

GCSE and equivalent entries and achievements of pupils at the end of Key

Stage 4 by type of school/school admission basis¹ in 2017/18.

School type	Number of pupils	Attainment 8 (A8) / Progress 8 (P8)				English Baccalaureate	
		Average A8 score ²	Average P8 score ³	P8 lower confidence interval	P8 upper confidence interval	Total pupils entered for all components (%)	Average point score
All state-funded mainstream schools⁴	513,455	47.2	0.01	0.01	0.01	39.1	4.11
Selective schools ⁵	23,199	70.9	0.57	0.55	0.58	78.7	6.73
Non-selective schools in highly selective areas ⁶	33,157	42.1	-0.13	-0.15	-0.12	27.9	3.51
Other non-selective schools ⁷	455,713	46.5	0.00	-0.01	0.00	38.0	4.03
Independent schools⁸	48,743	31.0 ⁹	-	-	-	9.0	2.46

¹ Prior to 2016, school admission basis was taken from the 'Get information about schools' website, which was self-declared by each school and not necessarily a true reflection of a school's admission policy. From 2016, the Department moved to an alternative classification which will continue into 2017. This is expected to be a more accurate reflection of the current admissions basis of a school. This groups schools into selective schools, non-selective schools in highly selective areas and all other non-selective schools. The selective group covers the same schools as in the previous grouping. Non-selective schools in highly selective areas cover all schools in local authorities where 25% or more of state-funded secondary places are in state-funded selective schools (see footnote 9). The all other non-selective schools group includes schools in local authorities with some selection, as well as those with no selection.

² Attainment 8 and Progress 8 are part of the new secondary accountability system implemented from 2016. Users should be cautious when comparing Attainment 8 scores between 2017 and 2016. In 2017, Attainment 8 scores were calculated using slightly different point score scales in comparison to 2016, in order to minimise change following the introduction of 9-1 reformed GCSEs. This means that Attainment 8 scores are likely to look different in 2017, as a result of changes to the methodology. More information on the calculation of these measures is available in the secondary accountability guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/progress-8-school-performance-measure>

³ A Progress 8 score of 1.0 means pupils in the group make on average approximately a grade more progress than the national average; a score of -0.5 means they make on average approximately half a grade less progress than average. Progress 8 scores should be interpreted alongside the associated confidence intervals. If the lower bound of the confidence interval is greater than zero, it can be interpreted as meaning that the group achieves greater than average progress compared to pupils in mainstream schools nationally and that this is statistically significant. If the upper bound is negative, this means that the group achieves lower than average progress compared to pupils in mainstream schools nationally and that this is statistically significant.

⁴ State-funded mainstream schools include academies, free schools, city technology colleges and further education colleges with provision for 14- to 16-year-olds. They exclude state-funded special schools, independent schools, independent special schools, non-maintained special schools, hospital schools, pupil referral units and alternative provision. Alternative provision includes academy and free school alternative provision.

⁵ Selective schools admit pupils wholly or mainly with reference to ability. These schools are formally designated as grammar schools.

⁶ Includes all non-selective schools in local authorities with a high level of selection (where 25% or more of state-funded secondary places are in state-funded selective schools). These local authorities are Bexley, Buckinghamshire, Kent, Lincolnshire, Medway, Poole, Slough, Southend-on-Sea, Sutton, Torbay, Trafford and Wirral.

⁷ Includes all non-selective schools that are not in highly selective areas, including those in areas with some selection.

⁸ Not including independent special schools

⁹ Attainment 8 is calculated from the grades achieved in up to 8 qualifications, pupils who sit fewer than 8 eligible subjects will still have an Attainment 8 score comprised of their grades in any qualifications that are eligible. Independent schools more commonly choose to sit qualifications which are not approved for inclusion in performance tables. This means pupils in independent schools tend to have lower Attainment 8 scores as an artefact of sitting fewer eligible subjects.