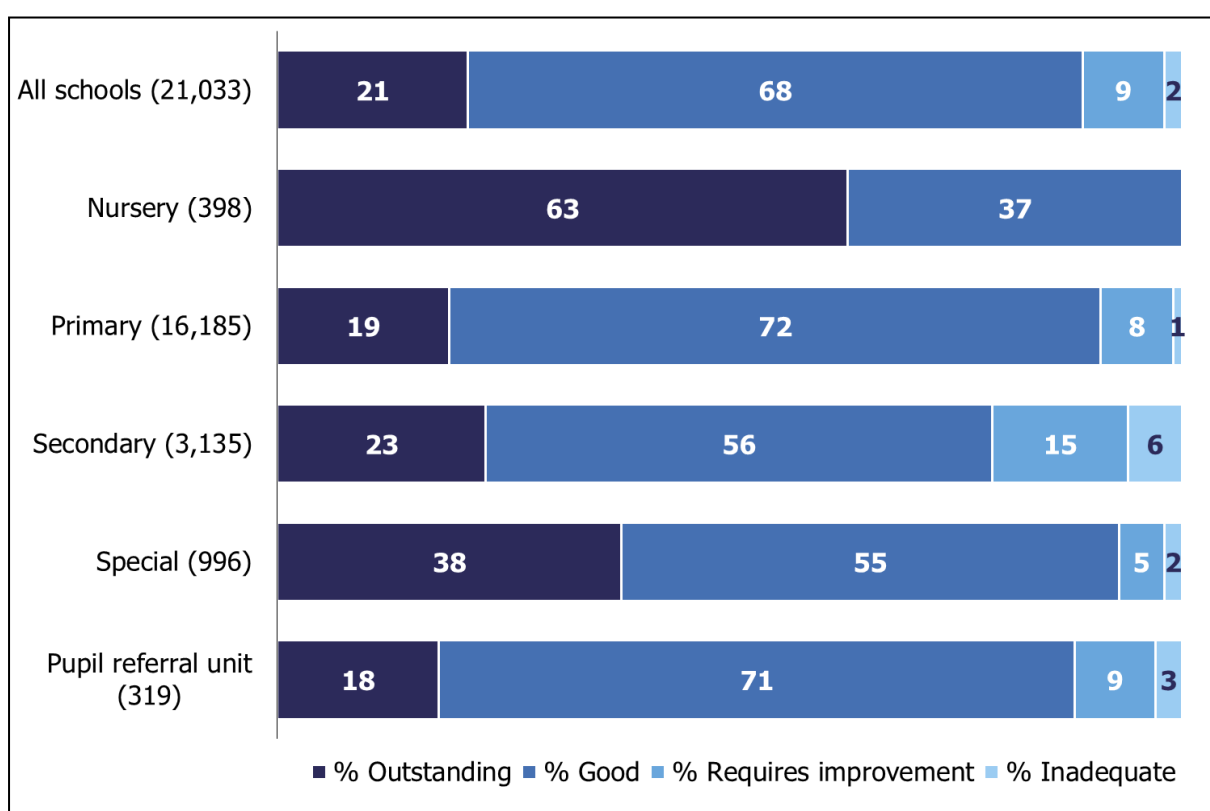


<sup>2</sup> Short inspections which did not convert confirm the grade of the previous inspection. Those outcomes are included here and will always be good or outstanding.

## Schools at their most recent inspection

At the end of August 2017, 89% of schools were judged to be good or outstanding at their most recent inspection: the same proportion as at the end of the previous year. Grades remain higher for primary schools (90% good or outstanding) than for secondary schools (79% good or outstanding).

**Figure 4: Overall effectiveness of maintained schools and academies at their most recent inspection, 31 August 2017**



For some types of education there have been small changes to the proportion<sup>3</sup> of schools judged good or outstanding at their most recent inspection, when compared with August 2016:

- Pupil referral units - 88% good or outstanding, an increase from 86% in 2016
- Secondary schools - 79%, a small increase from 78%
- Special schools - 94%, a small increase from 93%

<sup>3</sup> The proportion of schools which are good or outstanding is calculated using unrounded data, so sometimes differs slightly from the sum of the % good and % outstanding shown in the chart.

- Nursery schools - 99% a small decrease from 100%<sup>4</sup>

The proportion of primary schools that are good or outstanding has remained at 90%.

