

School level annual school census (SLASC) 2026

(registered independent schools)

Business and technical specification, version 1.3

December 2025

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1 Introduction

1.1 Audience and purpose

This document specifies the data to be returned to the Department for Education (DfE) during the 2026 school level annual school census (SLASC) for registered independent schools and applies to registered independent schools only.

1.2 Statutory requirement

Completion of the census is a statutory requirement under the <u>Independent Educational</u> <u>Provision in England (Provision of Information) and Non-Maintained Special Schools</u> (England) and Independent School Standards (Amendment) Regulations 2018

which are made under the Education and Skills Act 2008.

A statutory requirement:

- provides a
 - o lawful basis for processing
 - purpose for processing

as required by the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)¹

- means that independent schools do not need to obtain staff consent to the provision of information
- ensures independent schools are protected from any legal challenge that they are breaching a duty of confidence to staff.
- helps to ensure that returns are completed by independent schools
- means that all census elements are mandatory unless specifically stated to be voluntary

It should be noted that: where a school proprietor fails to ensure that the school completes the census, such a school can be removed from the register of independent schools. Such de-registration can be the subject of an appeal to the First Tier Tribunal.

¹ The Information Commissioners' Office (ICO) guidance on UK GDPR states: 'Your privacy notice should include your lawful basis for processing as well as the purpose of the processing.' For the data items collected for the purposes of this census, the regulations quoted above provide both a lawful basis and a purpose of such processing. Registered independent schools may have other lawful basis' for collection and other reasons for processing.

1.3 Technical specification

The technical specification for the 2026 collection is comprised of the following documents:

- this MS Word document, containing a narrative together with sample XML messages
- the common basic data set (CBDS) MS Excel workbook
- the validation rules in an MS Excel workbook

A guide is also produced to inform registered independent schools, in non-technical terms, of the data collection requirements and to advise on what data is to be provided. This documentation is available on the GOV.UK <u>website</u>.

The scope of the census collection (which pupils and data items are included within the census) is defined by this MS Word document and not by the validation rules. The validation rules are provided to assist software suppliers in the development of their systems and to enable a check of the data extracted for the collection.

1.3 Business rationale

The following factors are the business drivers behind this approach:

- it is consistent with the overall vision behind the data sharing protocol of collecting data once and using it many times
- it is based on the principle that schools are expected to hold / manage data or have data held on their behalf so that they can access and extract it

1.4 Assumptions

Assumptions made in creating this specification:

- this specification is for a return using the DfE COLLECT system as the data collection mechanism
- where returns are generated from the school's management information system (MIS), DfE will only accept submissions in XML format
- returns via direct manual input to the COLLECT system may also be made

1.5 Coverage and timings

All registered independent schools are required to return the specified data annually via the DfE COLLECT system. The census date is the third Thursday in January (15 January 2026). The statutory return deadline is 15 February 2026.

1.6 Changes from the 2025 SLASC specifications

The young carer indicators (N00789) & (N00790) are mandatory in 2026, having been voluntary in 2025.

2 Structure and guidance

2.1 Outline data content

Each return from a school will consist of a header and one or more school modules.

2.2 Message header

A standard XML message header is required for each census file. Annex A of this specification contains a sample XML message header. The data items required within the header are as follows:

Survey Collection Name < Collection > (N00600) will be SLASC.

Description: name of the data collection that is: SLASC.

Survey Year <Year> (N00602) will be 2026.

Description: the year of the collection.

Survey Reference Date < Reference Date > (N000603) will be 2026-01-15.

Description: the reference date is normally the day of the census or collection. It is used as the baseline date from which comparisons with other dates in the return can be made.

Source Level <SourceLevel> (N00604) will be S.

Description: must be set to S for a school system (local authority level code L is not applicable for this collection).

Local authority <LA>, (N00216) is the local authority number.

Description: standard DfE three-digit local authority number.

Estab < Estab >, (N00279) will be mandatory and the tags should be included in the XML.

Description: standard DfE four-digit establishment number.

Software Code <SoftwareCode> (N00605) is the code indicating the software supplier. This is allocated by the supplier.

Description: software product identification.

Release <Release> (N00607) is a code / date (or combination) provided by the software supplier to assist in identification.

Description: software product identification.

X version < Xversion > (N00608).

Description: Version number of the XML / XSLT package provided by DfE if used or "not used" if the software supplier produces their own XSLT.

Serial No <SerialNo> (N00606) will start at 001 and then be incremented by 1 each time a new file is prepared for submission.

Description: an incremented number generated by a provider's software. Enables data collection systems to identify re-submissions.

Date / Time < DateTime > (N00609) is the date and time when the file was prepared or generated in CCYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss format.

Description: date and time of generation of the return.

3 Guidance section

3.1 Overall description and scope

The details below describe the 2026 school level annual school census collection for registered independent schools.

3.2 Outline data content

The census return contains a number of modules for each school. All data items included in each of the modules are defined within the common basic dataset (<u>CBDS</u>).

3.3 Section 1 - general school information

This section contains general information and contact details for the school and which consists of the following elements:

3.3.1 School

a) Data pre-populated in COLLECT

- name
- · main school address
- postcode
- telephone number
- headteacher's name (title, forename and surname)

b) Either direct input via COLLECT or input via XML from MI system

- school email address < Email > (N00220)
- census contact email address <ContactEmail>
- contact name (for enquiries) <Contact> (N00232)
- contact telephone number <PhoneNo> (N00231)

3.3.2 Charity

- name <CharityName> (N00502)
- registered number < CharityNumber > (N00503)

Please note: COLLECT is pre-populated with the information in section 3.3.1 a) and 3.3.2. If any of the pre-populated data is incorrect then revised values can be entered within the 'amended' section for the relevant field directly in COLLECT.

3.4 Section 2 - school accommodation

Data item <SchoolAccommodationChange> (N00305) records, via a 'Yes' / 'No' query, whether there have been any changes to the school's accommodation which have not yet been notified to DfE. Where the answer is 'Yes' full details must be provided using <SchoolAccommodationChangeDetails> (N00306).

3.5 Section 3 - annual fees

The annual fees charged by the school are recoded using the following data items:

- lowest annual day fees <LowestAnnFeeDayPups> (N00307)
- lowest annual boarding fees <LowestFeeBoardingPups> (N00308)
- highest annual day fees <HighestAnnFeeDayPups> (N00309)
- highest annual boarding fees <HighestAnnFeeBoardingPups> (N00310)

| Annual fees | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|--|--|
| | Day pupil annual rate | Boarding pupil annual rate | | |
| Lowest annual fee (including VAT) | | | | |
| charged per pupil | | | | |
| Highest annual fee (including VAT) | | | | |
| charged per pupil | | | | |

3.6 Section 4 - pupils on register

This section records the pupils registered at the school on census day.

