



Department
for Education

Analysis of OfSTED Good and Outstanding Schools

Ad-hoc Notice

July 2019

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Introduction

This statistical notice provides additional information on OfSTED ratings. It contains two sections; section one looks at the trends in the number and proportions of children attending good or outstanding schools in England. Section two looks at OfSTED ratings of local authority schools before they became a sponsored academy, and what their comparable OfSTED rating is after becoming a sponsored academy, where an inspection has taken place. The data underpinning this notice can be found at OfSTED's statistics website [here](#) and [here](#).

Data Sources

The data set out in this notice are taken from OfSTED's state-funded schools inspection and outcome statistics as at 31 March 2019.

There have been two major changes to the inspection framework between 2010 and 2018. Although the details of the inspection process and the underpinning judgements have changed across the period, the overall effectiveness judgement is intended to be broadly comparable since section 5 inspections began in 2005.

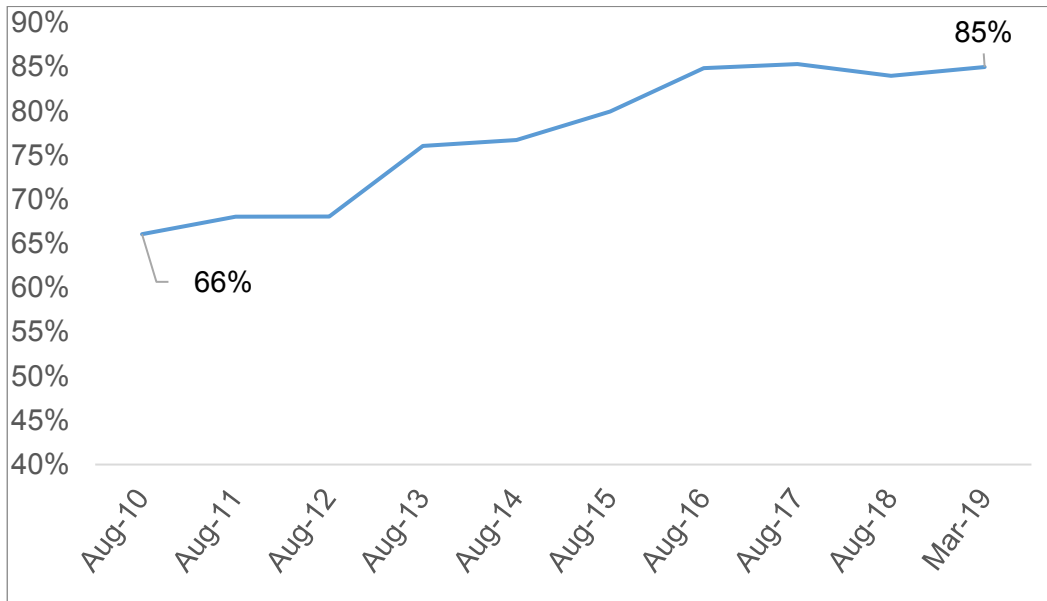
OfSTED have recently published further details on these changes in their 'State-funded schools inspections and outcomes as at 31 March 2019: methodology and quality report' which is available [here](#).

Section 1: Children in Good and Outstanding Schools

Main findings

Since 2010 there has been an increase in both the number, and the proportion, of children attending good or outstanding schools in England.

Chart 1: Trends in the proportion of children in good or outstanding schools



It is important to note that, whilst there has been an improvement over time in school quality, the increase in the number of pupils in good or outstanding schools has happened at the same time as pupil numbers have increased. Over the period January 2010 to January 2019 there was an increase of over 700,000 in the number of children in state schools in England. Overall statistics on the number of children in state schools in England are available [here](#).