Between September 2016 and August 2017, around 1,200 schools closed, and 94% of these schools have then re-opened as academies. As schools close and re-open they can lose their inspection history, and this can affect the national proportions of overall effectiveness grades. There are 916 open schools with no inspection grade. Fifteen per cent are new free schools, university technical colleges and studio schools. Seventy-eight per cent are sponsor-led academies which have not been inspected since they became an academy.

There are 578 schools that do not have an inspection grade, but that had a single predecessor school which had been inspected. Eighty-five per cent of these schools were judged inadequate or to require improvement when they were last inspected. We are currently consulting on changing our statistical methodology<sup>5</sup> to include the most recent inspections of these predecessor schools in our official statistics, to create a more complete view of the sector. These changes will not affect the timing of the first inspections of the academies that replaced the previous schools.

## Schools that require improvement

At the end of August 2017, nine per cent of schools were judged to require improvement at their most recent inspection. This is a marked improvement from August 2012, when 28% of schools were 'satisfactory'. However the current position is very similar to the position at the end of August 2016, when 10% of schools were judged to require improvement.

There are now 1,883 schools which were judged to require improvement at their most recent inspection. Seven hundred and fifteen (38%) of these schools were also judged to require improvement or to be satisfactory at their previous inspection.

Many schools do improve from requires improvement to good, or even to outstanding each year. However a lower proportion of schools previously judged to require improvement improved at their inspection this year than in any other year. This trend is seen for both primary schools (33% did not improve this year) and

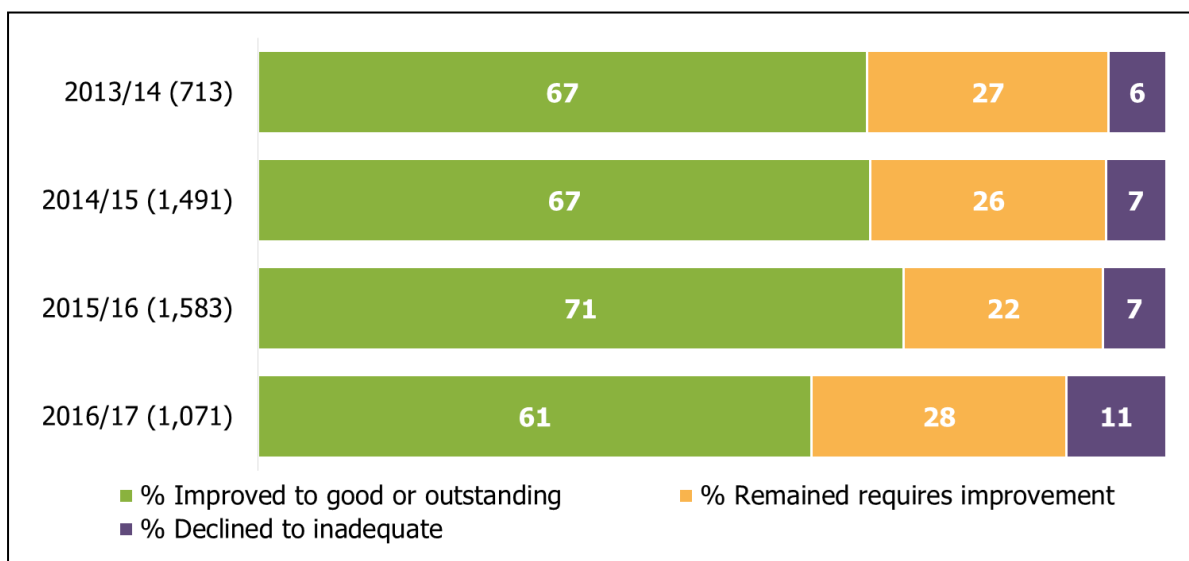
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<sup>4</sup> Although there is a change in the rounded numbers the change is less than one percentage point, and is driven by changes in a small number of nursery schools. In August 2016, 399 schools were good or outstanding out of 400 schools that had been inspected. In August 2017 396 schools were good or outstanding out of 398 schools that had been inspected.

<sup>5</sup> See [www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-ofsted-statistical-reporting-of-inspection-outcomes-for-maintained-schools-and-academies](http://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-ofsted-statistical-reporting-of-inspection-outcomes-for-maintained-schools-and-academies)

secondary schools (58% did not improve). A higher proportion of schools also declined to inadequate this year (11% declined).

