



Department
for Education

Ad-hoc Notice

Summary statistics: School Improvement support for 2018 to 2019 academic year

May 2019

Contents

School improvement support	3
Tiers of support	3
Eligibility for support	3
Interpreting the statistics and notes on data	4
Accompanying data	4
Analysis of schools eligible and engaging in the 2018/19 school improvement offer	5
Number of schools eligible for and engaging with the offer	5
Number of schools eligible for and engaging with the offer by tier of support	6
Number of schools eligible for and engaging with the offer by schemes relating to geographical areas	7

School improvement support

The school improvement offer for the 2018/19 academic year is a government programme created to assist struggling schools with help from a national leader of education (NLE) and, for those most in need, with additional funding. NLEs are leaders of education, such as headteachers or principals, with experience of effectively supporting schools in challenging circumstances.

The statistics in this publication refer to the offer and eligibility for the 2018/19 academic year. The government has [consulted and published its findings](#) on what the 'trigger' for support should be for 2019/20 onwards.

We welcome user feedback on the content and presentation of this statistical release using the contact details on the last page.

Tiers of support

The offer uses two tiers to determine the amount of support available to schools.

Tier 1

Within tier 1 support, schools receive up to 3 days' free advice from a designated NLE or equivalent. The NLE will work with senior school or trust leaders to help them identify what their improvement needs are, agree on an action plan and help them access school improvement resources.

Tier 2

Within tier 2 support, schools receive 3 days' free advice from a designated NLE or equivalent, as in tier 1, and up to £16,000 of funded support to address the fundamental needs identified by the NLE.

Eligibility for support

Eligibility for support for 2018/19 was based primarily on DfE's [primary accountability measures](#) and [secondary accountability measures](#): below the floor standards, coasting or below the [16-18 minimum standards](#), based on 2017/18 performance data. Some schools were not subject to the standards, including but not restricted to special schools and local authority nurseries. Other schools could not demonstrate whether they were below the floor, coasting or below the 16-18 minimum standards, for example because they had no pupils eligible for assessment, or too few pupils for data standards to be calculated. In these cases, the school was eligible if its most recent Ofsted rating was Requires Improvement. The below table shows how eligibility was determined for the two tiers of support on offer in the 2018/19 school improvement offer.

Figure 1: Eligibility for tier 1 and tier 2 of the 2018/19 school improvement offer

Measure	Ofsted inspection judgement	Tier of support
Below floor, coasting or below the 16 to 18 minimum standards	Not judged as inadequate	1
Below floor, coasting and 16 to 18 standards do not apply, or cannot be demonstrated	Requires improvement	1
Eligible for tier 1 support and has one or more previous published Ofsted ratings	Requires improvement from last two Ofsted inspections	2
Eligible for tier 1 support with no previous published Ofsted rating	Requires improvement from most recent Ofsted inspection	2

Schools were able to receive funded support once the published schools' performance data confirmed eligibility, with all eligible schools receiving funding by the end of the 2020 spring term.

Interpreting the statistics and notes on data

Schools are counted as 'engaging' where they accepted the offer after initial contact about the programme, and continue to do so. The engagement figures in this release are a snapshot as of April 2019 when the initial contact phase concluded. At this point a number of schools had not definitively taken up the offer and so final take-up rates may differ slightly from these figures.

A take-up rate of 100% would not be expected for the 2018/19 school improvement offer, because take-up is optional. There are several reasons that a school might turn down the offer, including already being given sufficient school improvement support or a change in circumstances (e.g. Ofsted rating) since being offered support.

Accompanying data

The tables within this report and the number of eligible schools and schools taking up the offer, broken down by local authority district (LAD) and parliamentary constituency, are published alongside this publication in Excel and Open Document format.