3.6.1 All pupils on the register on census day

Full and part-time pupils (split by boys and girls) are recorded by age.

| Age on | Date of birth Full time | | | Part time | |
|-------------|---|------|-------|-----------|-------|
| 31/08/25 | | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls |
| 19 and over | DOB on or after 2006- 08-31 | | | | |
| 18 | DOB is between 2006- 09-01 and 2007-08-31 inclusive | | | | |

| Age on | ge on Date of birth | | Full time | | Part time | |
|----------|----------------------|------|-----------|------|-----------|--|
| 31/08/25 | | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls | |
| 17 | DOB is between 2007- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2008-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 16 | DOB is between 2008- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2009-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 15 | DOB is between 2009- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2010-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 14 | DOB is between 2010- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2011-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 13 | DOB is between 2011- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2012-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 12 | DOB is between 2012- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2013-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 11 | DOB is between 2013- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2014-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 10 | DOB is between 2014- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2015-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 9 | DOB is between 2015- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2016-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 8 | DOB is between 2016- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2017-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 7 | DOB is between 2017- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2018-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 6 | DOB is between 2018- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2019-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| 5 | DOB is between 2019- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2020-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| | DOB is between 2020- | | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2020-12-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | 1 | | | | |
| | DOB is between 2021- | | | | | |
| 4 | 01-01 and 2021-03-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | 1 | | | | |
| | DOB is between 2021- | | | | | |
| | 04-01 and 2021-08-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |
| _ | DOB is between 2021- | | | | | |
| 3 | 09-01 and 2021-12-31 | | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | | |

| Age on | Date of birth | Full time | | Part time | |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|
| 31/08/25 | | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls |
| | DOB is between 2022- | | | | |
| | 01-01 and 2022-03-31 | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | |
| | DOB is between 2022- | | | | |
| | 04-01 and 2022-08-31 | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | |
| 2 | DOB is between 2022- | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2023-08-31 | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | |
| 1 | DOB is between 2023- | | | | |
| | 09-01 and 2024-08-31 | | | | |
| | inclusive | | | | |
| Under 1 | DOB is 2024-09-01 or | | | | |
| | later | | | | |
| Totals | | | | | |

The totals of each type are to be auto summed.

3.6.2 Total number of pupils on the register on Thursday 15 January 2026

The total number of pupils on the register must equal the total provided at 3.6.1 above.

| Total number of pupils on the register on Thursday 15 January 2026 | |
|--|--|
| Total pupils on register at 2026-01-15 | |

Please note: zeros are required in total fields, but not in other fields. This fields must be a manual input.

3.6.3 Boarding school bed availability

| How many beds are available (occupied and unoccupied) on the census date in boarding accommodation | | |
|--|--|--|
| Number of beds <approvedplaces> (N00311)</approvedplaces> | | |

3.6.4 Boarding pupils on the register on Thursday 15 January 2026 included in 3.6.1

| Boarding pupils on the register on Thursday 15 January 2026 included in 3.6.1 | | |
|---|--|--|
| Number of boy boarders <boardingboys> (N00421)</boardingboys> | | |
| Number of girl boarders <boardinggirls> (N00422)</boardinggirls> | | |

3.6.5 Pupils looked after

The number of pupils who, at 15 January 2026, are looked after by a local authority within the meaning of Section 22 of the Children Act 1989 < PupilsInCare > (N00423).

| Pupils looked after by local authority | |
|--|--|
| Number of pupils | |

3.6.6 Pupils who are carers

| Number of young carers | |
|--|--|
| Number of young carers identified by parent or guardian | |
| <carerparent> (N00789)</carerparent> | |
| Number of young carers identified by school – including | |
| where the pupil self declares <carerschool> (N00790)</carerschool> | |

This identifies young carers in independent schools at an aggregate level. The young carer indicators (N00789) & (N00790) records the number of children on roll who have been identified as a young carer and if so, by whom.

Section 17ZA of the Children Act 1989 says a young carer is a person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care for another person (which isn't to a contract or voluntary work).

Young carers show immense commitment in providing care and support to family members at home; but their own needs may remain 'hidden' from wider view. The increased pressures young carers have faced due to the pandemic has further highlighted the need to improve formal identification of this cohort in schools, understand their needs and to provide early help as outlined in statutory guidance Keeping children safe in education 2021

<u>Working Together to Safeguard Children</u> also outlines how school and college staff should be particularly alert to the potential need of early help for students who have taken on caring responsibilities.

3.7 Section 5 - pupils with special educational needs (SEN)

Where schools have pupils with SEN, the numbers of pupils are recorded by SEN registration type. Where a school does not have pupils with SEN, the field is filled with a zero.

| Number of pupils with SEN by registration type | |
|--|--|
| Number of pupils (full and part-time) for whom an | |
| education, health and care (EHC) plan is maintained by the | |
| local authority <pupssenstatement> (N00425)</pupssenstatement> | |

| Number of pupils with SEN by registration type | |
|--|--|
| Number of pupils (full and part-time) with SEN support but | |
| no education, health and care (EHC) plan | |
| <pupssennostatement> (N00426)</pupssennostatement> | |

3.8 Section 6: boarding information

This applies to all schools.

3.8.1 Children's home

| Is your school a children's home | | | |
|--|---------|--|--|
| If 'Yes': <childrenshome> (N00642) –</childrenshome> | | If 'No': <childrenshome></childrenshome> | |
| please provide the Ofsted social care | | (N00642) – continue on to next | |
| number | | question | |
| Where < Childrens Home > equals 'Yes' please | provide | | |
| the <ofstedscno> (N00643) Ofsted social car</ofstedscno> | e | | |
| registration number - format SC999999 or 999 | 9999 | | |

3.8.2 Accommodation over 295 days

The number of pupils provided with accommodation at the school for more than 295 days, or elsewhere under arrangements made by the school's proprietor, in each of the 2 preceding years and the intended figure for the next year.

| Have you provided pupils with accommodation for more than 295 days per year in either of the | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| past two years, or do you intend to in the forthcoming year? | | | |
| If 'Yes': <accomm295day> If 'No': <accomm295day></accomm295day></accomm295day> | | | |
| (N00507) – provide details below (N00507) – continue on to section 7 | | | |

3.8.3 Number of pupils provided with accommodation

| Number of pupils provided with accommodation | |
|---|--|
| How many pupils were provided with accommodation in the period 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024? <boardingpupilsrefyearminus2> (N00312)</boardingpupilsrefyearminus2> | |
| How many pupils were provided with accommodation in the period 01 January 2025 to 31 December 2025? <boardingpupilsrefyearminus1> (N00313)</boardingpupilsrefyearminus1> | |
| How many pupils will be provided with accommodation in the period 01 January 2026 to 31 December 2026? <boardingpupilsforthcommingyr> (N00314)</boardingpupilsforthcommingyr> | |

3.9 Section 7 – teaching staff (excludes non-teaching staff)

Total number of teaching staff employed in week commencing 12 January 2026 split into male / female and full / part-time with total hours for part time staff – to the nearest whole number.