**Figure 5: Outcomes of inspections of schools that previously required improvement, 2013 to 2017**



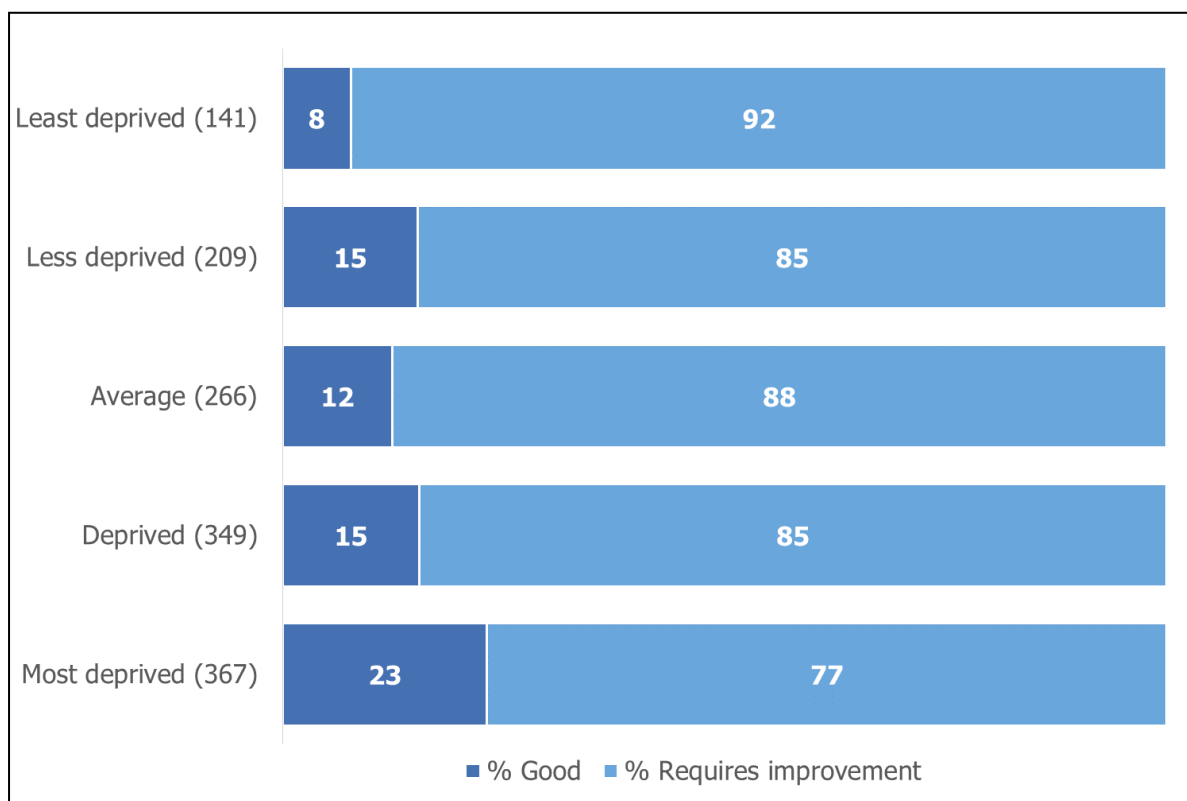
### Deprivation

A common factor in the schools that do not improve to good or outstanding is that they have a higher proportion of deprived pupils. Fifty-five per cent of the schools that currently require improvement have high proportions of pupils from deprived areas<sup>6</sup>. Out of the schools that had previously required improvement and had an inspection this year, those schools with high proportions of pupils from deprived areas were less likely to improve than those with pupils from more affluent areas.

When inspectors judge the effectiveness of the leadership and management in a school they take account of the challenges faced by leaders of schools with high proportions of disadvantaged pupils. Out of the primary schools judged to require improvement for overall effectiveness at their most recent inspection, 23% of those with the most deprived intakes were judged good for leadership and management, compared with 8% with the least deprived intakes. However, inspectors will not judge the quality of education to be better than it is, regardless of the socio-economic circumstances of the school.

<sup>6</sup> Based on the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IDACI) 2015. Each school is assigned a score based on the home post codes of the pupils that attend the school. The schools are then placed in to one of five deprivation bands. Forty per cent of all schools are in the most deprived two bands, whereas 55% of schools that require improvement are in these two bands.