Chart 2: trends in the number of children in good or outstanding schools

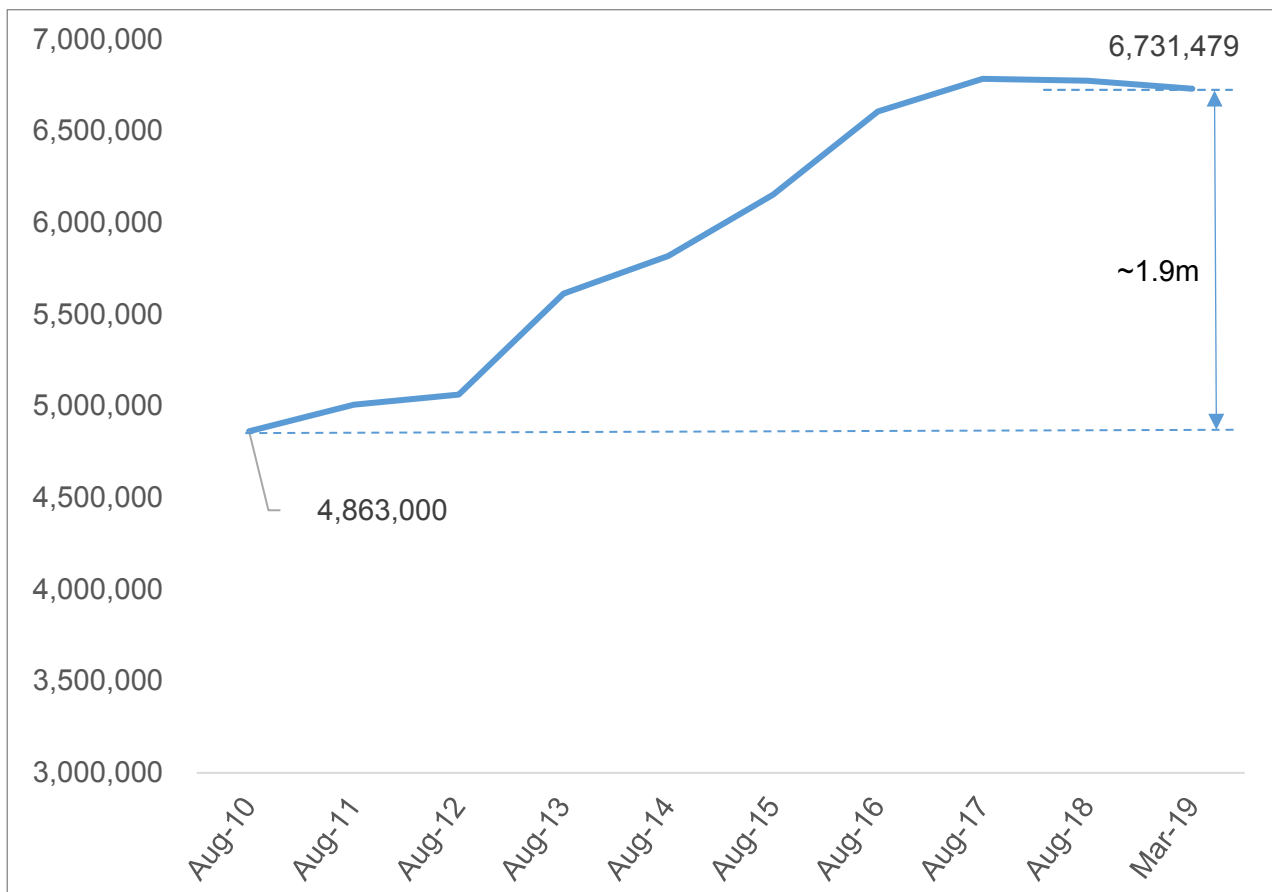


Table 1: Number of Children in Good or Outstanding Schools

	Number of children in good or outstanding schools¹	Number of children in schools with an inspection	Proportion of children in good or outstanding schools²	Increase in the number of children in good or outstanding schools since 2010
Aug-10	4,863,000	7,360,000	66%	
Aug-11	5,008,000	7,358,000	68%	145,000
Aug-12	5,063,000	7,437,000	68%	200,000
Aug-13	5,614,000	7,380,000	76%	750,000
Aug-14	5,819,000	7,584,000	77%	956,000
Aug-15	6,154,000	7,696,000	80%	1,290,000
Aug-16	6,607,000	7,785,000	85%	1,744,000
Aug-17	6,785,000	7,952,000	85%	1,922,000
Aug-18	6,775,000	8,048,000	84%	1,912,000
Mar-19	6,731,000	7,956,000	85%	1,868,000

Table 2: Number of Good or Outstanding Academy Schools and Academies from August 2017

	All Schools	LA Maintained Schools	All Academies	Sponsored Academies with Rating	Sponsored Academies where OfSTED relates to predecessor URN	Other Academies
Aug-17	18,823	13,526	5,243	811	98	4,334
%	87%	91%	78%	69%	15%	88%
Aug-18	18,610	12,468	6,088	998	102	4,988
%	86%	89%	79%	69%	16%	88%
Mar-19	18,518	12,005	6,461	1,088	96	5,277
%	85%	89%	78%	73%	13%	88%

¹ Rounded to the nearest 1,000.

² Of those schools which have an inspection outcome report. Based on unrounded underlying data.

There are 6,461 academies, free schools, studio schools and UTCs, with Good or Outstanding OfSTED ratings in March 2019 (including where the OfSTED inspection relates to a previous URN). 1,088 of these are sponsored academies which have been inspected by OfSTED as a sponsored academy. 73% of sponsored academies have been found to be Good or Outstanding.

Section 2: Analysis of OfSTED outcomes for sponsored academies between 2010 and 2019

Academies are state schools that are directly funded by the Government and independent of local authority control. There are a number of different types of academies. Some academies have sponsors, known as sponsored academies, while other schools convert voluntarily to become academies without a sponsor, known as converter academies.