3.9.1 Full-time teaching staff

These data items record the number of full-time teaching staff by:

| Number of full-time teaching staff | |
|---|--|
| Number of men teaching <teachftmen> (N00315)</teachftmen> | |
| Number of women teaching <teachftwom> (N00316)</teachftwom> | |

3.9.2 Part-time teaching staff

These data items record the number of part-time teaching staff by:

| Number of part-time teaching staff | |
|--|--|
| Number of men teaching <teachptmen> (N00317)</teachptmen> | |
| Total hours per week excluding lunch hours teaching <teachptmenhrs> (N00318)</teachptmenhrs> | |
| Number of women teaching <teachptwom> (N00319)</teachptwom> | |
| Total hours per week excluding lunch hours teaching <teachptwomhrs></teachptwomhrs> | |
| (N00320) | |

Please note: the range of average part time hours has been amended so that averages of more than 25 hours and less than 1 hour are queried. Please see validation rules 870cQ and 870dQ.

3.9.3 Inclusions and exclusions

(a) Include:

- teaching staff on short term paid absence (less than a term)
- relief teaching staff filling vacancies
- relief teaching staff covering long term absence (a term or more)

(b) Exclude:

- teaching staff on long term absence (a term or more)
- relief teaching staff covering short term absence
- · any other vacancies not filled by relief teaching staff
- non-teaching staff
- student teachers on school centred initial teacher training (ITT) courses

3.10 Section 8 - courses of study for pupils aged 15 and over

This section requires the total number of pupils taking each type of qualification by age group. Pupils are entered on one of the courses only. Where the pupil is undertaking a mixture of courses, only the main course of study is recorded.

3.10.1 Courses of study for boys

| Boys in full time and part time | Age on 31/08/2025 | | | |
|--|-------------------|----|----|-------------|
| education | | | | |
| Principal aim of study | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 and over |
| Level 4 and above | | | | |
| International Baccalaureate | | | | |
| GCE 'A' level Pre-U Principal GCE AS | | | | |
| level Pre-U short CRSE | | | | |
| Other level 3 equivalents (such as: BTEC | | | | |
| National Diploma) | | | | |
| GCSE / IGCSE | | | | |
| Other level 2 courses | | | | |
| Other level 1 courses | | | | |
| Other courses | | | | |
| Totals | | | | |

3.10.2 Courses of study for girls

| Girls in full time and part time | Age on 31/08/2025 | | | |
|--|-------------------|----|----|-------------|
| education | | | | |
| Principal aim of study | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 and over |
| Level 4 and above | | | | |
| International Baccalaureate | | | | |
| GCE 'A' level Pre-U Principal GCE AS | | | | |
| level Pre-U short CRSE | | | | |
| Other level 3 equivalents (such as: BTEC | | | | |
| National Diploma) | | | | |
| GCSE / IGCSE | | | | |
| Other level 2 courses | | | | |
| Other level 1 courses | | | | |
| Other courses | | | | |
| Totals | | | | |

Please note: the totals in each age group within the tables at 3.10.1 and 3.10.2 above must agree with the relevant totals for pupils on the register (paragraph <u>3.6.1</u> above) in section 6.

3.11 Section 9 - final year of key stage 4 (KS4) study

The number of pupils who are in their final year of KS4 (regardless of age).

| Number of pupil in the final year of key stage 4 | 1 |
|--|---|
| Number of boys <cboysfinalyrks4> (N00491)</cboysfinalyrks4> | |
| Number of girls <cgirlsfinalyrks4> (N00492)</cgirlsfinalyrks4> | |

3.12 Nil returns

Boolean fields to indicate either leaver or new appointment records for teachers, education ancillary staff (non-teaching and ancillary staff), new proprietors, chair-person and board members.

3.13 Annex A: teachers - new appointments and leavers

This section requires the following details for all new teaching appointments since the previous census day, on or after 17 January 2025 and those teachers who have left after that date.

3.13.1 New teaching appointments

| New teaching appointments | |
|--|--|
| Full-time (F), part-time (P) or the head teacher (H) <postheld></postheld> | |
| (N00498) | |
| Surname <surname> (N00003)</surname> | |
| Previous surname (most recent) < Previous Surname > (N00499) | |
| First name(s) <firstname> (N00500)</firstname> | |

3.13.2 Teachers who have left

| Teachers who have left | |
|--|--|
| Full-time (F), part-time (P) or the head teacher (H) <postheld></postheld> | |
| (N00498) | |
| Surname <surname> (N00003)</surname> | |
| Previous surname (most recent) < Previous Surname > (N00499) | |
| First name(s) <firstname> (N00500)</firstname> | |

3.14 Annex B: education non-teaching staff - new appointments and leavers

This section requires the following details for all non-teaching staff that have been newly appointed or have left since the previous census day, on or after 17 January 2025.

3.14.1 New non-teaching staff appointments

| New non-teaching staff appointments | |
|---|--|
| Full-time (F), part-time (P) or the head teacher (H) <postheld> (N00498)</postheld> | |
| Surname <surname> (N00003)</surname> | |
| Previous surname (most recent) < Previous Surname > (N00499) | |
| First name(s) <firstname> (N00500)</firstname> | |
| Post title <posttitle> (N00506)</posttitle> | |

3.14.2 Non-teaching staff who have left

| Non-teaching staff who have left | |
|--|--|
| Full-time (F), part-time (P) or the head teacher (H) <postheld></postheld> | |
| (N00498) | |
| Surname <surname> (N00003)</surname> | |
| Previous surname (most recent) < Previous Surname > (N00499) | |
| First name(s) <firstname> (N00500)</firstname> | |
| Post title <posttitle> (N00506)</posttitle> | |

3.15 Annex C: part a - individual proprietors

This section requires the following details for all proprietors:

| Individual proprietors | |
|---|--|
| Surname <surname> (N00003)</surname> | |
| Previous surname (most recent) < Previous Surname > (N00499) | |
| First name(s) <firstname> (N00500)</firstname> | |
| Date of birth <personbirthdate> (N00066)</personbirthdate> | |
| National insurance number <ninumber> (N00538)</ninumber> | |
| Residential address – see <u>3.15.1</u> below | |
| Postcode <postcode> (N00037)</postcode> | |
| Telephone number <phoneno> (N00231)</phoneno> | |
| Proprietor email address <email> (N00220)</email> | |
| Change on or after previous census <change> (N00620)</change> | |

3.15.1 Residential address format

The residential address is provided:

- Either, in BS7666 format:
 - SAON <SAON> (N00030)
 - PAON <PAON> (N00031)
 - Street <Street> (N00032)
 - Locality < Locality > (N00033)
 - Town <Town> (N00034)
 - administrative area <AdministrativeArea> (N00035)
 - o post town <PostTown> (N00036)
- Or, in line address format:
 - o address line 1 <AddressLine1> (N00040)
 - o address line 2 <AddressLine2> (N00041)

- o address line 3 <AddressLine3> (N00042)
- o address line 4 <AddressLine4> (N00043)
- o address line 5 <AddressLine5> (N00044)

For both formats

- postcode <PostCode> (N00037)
- telephone number <PhoneNo> (N00231)
- proprietor email address < Email> (N00220)
- change on or after previous census < Change > (N00620)