**Figure 6: Leadership and management grades of primary schools judged to require improvement for overall effectiveness at their most recent inspection, by level of deprivation, 31 August 2017**



### Schools that have been less than good for a long time

Some of the schools that did not improve from requires improvement to good or outstanding this year have performed poorly for a long time. Out of the 243 inspections of secondary schools that required improvement, 140 did not improve. Out of these 140 over a third (52) have been judged satisfactory, to require improvement or to be inadequate in every inspection they have had since 2005<sup>7</sup>. Some of these schools have become academies since 2005, but still have not improved to good or outstanding. Thirty-seven of the 52 schools are currently academies, and 29 of these academies are in multi-academy trusts.

<sup>7</sup> Section 5 inspections were introduced in September 2005. Before this schools were inspected under section 10, which is not comparable. All 52 schools have had between four and six inspections under section 5. Some schools declined to inadequate at their inspection this year.

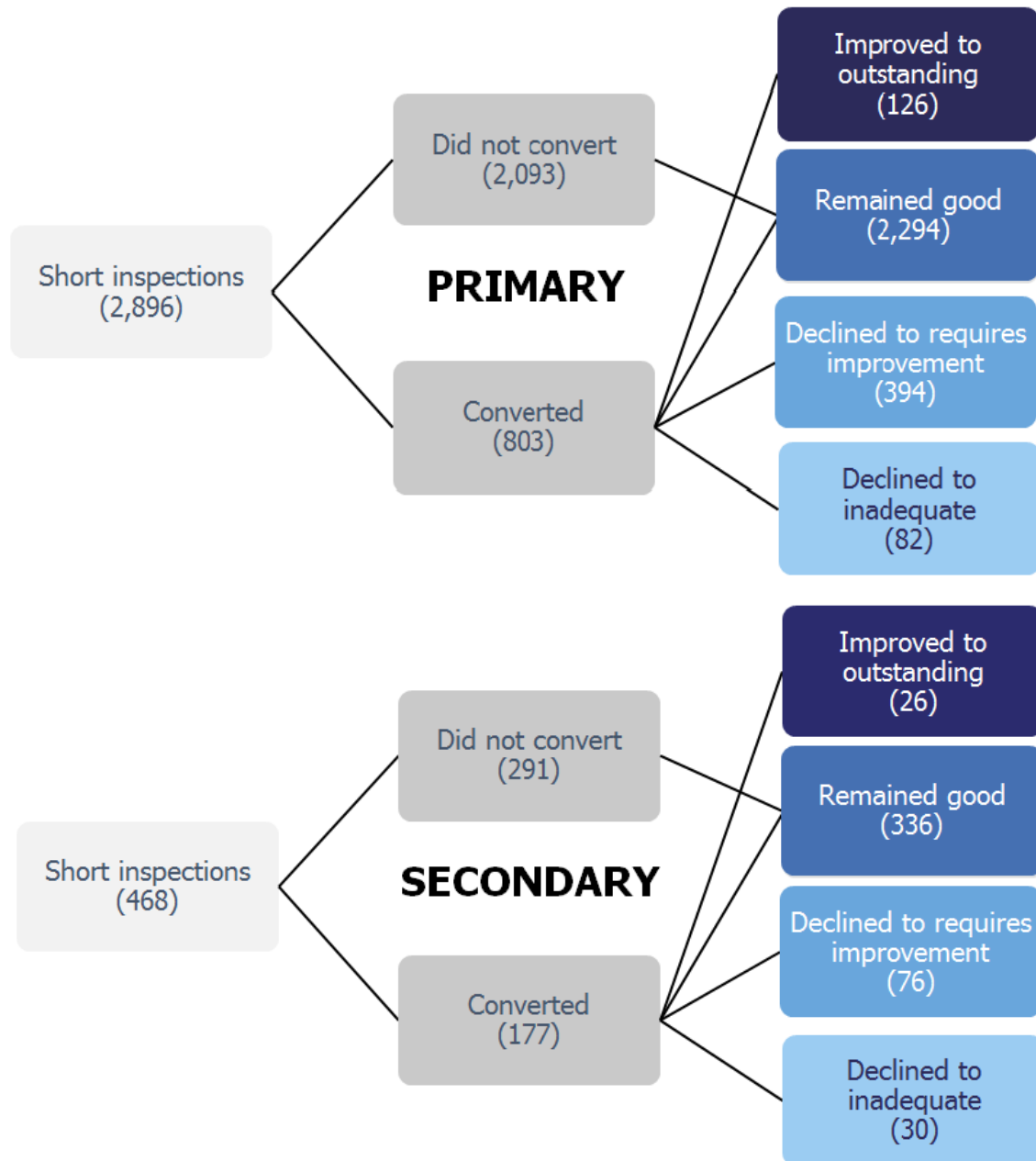


## **Good schools**

In 2016/17 we carried out 3,538 short inspections of schools judged to be good at their previous inspection. Overall 83% of schools remained good or improved to outstanding. Some schools remained good through a short inspection that did not convert. In other cases, the inspection did convert but the extra evidence gathered then confirmed the previous good judgement.