Sponsored academies are those which previously were typically poorly performing local authority schools which were closed after receiving an Academy Order, and subsequently re-opened as an academy. Poor performance may include longer-term performance issues and/or receiving an Inadequate OfSTED inspection outcome.

When a school opens as an academy by joining an academy trust, or when an existing academy is moved to a different academy trust, they will not normally be inspected by OfSTED until its third year of being within that trust.

Methodology

A full list of open Academies as of March 2019 has been produced from the published list of academies ([Open academies and academy projects in development](#)) for March 2019. A full list of sources used can be found in table 3 below.

From this list, predecessor URNs with the following school types were collected to provide details of the predecessor local authority schools for each open sponsored academy:

- Community School
- Community Special School
- Foundation School
- Foundation Special School
- Pupil Referral Unit
- Voluntary Aided School
- Voluntary Controlled School

Some sponsored academies were excluded either because: they had no predecessor URNs, hadn't yet been inspected since becoming a sponsored academy, or had been transferred to a different academy trust with a new URN. Additionally only local authority maintained schools that have closed to become a sponsored academy from 2010 were included.

Please see table below for columns and data sources:

Table 3: Sources of data used for analysis

<u>Column Header</u>	<u>Data source/Notes</u>
Current Academy URN	
Academy Phase	Open academies and academy projects in development (March)
Current Academy open date	
Predecessor URNs	
Headcount	Full GIAS extract (taken 13th June 2019)
Predecessor school type	Full GIAS extract
Last predecessor OfSTED rating	School inspections and outcomes: management information 2005-2015
Last predecessor inspection published date	
Current academy OfSTED rating	All subsequent publications
Current academy OfSTED published date	
Current academy OfSTED rating	OfSTED Management Information Publication (31st March 2019)
Current academy OfSTED published date	

Main findings

- Since 2010, around 2,100 sponsor academy schools have opened, 1,945 of which had at least one local authority maintained predecessor school. Of these 1,945 sponsored academies, 1,199 have been inspected by OfSTED since they opened.
- Of these 1,199 sponsored academies:
 - 143 (12 per cent) of the predecessor Local Authority maintained schools were judged as either Good or Outstanding in their most recent inspection before they closed to become a sponsored academy, since 2010.
 - 854 (71 per cent) are now judged as either Good or Outstanding, in their most recent inspection since they have opened as a sponsored academy, since 2010. There are around 380,000 pupils within these Good or Outstanding Sponsored Academies.
 - 539 of the predecessor Local Authority maintained schools were judged as Inadequate in their most recent inspection before they closed to become a

sponsored academy. Of these, 366 are now judged as Good or Outstanding based on their most recent inspection since they have opened as a sponsored academy. Since 2010, 68 per cent of all schools that were Inadequate before they closed as a Local Authority maintained school are now judged as Good or Outstanding, based on their latest OfSTED inspection grade since opening as a sponsored academy.

- Using the same methodology, 516 of the sponsored academy predecessor schools were judged as Requires Improvement in their latest Ofsted inspection prior to becoming a sponsored academy. Of those, 375 are now judged as Good or Outstanding in their latest inspection as a sponsored academy. 73% of academies judged Requires Improvement before they closed as a Local Authority maintained school are now judged as Good or Outstanding.
- Data on these schools, their inspection grades and dates can be found in the accompanying data tables.
- Previous analysis, using the same methodology, published in December 2017 can be found [here](#). This analysis showed at the time there were 965 sponsored academies who had opened since 2010, had an OfSTED inspection and had an LA maintained predecessor:
 - Of these 965 sponsored academies 657 (68 per cent) were judged as either Good or Outstanding, in their most recent inspection since they had opened as a sponsored academy, since 2010. There were around 300,000 pupils within these Good or Outstanding Sponsored Academies.
 - Therefore, there has been an increase of 80,000 children in Good or Outstanding sponsored academies.

Notes and Caveats

- 1) In some instances, an open sponsored academy had multiple local authority maintained predecessor schools. In these instances, only the OfSTED inspection result for the local authority school with the most recent inspection date before the school closed was chosen. Information on these schools can also be found in the accompanying data tables.
- 2) The predecessor comparison is based on the last inspection of a Local Authority maintained school, however this inspection outcome may not always represent the performance of the school at the time the academy process began, due to:
 - The inspection occurring quite some time prior to the academisation process, and the school's performance results may have changed since the inspection, or;

- The school was re-inspected during the academisation process and received an improved/worse judgement
- 3) From a total of 2,259 open sponsored academies (open in March), 1,060 were excluded for at least of one the following reasons:
- It opened before 1st May 2010
 - It has no predecessor school
 - Its predecessor school was not a local authority maintained school.
 - It has moved between trusts and been given a new URN
 - It has not yet been inspected by OfSTED since opening

Get in touch

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