3.16 Annex C: part bi – proprietors which are a corporate or unincorporated body

This section requires the following details:

| Proprietors which are a corporate or unincorporated body | |
|--|--|
| Name of body <bodyname> (N00621)</bodyname> | |
| Address of body – see <u>3.15.1</u> for formats | |
| Postcode <postcode> (N00037)</postcode> | |
| Telephone number <phoneno> (N00231)</phoneno> | |
| Proprietor body email address <email> (N00220)</email> | |

3.17 Annex C: part bii - chair of proprietorial body

| Chair of proprietorial body | |
|--|--|
| Surname <surname> (N00003)</surname> | |
| Previous surname (most recent) < Previous Surname > (N00499) | |
| First name(s) <firstname> (N00500)</firstname> | |
| Date of birth <personbirthdate> (N00066)</personbirthdate> | |
| National insurance number <ninumber> (N00538)</ninumber> | |
| Residential address – see 3.15.1 for formats | |
| Postcode <postcode> (N00037)</postcode> | |
| Change on or after previous census < Change > (N00620) | |

3.18 Annex C: part biii - newly appointed members of the proprietor body on or after 17 January 2025

| Individual proprietors | | |
|--|--|--|
| Surname <surname> (N00003)</surname> | | |
| Previous surname (most recent) < Previous Surname > (N00499) | | |
| First name(s) <firstname> (N00500)</firstname> | | |
| Date of birth <personbirthdate> (N00066)</personbirthdate> | | |
| National insurance number <ninumber> (N00538)</ninumber> | | |
| Residential address – see <u>3.15.1</u> below | | |
| Postcode <postcode> (N00037)</postcode> | | |
| Telephone number <phoneno> (N00231)</phoneno> | | |
| New member email address <email> (N00220)</email> | | |

4 Data return formats

A submission file from the school is to be provided in a XML file structure as described in Annex A of this specification. Where an optional item is not included then the associated XML tag should also be omitted. Where a mandatory item is omitted then an error will be generated.

4.1 Special notes for XML returns

The standard XML entity references should be used for the following special characters:

| Character | Entity reference |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Ampersand (&) | & |
| Left angle bracket (<) | < |
| Right angle bracket (>) | > |
| Single quote / apostrophe (') | ' |
| Double quotes (") | " |

For special characters such as é use a character reference such as é. This produces a generic XML file which can be viewed as such in a suitable browser. Details of all such characters are found within the XML standard documentation; see for example Extensible markup language (XML) 1.0 (fifth edition) section 2.

It is expected that all numeric data will be supplied as integers.

5 Data validation rules

This section specifies validation rules that are applied to the data by DfE, using COLLECT. They should also be applied, as far as possible, by schools prior to loading the data into the COLLECT system and any issues resolved before continuing with the upload to COLLECT. Those data items included in the specification but not appearing in the validation rules, that is: those not shown in the validation rules as must be present should be supplied where available. The rules also show which validations are errors and which ones are queries. An error is a failed validation check that must be corrected. A query is one which must be investigated, and potentially corrected or explained, as it identifies data that we would not usually expect and may be invalid.

Syntax:

- validation checks are expressed as conditions that must be true (errors) or that should be true (queries). The error message shows what is displayed if the condition fails
- data items are indicated using the XML tag with the CBDS number in parentheses where this number is available. Many data items do not have CBDS numbers.
 CBDS tends mostly to cover individual data items not aggregate sums of pupil numbers against certain characteristics
- data groups are indicated using the XML tag only
- single dates or date ranges are sometimes defined in relation to the <ReferenceDate> (N00603), which is taken from the XML header

6 Resubmission guidance

When resubmissions are required the serial number in the header must be incremented by the provider's software. Only a whole file can be resubmitted therefore a resubmission will delete and replace all of the data contained in the previous submission.

7 Valid values

Valid item values must be in the list or range specified in the common basic dataset, (CBDS).

7.1 Local authority codes

Local authority codes [CBDS number (N00216), codeset CS003] for this collection only covers local authorities in England. Coverage also excludes local authority codes:

- 001, 003, 167;
- codes starting with 6 and 7;
- XXX, MMM and NAA.

7.2 Establishment number

Establishment number [CBDS number (N00279)] for this collection only covers the following ranges:

• 6000-6899 Independent

8 General notes

XML file generic naming conventions

The following file naming conventions apply: the file extension will be XML. The file name shall be constructed from the following components:

- origin identifier consisting of the local authority number followed by the estab number (7 digits) – such as: '8016000'
- census / data extraction type where 'IND1' indicates that it is an independent school file containing aggregated school level data relating to the January school level annual school census (SLASC)
- destination identifier where the first three characters are the local authority number, fourth / fifth characters are 'LL' and the sixth / seventh characters are the last two digits of the year (7 characters) – such as: '801LL26'
- serial number (3 digits) such as: '001'
- The components should be separated by underscore characters (_).

An example of an 'IND SLASC' file:

• 8016000_IND1_801LL26_001.XML

The total file name length equals 28 characters.

Annex A - XML message structure

A1 overall XML message structure

| SLASC census 2026 - overall message structure |
|---|
| xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"? |
| <message></message> |
| <header></header> |
| See A2 below for details |
| |
| <school></school> |
| See A3 below for details |
| |
| |

A2 header XML message structure

A standard XML message header is required for each independent school census file. The data items should be populated according to the guidance in section 2 of this specification. The layout is as follows:

| | <header></header> | |
|--------|---|--|
| | <collectiondetails></collectiondetails> | |
| N00600 | <collection>SLASC</collection> | |
| N00602 | <year>2026</year> | |
| N00603 | <referencedate>2026-01-15</referencedate> | |
| | | |
| | <source/> | |
| N00604 | <sourcelevel></sourcelevel> | |
| N00216 | <la>999</la> | |
| N00147 | <estab>9999</estab> | |
| N00605 | <softwarecode>AcmeMIS</softwarecode> | |
| N00607 | <release>1.4 2025-10-14</release> | |
| N00608 | <xversion>1.0</xversion> | |
| N00606 | <serialno>001</serialno> | |
| N00609 | <datetime>2026-01-18T11:14:05</datetime> | |
| | | |