Primary schools were more likely to retain their good grade or improve to outstanding than secondary schools. Eighty-four per cent of primary schools stayed good or improved to outstanding compared with 77% of secondary schools. See figure 7.

**Figure 7: Outcomes of short inspections of previously good schools, 2016/17**



The proportion of previously good schools that remained good or improved to outstanding following a short inspection is the same this year as last year (83%). A lower proportion of short inspections converted to a full inspection this year (29% compared with 36%). However more of the inspections that converted then resulted in the school declining to requires improvement or inadequate (58% this year compared with 47% last year).

## Outstanding schools

Twenty-one per cent of schools were judged to be outstanding at their most recent inspection. A slightly higher proportion of secondary schools than primary schools are outstanding (23% compared with 19%).

As part of the 2011 Education Act, the government made outstanding primary and secondary schools exempt from routine inspections. Since then, Ofsted has been unable to carry out regular inspections of these schools. As a result, eight per cent of outstanding primary and secondary schools were last inspected as long ago as 2006/07. However, 59% of outstanding primary and secondary schools have been inspected within the last six academic years.

**Figure 8: Outstanding primary and secondary schools by the academic year of their most recent full inspection**

Last inspected in	Number of all outstanding schools			Percentage of all outstanding schools		
	Primary and secondary	Primary	Secondary	Primary and secondary	Primary	Secondary
<b>All</b>	<b>3,791</b>	<b>3,062</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
2016/17	203	161	42	5	5	6
2015/16	189	154	35	5	5	5
2014/15	406	329	77	11	11	11
2013/14	416	307	109	11	10	15
2012/13	531	402	129	14	13	18
2011/12	480	380	100	13	12	14
2010/11	207	173	34	5	6	5
2009/10	198	181	17	5	6	2
2008/09	474	396	78	13	13	11
2007/08	391	329	62	10	11	9
2006/07	296	250	46	8	8	6

Ofsted is still able to inspect outstanding primary and secondary schools if their performance gives cause for concern. We have inspected 141 of these schools this year<sup>8</sup>. Where the inspection became a full inspection, only two schools kept their outstanding grade, 63 declined to good, 43 declined to requires improvement and 19 to inadequate. The remaining 14 schools did not have a full inspection and remained outstanding. Overall 89% of the schools declined from their previous outstanding

<sup>8</sup> These inspections are conducted under the powers given to Ofsted under section 8 of the Education Act 2005. A section 8 inspection can be deemed a full section 5 inspection, which includes a set of inspection outcomes.

grade. However this is not surprising because most of the exempt schools inspected were those whose performance appeared to be declining.<sup>9</sup>

## Inadequate schools

Two per cent of schools were judged to be inadequate at their most recent inspection. Forty-three per cent of these schools are academies and 57% are maintained by local authorities.

A larger proportion of inspected sponsor-led academies are inadequate than any other type of school; nine per cent compared with four per cent of free schools, one per cent of academy converters and two per cent of LA maintained schools. The inspection grades for sponsor-led academies are based on inspections since the schools became academies, and do not include the grade of the predecessor LA school. However, many sponsor-led academies will have replaced a predecessor school that was inadequate or required improvement at its last inspection.

**Figure 9: Percentage of inadequate schools by type of education**

	Total number of schools	Number inspected	Percentage inspected	Number inadequate	Percentage inadequate (of those inspected)
<b>All types of education</b>	<b>21,949</b>	<b>21,033</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>2</b>
Local authority maintained	15,010	14,980	100	239	2
All academies	6,939	6,053	87	183	3
<i>Academy converter</i>	4,634	4,596	99	68	1
<i>Sponsor-led academy</i>	1,977	1,229	62	106	9
<i>Free school</i>	328	228	70	9	4

<sup>9</sup> Most inspections of exempt schools are carried out because the schools' performance is declining. However some are also due to complaints received by Ofsted about the school, or because the make-up of the school has substantially changed since it was judged to be outstanding (for instance it has taken on another key stage or amalgamated with another school).