Analysis of schools eligible and engaging in the 2018/19 school improvement offer

Number of schools eligible for and engaging with the offer

Table 1: Number of schools eligible and engaging by RSC region, school type and school phase

	All eligible schools		
	Number of eligible schools	Number of schools engaging	Percentage of schools engaging
RSC Region			
East Midlands and Humber	218	197	90%
East of England and North East London	191	156	82%
Lancashire and West Yorkshire	261	235	90%
North	146	110	75%
North West London and South Central	186	137	74%
South East and South London	245	169	69%
South West	191	152	80%
West Midlands	219	165	75%
School type			
Academies	744	592	80%
Free schools	57	34	60%
LA maintained schools	856	695	81%
School phase			
Nursery	8	7	88%
Primary	1,036	862	83%
Secondary	500	371	74%
All through and 16 plus	33	23	70%
Special/AP/PRU ¹	80	58	73%
All schools	1,657	1,321	80%

¹ includes special schools, alternative provision (AP) and pupil referral units (PRU)

Number of schools eligible for and engaging with the offer by tier of support

Table 2: Number of schools eligible and engaging by tier of support, RSC region, school type and school phase

	Tier 1 eligible schools			Tier 2 eligible schools		
	Number of eligible schools	Number of schools engaging	Percentage of schools engaging	Number of eligible schools	Number of schools engaging	Percentage of schools engaging
RSC Region						
East Midlands and Humber	173	153	88%	45	44	98%
East of England and North East London	153	125	82%	38	31	82%
Lancashire and West Yorkshire	201	180	90%	60	55	92%
North	117	86	74%	29	24	83%
North West London and South Central	151	111	74%	35	26	74%
South East and South London	196	131	67%	49	38	78%
South West	167	131	78%	24	21	88%
West Midlands	184	137	75%	35	28	80%
School type						
Academies	561	437	78%	183	155	85%
Free schools	25	11	44%	32	23	72%
LA maintained schools	756	606	80%	100	89	89%
School phase						
Nursery	8	7	88%	-	-	-
Primary	893	733	82%	143	129	90%
Secondary	375	273	73%	125	98	78%
All through & 16 plus	17	10	59%	16	13	81%
Special/AP/PRU ¹	49	31	63%	31	27	87%
All schools	1,342	1,054	79%	315	267	85%

¹ includes special schools, alternative provision (AP) and pupil referral units (PRU)

Number of schools eligible for and engaging with the offer by schemes relating to geographical areas

This section covers the number of schools eligible for and engaging with the 2018/19 school improvement offer in geographical areas with schemes in place to aid school improvement in that particular area.

Opportunity areas (OAs) are local authority districts that have been identified as areas facing the greatest challenges across a range of issues. See the [Social mobility and opportunity areas policy paper](#) for more information on criteria.

Opportunity North East (ONE) is a three year programme that aims to improve educational outcomes of young people in the North East of England by helping them into higher education or to find a pathway to employment.

Table 3: Number of eligible and engaging schools in Opportunity Areas (OAs) and Opportunity North East (ONE) areas

Area	Number of eligible schools			Number of schools engaging		
	All	Tier 1	Tier 2	All	Tier 1	Tier 2
Opportunity Areas (OAs)						
Blackpool	5	2	3	5	2	3
Bradford	11	4	7	10	3	7
Derby	10	7	3	9	7	2
Doncaster	16	13	3	13	10	3
Fenland and East Cambridgeshire	9	8	1	8	7	1
Hastings	4	3	1	2	2	-
Ipswich	2	1	1	2	1	1
Norwich	6	4	2	6	4	2
Oldham	8	7	1	7	6	1
North Yorkshire Coast ¹	8	7	1	3	3	-
Stoke-on-Trent	10	6	4	9	6	3
West Somerset	1	1	-	1	1	-
All schools in OAs	90	63	27	75	52	23
Opportunity North East (ONE) areas						
Darlington	4	1	3	4	1	3
Durham	21	19	2	16	15	1
Gateshead	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hartlepool	3	2	1	3	2	1
Middlesbrough	6	3	3	6	3	3
Newcastle upon Tyne	6	6	-	4	4	-
North Tyneside	6	5	1	5	4	1
Northumberland	19	17	2	19	17	2
Redcar and Cleveland	3	1	2	2	-	2
South Tyneside	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stockton on Tees	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sunderland	10	8	2	7	5	2
All schools in ONE areas	79	62	17	66	51	15

¹ The opportunity area covered by the Scarborough local authority district is referred to as the North Yorkshire Coast opportunity area, to distinguish between references to Scarborough town and the wider area.



Department for Education

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