A3 school XML message structure

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|--|--|
| | <school></school> | |
| | <schoolcontact></schoolcontact> | |
| N00220 | <email>school@school.com</email> | a, n(254) School email address |
| N00220 | <contactemail>contact.name@school.com</contactemail> | a, n(254) Census contact email address |
| N00232 | <contact>Forename Surname</contact> | a(30) |
| N00231 | <phoneno>999999999999999999999999999999999999</phoneno> | a(35) Valid characters are 0-9 and a leading '+' (for international numbers) |
| | | , |
| | <section126and7></section126and7> | |
| N00305 | <schoolaccommodationchange>No</schoolaccommodationchange> | Valid values are 'Yes' or 'No' |
| N00306 | <schoolaccommchangedetails></schoolaccommchangedetails> | Free text field up to 4000 characters |
| N00307 | <lowestannfeedaypups>999999</lowestannfeedaypups> | n(6) No decimal allowed |
| N00308 | <lowestannfeeboardingpups>999999</lowestannfeeboardingpups> | n(6) No decimal allowed |
| N00309 | <highestannfeedaypups>9999999</highestannfeedaypups> | n (6) No decimal allowed |
| N00310 | <highestannfeeboardingpups>9999999</highestannfeeboardingpups> | n(6) No decimal allowed |
| N00642 | <childrenshome>Yes</childrenshome> | Valid values are 'Yes' or 'No' |
| N00643 | <ofstedscno>SC999999</ofstedscno> | Only required where <childrenshome> equals 'Yes'</childrenshome> |
| N00507 | <accomm295day>Yes</accomm295day> | Valid values are 'Yes' or No' |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|---|--|
| N00312 | <boardingpupilsrefyearminus2>9999</boardingpupilsrefyearminus2> | n(4) |
| N00313 | <boardingpupilsrefyearminus1>9999</boardingpupilsrefyearminus1> | n(4) |
| N00314 | <boardingpupilsforthcomingyr>9999</boardingpupilsforthcomingyr> | n(4) |
| | | |
| | <teachingstaff></teachingstaff> | |
| N00315 | <teachftmen>999</teachftmen> | n(3) |
| N00316 | <teachftwom>999</teachftwom> | n(3) |
| N00317 | <teachptmen>999</teachptmen> | n(3) |
| N00318 | <teachptmenhrs>9999</teachptmenhrs> | n(4) |
| N00319 | <teachptwom>999</teachptwom> | n(3) |
| N00320 | <teachptwomhrs>9999</teachptwomhrs> | n(4) |
| | | |
| | <porftboys></porftboys> | |
| N00321 | <boy19over>999</boy19over> | n(3) |
| N00322 | <boy18>999</boy18> | n(3) |
| N00323 | <boy17>999</boy17> | n(3) |
| N00324 | <boy16>999</boy16> | n(3) |
| N00325 | <boy15>999</boy15> | n(3) |
| N00326 | <boy14>999</boy14> | n(3) |
| N00327 | <boy13>999</boy13> | n(3) |
| N00328 | <boy12>999</boy12> | n(3) |
| N00329 | <boy11>999</boy11> | n(3) |
| N00330 | <boy10>999</boy10> | n(3) |
| N00331 | <boy9>999</boy9> | n(3) |
| N00332 | <boy8>999</boy8> | n(3) |
| N00333 | <boy7>999</boy7> | n(3) |
| N00334 | <boy6>999</boy6> | n(3) |
| N00335 | <boy5>999</boy5> | n(3) |
| N00336 | <boy4upper>999</boy4upper> | n(3) |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|---|--|
| N00337 | <boy4middle>999</boy4middle> | n(3) |
| N00338 | <boy4lower>999</boy4lower> | n(3) |
| N00339 | <boy3upper>999</boy3upper> | n(3) |
| N00340 | <boy3middle>999</boy3middle> | n(3) |
| N00341 | <boy3lower>999</boy3lower> | n(3) |
| N00342 | <boy2>999</boy2> | n(3) |
| N00343 | <boy1>999</boy1> | n(3) |
| N00344 | <boyunder1>999</boyunder1> | n(3) |
| N00345 | <boytot>9999</boytot> | n(4) |
| | | |
| | <porftgirls></porftgirls> | |
| N00346 | <girl19over>999</girl19over> | n(3) |
| N00347 | <girl18>999</girl18> | n(3) |
| N00348 | <girl17>999</girl17> | n(3) |
| N00349 | <girl16>999</girl16> | n(3) |
| N00350 | <girl15>999</girl15> | n(3) |
| N00351 | <girl14>999</girl14> | n(3) |
| N00352 | <girl13>999</girl13> | n(3) |
| N00353 | <girl12>999</girl12> | n(3) |
| N00354 | <girl11>999</girl11> | n(3) |
| N00355 | <girl10>999</girl10> | n(3) |
| N00356 | <girl9>999</girl9> | n(3) |
| N00357 | <girl8>999</girl8> | n(3) |
| N00358 | <girl7>999</girl7> | n(3) |
| N00359 | <girl6>999</girl6> | n(3) |
| N00360 | <girl5>999</girl5> | n(3) |
| N00361 | <girl4upper>999</girl4upper> | n(3) |
| N00362 | <girl4middle>999</girl4middle> | n(3) |
| N00363 | <girl4lower>999</girl4lower> | n(3) |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|---|--|
| N00364 | <girl3upper>999</girl3upper> | n(3) |
| N00365 | <girl3middle>999</girl3middle> | n(3) |
| N00366 | <girl3lower>999</girl3lower> | n(3) |
| N00367 | <girl2>999</girl2> | n(3) |
| N00368 | <girl1>999</girl1> | n(3) |
| N00369 | <girlunder1>999</girlunder1> | n(3) |
| N00370 | <girltot>9999</girltot> | n(4) |
| | | |
| | <porptboys></porptboys> | |
| N00371 | <boypt19over>999</boypt19over> | n(3) |
| N00372 | <boypt18>999</boypt18> | n(3) |
| N00373 | <boypt17>999</boypt17> | n(3) |
| N00374 | <boypt16>999</boypt16> | n(3) |
| N00375 | <boypt15>999</boypt15> | n(3) |
| N00376 | <boypt14>999</boypt14> | n(3) |
| N00377 | <boypt13>999</boypt13> | n(3) |
| N00378 | <boypt12>999</boypt12> | n(3) |
| N00379 | <boypt11>999</boypt11> | n(3) |
| N00380 | <boypt10>999</boypt10> | n(3) |
| N00381 | <boypt9>999</boypt9> | n(3) |
| N00382 | <boypt8>999</boypt8> | n(3) |
| N00383 | <boypt7>999</boypt7> | n(3) |
| N00384 | <boypt6>999</boypt6> | n(3) |
| N00385 | <boypt5>999</boypt5> | n(3) |
| N00386 | <boypt4upper>999</boypt4upper> | n(3) |
| N00387 | <boypt4middle>999</boypt4middle> | n(3) |
| N00388 | <boypt4lower>999</boypt4lower> | n(3) |
| N00389 | <boypt3upper>999</boypt3upper> | n(3) |
| N00390 | <boypt3middle>999</boypt3middle> | n(3) |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|---|--|
| N00391 | <boypt3lower>999</boypt3lower> | n(3) |
| N00392 | <boypt2>999</boypt2> | n(3) |
| N00393 | <boypt1>999</boypt1> | n(3) |
| N00394 | <boyptunder1>999</boyptunder1> | n(3) |
| N00395 | <boypttot>9999</boypttot> | n(4) |
| | | |
| | <porptgirls></porptgirls> | |
| N00396 | <girlpt19over>999</girlpt19over> | n(3) |
| N00397 | <girlpt18>999</girlpt18> | n(3) |
| N00398 | <girlpt17>999</girlpt17> | n(3) |
| N00399 | <girlpt16>999</girlpt16> | n(3) |
| N00400 | <girlpt15>999</girlpt15> | n(3) |
| N00401 | <girlpt14>999</girlpt14> | n(3) |
| N00402 | <girlpt13>999</girlpt13> | n(3) |
| N00403 | <girlpt12>999</girlpt12> | n(3) |
| N00404 | <girlpt11>999</girlpt11> | n(3) |
| N00405 | <girlpt10>999</girlpt10> | n(3) |
| N00406 | <girlpt9>999</girlpt9> | n(3) |
| N00407 | <girlpt8>999</girlpt8> | n(3) |
| N00408 | <girlpt7>999</girlpt7> | n(3) |
| N00409 | <girlpt6>999</girlpt6> | n(3) |
| N00410 | <girlpt5>999</girlpt5> | n(3) |
| N00411 | <girlpt4upper>999</girlpt4upper> | n(3) |
| N00412 | <girlpt4middle>999</girlpt4middle> | n(3) |
| N00413 | <girlpt4lower>999</girlpt4lower> | n(3) |
| N00414 | <girlpt3upper>999</girlpt3upper> | n(3) |
| N00415 | <girlpt3middle>999</girlpt3middle> | n(3) |
| N00416 | <girlpt3lower>999</girlpt3lower> | n(3) |
| N00417 | <girlpt2>999</girlpt2> | n(3) |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|--|--|
| N00418 | <girlpt1>999</girlpt1> | n(3) |
| N00419 | <girlptunder1>999</girlptunder1> | n(3) |
| N00420 | <girlpttot>9999</girlpttot> | n(4) |
| | | |
| | <section45andsen></section45andsen> | |
| N00311 | <approvedplaces>9999</approvedplaces> | n(4) |
| N00421 | <boardingboys>9999</boardingboys> | n(4) |
| N00422 | <boardinggirls>9999</boardinggirls> | n(4) |
| N00423 | <pupilsincare>9999</pupilsincare> | n(4) |
| N00789 | <carerparent>9999</carerparent> | n(4) |
| N00790 | <carerschool>9999</carerschool> | n(4) |
| N00425 | <pupssenstatement>9999</pupssenstatement> | n(4) |
| N00426 | <pupssennostatement>9999</pupssennostatement> | n(4) |
| | | |
| | <coursesboys1516></coursesboys1516> | |
| N00427 | <cboys15level4andabove>999</cboys15level4andabove> | n(3) |