## Revisions to previous release

Provisional data indicated that there were 1,612 section 5 inspections between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017, as published by 30 April 2017. Revised data shows that an additional 221 inspections took place where the report was published too late for inclusion in the provisional data, but was published by 30 September 2017. Four were inspections of nursery schools, 158 were primary schools, 44 were secondary schools, 11 were special schools and four were pupil referral units.

Fifty-three of these 221 additional inspections resulted in an inadequate judgement. Inspections leading to an inadequate judgement undergo additional moderation and are sometimes published later than reports for schools with other overall effectiveness grades. See the methodology and quality report for more details.

In some instances the addition of these inspection outcomes changes the pattern seen in inspections between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017.

The percentage of schools judged good or outstanding between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017 has remained at 49% in both the provisional data and final data.

The percentage of schools judged inadequate between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017 increased as follows:

- from 13% to 14% overall
- from 10% to 11% for primary schools
- from 21% to 22% for secondary schools
- from 6% to 14% for pupil referral units.

Further details can be found in the revised table 2 of the charts and tables Excel document.

## Consultation on changes to statistical methodology

Ofsted is currently consulting on proposed changes to the way we compile data on schools' most recent inspections. The consultation closes on 19 January 2018 and users are encouraged to read and respond to the consultation which can be found here: <http://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/changes-to-ofsteds-statistical-reporting-of-inspection-outcomes-for-maintained-schools-and-academies>.

## Ofsted's Annual Report

Findings from our forthcoming Annual Report will be published on 13 December 2017.

## Notes

Data in this release is from inspections undertaken between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 and most recent inspections of open schools at 31 August 2017, where the inspection report was published by 30 September 2017. If an inspection report is not published by 30 September 2017 then the previous inspection, where available, will be reported as a school's most recent inspection.

Inspections are conducted under sections 5 and 8 of the Education Act 2005. Under exceptional circumstances Ofsted may withhold publication of an inspection report.

An explanation of the key uses of this data and further contextual information and the arrangements for quality assurance is provided in the accompanying methodology and quality report.

The methodology and quality report can be found at the following webpage: [`Maintained schools and academies inspections and outcomes: official statistics`](#) under the heading `inspections and outcomes`. This report also provides information about strengths and limitations of the statistics.

## Glossary

### Academies

Academies are publicly funded independent schools. Academies do not have to follow the national curriculum and can set their own term times. They still have to follow the same rules on admissions, special educational needs and exclusions as other state schools.

Academies get money direct from the government, not the local authority. They are run by an academy trust, which employs the staff. Some academies have sponsors such as businesses, universities, other schools, faith groups or voluntary groups. Sponsors are responsible for improving the performance of their schools.

Academies include converter and sponsor-led academies, free schools, university technical colleges and studio schools.

### Academy converters

Academy converters are schools which have opted to become an academy, most of which were good or outstanding local authority maintained schools before they became an academy.

Academy converters retain their latest inspection grade, even if the most recent inspection was of the predecessor school.

### **Sponsor-led academies**

Sponsor-led academies are academies which have sponsors such as businesses, universities, other schools, faith groups or voluntary groups. Sponsors are responsible for improving the performance of their schools.

Sponsor-led academies are viewed as new legal entities and do not retain their inspection history.

### **Free schools**

Free schools are funded by the government but are not run by the local authority. They are set-up on a not-for-profit basis by charities, universities, and community and faith groups, among others.

Free schools are 'all-ability' schools, so cannot use academic selection processes like a grammar school. They can set their own pay and conditions for staff and change the length of school terms and the school day. Free schools do not have to follow the national curriculum.

### **Local authority maintained schools**

Maintained schools are funded by the government and run by the local authority. They must follow the national curriculum.

### **Short inspections**

All good schools now receive short inspections, as do outstanding nursery, pupil referral units and special schools. Short inspections are a one day inspection visit and take place approximately every three years. A short inspection determines whether the school continues to provide the same good or outstanding standard of education for pupils. A short inspection does not result in individual graded judgements nor does it change the overall effectiveness grade of the school. If the inspection is converted to a full inspection then inspectors will make the full set of graded judgements required under section 5.

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