| N00428 | <cboys15internatbaccalaureate>999</cboys15internatbaccalaureate> | n(3) |
| N00429 | <cboys15gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse>999 /CBoys15GCEALevelPreUPrincipalGCEAsLevelPreUShortCRSE></cboys15gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse> | n(3) |
| N00430 | <cboys15otherlevel3equivalents>999</cboys15otherlevel3equivalents> | n(3) |
| N00431 | <cboys15gcseigcse>999</cboys15gcseigcse> | n(3) |
| N00432 | <cboys15otherlevel2courses>999</cboys15otherlevel2courses> | n(3) |
| N00433 | <cboys15otherlevel1courses>999</cboys15otherlevel1courses> | n(3) |
| N00434 | <cboys15othercourses>999</cboys15othercourses> | n(3) |
| N00435 | <cboys16level4andabove>999</cboys16level4andabove> | n(3) |
| N00436 | <cboys16internatbaccalaureate>999</cboys16internatbaccalaureate> | n(3) |
| N00437 | <cboys16gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse>999 /CBoys16GCEALevelPreUPrincipalGCEAsLevelPreUShortCRSE> elPreUShortCRSE></cboys16gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse> | n(3) |
| N00438 | <cboys16otherlevel3equivalents>999</cboys16otherlevel3equivalents> | n(3) |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|---|--|
| N00439 | <cboys16gcseigcse>999</cboys16gcseigcse> | n(3) |
| N00440 | <cboys16otherlevel2courses>999</cboys16otherlevel2courses> | n(3) |
| N00441 | <cboys16otherlevel1courses>999</cboys16otherlevel1courses> | n(3) |
| N00442 | <cboys16othercourses>999</cboys16othercourses> | n(3) |
| | | |
| | <coursesboys1718></coursesboys1718> | |
| N00443 | <cboys17level4andabove>999</cboys17level4andabove> | n(3) |
| N00444 | <cboys17internatbaccalaureate>999</cboys17internatbaccalaureate> | n(3) |
| N00445 | <cboys17gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse>999 /CBoys17GCEALevelPreUPrincipalGCEAsLevelPreUShortCRSE>999</cboys17gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse> | n(3) |
| | elPreUShortCRSE> | |
| N00446 | <cboys17otherlevel3equivalents>999</cboys17otherlevel3equivalents> | n(3) |
| N00447 | <cboys17gcseigcse>999</cboys17gcseigcse> | n(3) |
| N00448 | <cboys17otherlevel2courses>999</cboys17otherlevel2courses> | n(3) |
| N00449 | <cboys17otherlevel1courses>999</cboys17otherlevel1courses> | n(3) |
| N00450 | <cboys17othercourses>999</cboys17othercourses> | n(3) |
| N00451 | <cboys18overlevel4andabove>999</cboys18overlevel4andabove> | n(3) |
| N00452 | <cboys18overinternatbaccalaureate>999</cboys18overinternatbaccalaureate> | n(3) |
| N00453 | <cboys18overgcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse>999</cboys18overgcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse> | n(3) |
| | GCEAsLevelPreUShortCRSE> | |
| N00454 | <cboys18overotherlevel3equivalents>999</cboys18overotherlevel3equivalents> | n(3) |
| N00455 | <cboys18overgcseigcse>999</cboys18overgcseigcse> | n(3) |
| N00456 | <cboys18overotherlevel2courses>999</cboys18overotherlevel2courses> | n(3) |
| N00457 | <cboys18overotherlevel1courses>999</cboys18overotherlevel1courses> | n(3) |
| N00458 | <cboys18overothercourses>999</cboys18overothercourses> | n(3) |
| | | |
| | <coursesgirls1516></coursesgirls1516> | |
| N00459 | <cgirls15level4andabove>999</cgirls15level4andabove> | n(3) |
| N00460 | <cgirls15internatbaccalaureate>999</cgirls15internatbaccalaureate> | n(3) |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|--|--|
| N00461 | <cgirls15gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse>999</cgirls15gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse> | n(3) |
| N00462 | <cgirls15otherlevel3equivalents>999</cgirls15otherlevel3equivalents> | n(3) |
| N00463 | <cgirls15gcseigcse>999</cgirls15gcseigcse> | n(3) |
| N00464 | <cgirls15otherlevel2courses>999</cgirls15otherlevel2courses> | n(3) |
| N00465 | <cgirls15otherlevel1courses>999</cgirls15otherlevel1courses> | n(3) |
| N00466 | <cgirls15othercourses>999</cgirls15othercourses> | n(3) |
| N00467 | <cgirls16level4andabove>999</cgirls16level4andabove> | n(3) |
| N00468 | <cgirls16internatbaccalaureate>999</cgirls16internatbaccalaureate> | n(3) |
| N00469 | <cgirls16gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse>999</cgirls16gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse> | n(3) |
| N00470 | <cgirls16otherlevel3equivalents>999</cgirls16otherlevel3equivalents> | n(3) |
| N00471 | <cgirls16gcseigcse>999</cgirls16gcseigcse> | n(3) |
| N00472 | <cgirls16otherlevel2courses>999</cgirls16otherlevel2courses> | n(3) |
| N00473 | <cgirls16otherlevel1courses>999</cgirls16otherlevel1courses> | n(3) |
| N00474 | <cgirls16othercourses>999</cgirls16othercourses> | n(3) |
| | | |
| | <coursesgirls1718></coursesgirls1718> | |
| N00475 | <cgirls17level4andabove>999</cgirls17level4andabove> | n(3) |
| N00476 | <cgirls17internatbaccalaureate>999</cgirls17internatbaccalaureate> | n(3) |
| N00477 | <cgirls17gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse>999</cgirls17gcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse> | n(3) |
| N00478 | <cgirls17otherlevel3equivalents>999</cgirls17otherlevel3equivalents> | n(3) |
| N00479 | <cgirls17gcseigcse>999</cgirls17gcseigcse> | n(3) |
| N00480 | <cgirls17otherlevel2courses>999</cgirls17otherlevel2courses> | n(3) |
| N00481 | <cgirls17otherlevel1courses>999</cgirls17otherlevel1courses> | n(3) |
| N00482 | <cgirls17othercourses>999</cgirls17othercourses> | n(3) |
| N00483 | <cgirls18overlevel4andabove>999</cgirls18overlevel4andabove> | n(3) |
| N00484 | <cgirls18overinternatbaccalaureate>999</cgirls18overinternatbaccalaureate> | n(3) |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|--|--|
| N00485 | <cgirls18overgcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse>999</cgirls18overgcealevelpreuprincipalgceaslevelpreushortcrse> | n(3) |
| N00486 | <cgirls18overotherlevel3equivalents>999</cgirls18overotherlevel3equivalents> | n(3) |
| N00487 | <cgirls18overgcseigcse>999</cgirls18overgcseigcse> | n(3) |
| N00488 | <cgirls18overotherlevel2courses>999</cgirls18overotherlevel2courses> | n(3) |
| N00489 | <cgirls18overotherlevel1courses>999</cgirls18overotherlevel1courses> | n(3) |
| N00490 | <cgirls18overothercourses>999</cgirls18overothercourses> | n(3) |
| | | |
| | <keystage4></keystage4> | |
| N00491 | <cboysfinalyrks4>999</cboysfinalyrks4> | n(3) |
| N00492 | <cgirlsfinalyrks4>999</cgirlsfinalyrks4> | n(3) |
| | | |
| | <nilreturn></nilreturn> | |
| N00493 | <newappteachersnilreturn>Yes</newappteachersnilreturn> | Valid values are 'Yes' or 'No'. If 'Yes' there should be data returned |
| N00504 | <leaversteachersnilreturn>No</leaversteachersnilreturn> | Valid values are 'Yes' or 'No'. If 'No' there should be no data returned |
| N00640 | <newappsntstaffnilreturn>No</newappsntstaffnilreturn> | Valid values are 'Yes' or 'No'. If 'No' there should be no data returned |
| N00641 | <leaversntstaffnilreturn>Yes</leaversntstaffnilreturn> | Valid values are 'Yes' or 'No'. If 'Yes' there should be data returned |
| N00495 | <individualproprietornilreturn>Yes</individualproprietornilreturn> | Valid values are 'Yes' or 'No'. If 'Yes' there should be data returned |
| N00496 | <proprietorbodynilreturn>Yes</proprietorbodynilreturn> | Valid values are 'Yes' or 'No'. If 'Yes' there should be data returned |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|---|--|
| N00497 | <newlyappointedbodymembernilreturn>No</newlyappointedbodymembernilreturn> | Valid values are 'Yes' or 'No'. If `No' there should be no data returned |
| | | |
| | <newappointmentsteachers></newappointmentsteachers> | |
| | <newappointmentteacher></newappointmentteacher> | 1 to n |
| N00498 | <postheld>F</postheld> | a(1). Valid values for 'PostHeld' are 'H', 'F', 'P' |
| N00003 | <surname>surnamename</surname> | a(35) |
| N00499 | <previoussurname>previousname</previoussurname> | a(35) |
| N00500 | <firstname>name</firstname> | a(35) |
| | | |
| | | |
| | <leaversteachers></leaversteachers> | |
| | <leaverteacher></leaverteacher> | 1 to n |
| N00498 | <postheld></postheld> | a(1). Valid values for 'PostHeld' are 'H', 'F', 'P' |
| N00003 | <surname></surname> | a(35) |
| N00499 | <previoussurname></previoussurname> | a(35) |
| N00500 | <firstname></firstname> | a(35) |
| | | |
| | | |
| | <newappointmentsntstaff></newappointmentsntstaff> | |
| | <newappointmentntstaff></newappointmentntstaff> | 1 to n |
| N00498 | <postheld></postheld> | a(1). Valid values for 'PostHeld' are 'F', 'P' |
| N00003 | <surname></surname> | a(35) |
| N00499 | <previoussurname></previoussurname> | a(35) |
| N00500 | <firstname></firstname> | a(35) |
| N00506 | <posttitle></posttitle> | a(50) |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|---|--|
| | | |
| | | |
| | <leaversntstaff></leaversntstaff> | |
| | <leaverntstaff></leaverntstaff> | 1 to n |
| N00498 | <postheld>P</postheld> | a(1). Valid values for 'PostHeld' are 'F', 'P' |
| N00003 | <surname>surnamename</surname> | a(35) |
| N00499 | <previoussurname></previoussurname> | a(35) |
| N00500 | <firstname>name</firstname> | a(35) |
| N00506 | <posttitle></posttitle> | a(50) |
| | | |
| | | |
| | <proprietors></proprietors> | Note: If <proprietors> is completed, then <proprietorbody> or <chairofproprietorbody> or <newlyappointedbodyme mbers=""> should not be completed</newlyappointedbodyme></chairofproprietorbody></proprietorbody></proprietors> |
| | <proprietor></proprietor> | 1 to n |
| N00003 | <surname>surnamename</surname> | a(35) |
| N00499 | <previoussurname>previousname</previoussurname> | a(35) |
| N00500 | <firstname>name</firstname> | a(35) |
| N00066 | <personbirthdate>1111-12-11</personbirthdate> | In format: yyyy-mm-dd |
| N00538 | <ninumber>AA999999A</ninumber> | Format is AA999999A |
| N00220 | <email>name.surname@provider.xx</email> | a, n(254) Individual proprietor email address |
| | <addressinformation></addressinformation> | |
| N00037 | <postcode>ZZ99 9XX</postcode> | BS7666 postcode a, n(8) |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|--|--|
| | EITHER | |
| | <bs7666format></bs7666format> | |
| N00030 | <saon>1Flat</saon> | a, n(100) |
| N00031 | <paon>123</paon> | a, n(100) |
| N00032 | <street>Street Name</street> | a(100) |
| N00033 | <locality>Inner Area</locality> | a(35) |
| N00034 | <town>Townname</town> | a(30) |
| N00035 | <administrativearea>An Area</administrativearea> | a(30) |
| N00036 | <posttown>Postaltown</posttown> | a(30) |
| | | |
| | OR | |
| | <lineaddressformat></lineaddressformat> | |
| N00040 | <addressline1>123 Streetname</addressline1> | a(40) |
| N00041 | <addressline2>Town</addressline2> | a(40) |
| N00042 | <addressline3>County</addressline3> | a(40) |
| N00043 | <addressline4>Elsewhere</addressline4> | a(40) |
| N00044 | <addressline5>Somewhere</addressline5> | a(40) |
| | | |
| | | |
| N00231 | <phoneno>01234123456</phoneno> | a(35) Valid characters are 0-9 and a leading '+' (for international numbers) |
| N00620 | <change>No</change> | Valid values are 'Yes' or 'No'. |
| | | |
| | | |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|--|--|
| | <proprietorbody></proprietorbody> | Note: If <proprietorbody> or <chairofproprietorbody> or <newlyappointedbodyme mbers=""> is completed, then <proprietors> should not be completed</proprietors></newlyappointedbodyme></chairofproprietorbody></proprietorbody> |
| N00621 | <bodyname>Nameofbody</bodyname> | a(100) |
| | <addressinformation></addressinformation> | |
| N00037 | <postcode>ZZ99 9XX</postcode> | BS7666 postcode a, n(8) |
| | EITHER | |
| | <bs7666format></bs7666format> | |
| N00030 | <saon>1Flat</saon> | a, n(100) |
| N00031 | <paon>123</paon> | a, n(100) |
| N00032 | <street>Street Name</street> | a(100) |
| N00033 | <locality>Inner Area</locality> | a(35) |
| N00034 | <town>Townname</town> | a(30) |
| N00035 | <administrativearea>An Area</administrativearea> | a(30) |
| N00036 | <posttown>Postaltown</posttown> | a(30) |
| | | |
| | OR | |
| | <lineaddressformat></lineaddressformat> | |
| N00040 | <addressline1>123 Street Name</addressline1> | a(40) |
| N00041 | <addressline2>Town</addressline2> | a(40) |
| N00042 | <addressline3>County</addressline3> | a(40) |
| N00043 | <addressline4>Elsewhere</addressline4> | a(40) |
| N00044 | <addressline5>Somewhere</addressline5> | a(40) |
| | | |
| | | |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|---|--|
| N00231 | <phoneno>01234123456</phoneno> | a(35) Valid characters are 0-9 and a leading '+' (for international numbers) |
| N00220 | <email>Name@provider.xx</email> | a, n(254) Proprietor body email address |
| | | |
| | <chairofproprietorialbody></chairofproprietorialbody> | |
| N00003 | <surname>Surnamename</surname> | a(35) |
| N00499 | <previoussurname>Previousname</previoussurname> | a(35) |
| N00500 | <firstname>Name</firstname> | a(35) |
| N00066 | <personbirthdate>1111-12-11</personbirthdate> | In format: yyyy-mm-dd |
| N00538 | <ninumber>AA99999A</ninumber> | Format is AA999999A |
| N00620 | <change>No</change> | Valid values are 'Yes' or 'No' |
| | <addressinformation></addressinformation> | |
| N00037 | <postcode>ZZ99 9XX</postcode> | BS7666 postcode a, n(8) |
| | EITHER | |
| | <bs7666format></bs7666format> | |
| N00030 | <saon>1Flat</saon> | a, n(100) |
| N00031 | <paon>123</paon> | a, n(100) |
| N00032 | <street>Street Name</street> | a(100) |
| N00033 | <locality>Inner Area</locality> | a(35) |
| N00034 | <town>Town</town> | a(30) |
| N00035 | <administrativearea>An Area</administrativearea> | a(30) |
| N00036 | <posttown>Postaltown</posttown> | a(30) |
| | | |
| | OR OR | |
| | <lineaddressformat></lineaddressformat> | |
| N00040 | <addressline1>123 Street Name</addressline1> | a(40) |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|---|--|
| N00041 | <addressline2>Town Name</addressline2> | a(40) |
| N00042 | <addressline3>County</addressline3> | a(40) |
| N00043 | <addressline4>Elsewhere</addressline4> | a(40) |
| N00044 | <addressline5>Somewhere</addressline5> | a(40) |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | <newlyappointedbodymembers></newlyappointedbodymembers> | |
| | <newlyappointedbodymember></newlyappointedbodymember> | 1 to n |
| N00003 | <surname>Surnamename</surname> | a(35) |
| N00499 | <previoussurname>Previousname</previoussurname> | a(35) |
| N00500 | <firstname>Name</firstname> | a(35) |
| N00066 | <personbirthdate>1111-12-11</personbirthdate> | In format: yyyy-mm-dd |
| N00231 | <phoneno>01234123456</phoneno> | a(35) Valid characters are 0-9 and a leading '+' (for international numbers) |
| N00220 | <email>Name@provider.xx</email> | a, n(254) new member email address |
| N00538 | <ninumber>AA999999A</ninumber> | Format is AA999999A |
| | <addressinformation></addressinformation> | |
| N00037 | <postcode>ZZ99 9XX</postcode> | BS7666 postcode a, n(8) |
| | EITHER | |
| | <bs7666format></bs7666format> | |
| N00030 | <saon>1Flat</saon> | a, n(100) |
| N00031 | <paon>123</paon> | a, n(100) |
| N00032 | <street>Street Name</street> | a(100) |
| N00033 | <locality>Inner Area</locality> | a(35) |
| N00034 | <town>Town Name</town> | a(30) |
| N00035 | <administrativearea>An Area</administrativearea> | a(30) |

| | SLASC 2026 – school XML message structure | Notes and field lengths ('a' = 'alpha'; 'n' = numeric) |
|--------|--|--|
| N00036 | <posttown>Postal Town</posttown> | a(30) |
| | | |
| | OR | |
| | <lineaddressformat></lineaddressformat> | |
| N00040 | <addressline1>123 Street Name</addressline1> | a(40) |
| N00041 | <addressline2>Town Name</addressline2> | a(40) |
| N00042 | <addressline3>County</addressline3> | a(40) |
| N00043 | <addressline4>Elsewhere</addressline4> | a(40) |
| N00044 | <addressline5>Somewhere</addressline5> | a(40) |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Version history

| V0.1 | Initial draft of the specification. Changes have been highlighted in yellow Dates have been rolled forward and have been highlighted. The young carer indicators (N00789) & (N00790) have been made mandatory | Jon Leyshon 04/06/2025 |
|------|---|--|
| V1.0 | Baselined | Jon Leyshon 13/06/2025 |
| V1.1 | Corrected notes section in Annex 3 – school XML message structure for the young carer indicators (N00789) & (N00790) as these are no longer voluntary | Jon Leyshon 17/07/2025 |
| V1.2 | Amended Section 3 to include fees VAT Removed 'suppliers must advise DfE of the code used' from software code description in message header | Jon Leyshon 13/10/2025 |
| V1.3 | Update to XML structure | Marcia Merchant December 2025 |



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