



# 2024

# SCHOOLS ANNUAL REPORT

## IMPACTFUL INSIGHTS

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# Table of CONTENTS

01

## Introduction

Report Summary

Foreword by Jenny Jenkins Non-Executive Chair at the Diocese of St Albans MAT

Our Sponsor: Crisis Prevention Institute

Overview of Schools Across England

02

## Academies and MATs

This section examines the structural changes within academies, the demographic details of pupils attending academies, and the growth and impact of Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs). It highlights the evolving landscape and organisational dynamics within the academy system.

03

## Schools across the Political Landscape

An analysis of the distribution and performance of schools based on political party constituencies and council control. It covers school types, pupil demographics, Ofsted results, top-performing council areas, and the percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) by political control.

04

## School Inspection Performance

An overview of Ofsted results and the changes observed over time, including a regional breakdown of these inspection outcomes. This section highlights trends in school performance and regional variations in Ofsted ratings.

05

## Income and Expenditure

A comprehensive analysis of school finances, covering overall average income and expenditure, and regional variations in income per pupil. Comparisons are made between local authority, maintained schools and academies, including income per pupil versus Ofsted ratings and phases. Additionally, this section examines regional income/expenditure patterns and the average school spend per teacher.

06

## School Suspensions and Exclusions

An overview of school suspensions and exclusions in England from 2016 to 2023. It presents data on the total instances and rates of exclusions and suspensions per term and academic year.

07

## Conclusion

This section summarizes key findings from our guest collaborator Children's Alliance and the schools report, highlighting advocacy efforts and educational reform needs. It also includes a personal reflection from PSN Director James Williams on the project's value and future potential.





## Report Summary

### **Scope, summary and objectives**

Welcome to the first of our annual school reports.  
This report looks at the majority of school types across England to:

- Analyse and track the transition and effectiveness of schools from LA Maintained into Academies.
- The change and growth of Multi Academy Trusts.
- The broad and changing political landscapes that schools exist within, at a national and local level. Trends surrounding these in terms of pupil and school numbers and inspection outcomes.
- A picture of schools by performance and quality (as measured by Ofsted) both at a geographic and school type level.
- Analysis of School finances around School spend and income; to accommodate the varying School sizes and types, particularly focusing on income per pupil.

We have also taken the view that it's helpful - balancing space against benefit - to share the underlying tables of data for some of the areas of focus, so that readers are able to run their own analysis if wanted.

It would be possible - and interesting - to go a lot further in some of the areas explored and, to a certain extent, there is no single focus within the report; rather a general exploration of comparison across areas that seemed important and that are, ultimately, intended to be insightful to a wide set of readers.

There is cross over between these areas of focus and we welcome all feedback and thoughts on future content inclusion and exclusion from the report.



Equally, we are always open to conversations with individual organisations about creating tailored views, reports and feeds that may assist with their own operational and strategic priorities.

The report is recommended for the following groups:

**Education Policy Makers and Influencers**

**Leadership and Management across Education**

**Academia, Charities and Think Tanks**

**The Media**

**Stakeholders and Suppliers within the Education Space**

For this report we use a blend of current and over time information from the Department for Education with Ofsted Results, School Income and Expenditure data, the Oscar Schools entity and Geographic and Political databases blended to provide the source data required.

We are pleased to acknowledge and thank the Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) – the global leader in behaviour training – for sponsoring this year’s Schools report. Their support has been invaluable in bringing this comprehensive analysis to fruition.

# Foreword

Schools exist to give our next generation of children the best future possible.

So that students can achieve educationally and personally in life outside the classroom, leaders, teachers, and volunteers work with passion and dedication within an education system that is complex and continually evolving.

While introduced nearly 25 years ago, it is interesting to read in this report that Academies now teach over half of all children in schools and that over 70% of secondary schools are in an Academy. What we still don't know from the Ofsted categories and £ spent per pupil covered in Chapter 5, and from the current paucity of wider research, is whether one school structure is clearly better for our children than another.

The multi-academy model of groups of schools operating together has boosted many struggling schools, but it is not the only option for schools to grow and improve, particularly where Local Authorities – of whichever political control - provide strong support.

What is shocking is that regardless of school 'type', we are still failing in our purpose for the nearly 28,000 children who are being taught in schools categorised by Ofsted as being in Special Measures.

I see this report as a high-level 'starter', but I offer it with a word of warning. It serves as a great prompt for more questions worthy of further analysis (e.g. are there more Academies in Labour councils than Conservative ones? What is the split of Ofsted outcomes to school type in my area?).

The warning is to not draw absolute conclusions about our education system from these findings. No two schools or Multi Academy Trusts are the same, and our effectiveness is interlinked with so many factors beyond our control - including the education services provided by Local Authorities, shifts in how Ofsted approaches inspections, local school-age population trends and socio-economic make-up, and proportion of children with additional needs, to name just four.

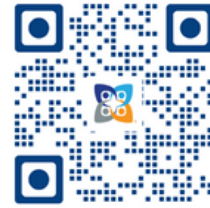
Finally, if you are interested in this sector, I urge you to go and meet some of the children and adults working within it. You may be surprised by what you learn.

Jenny Jenkins, Chair, Diocese of St Albans Multi-Academy Trust.

# Safer School, Better Behaviour

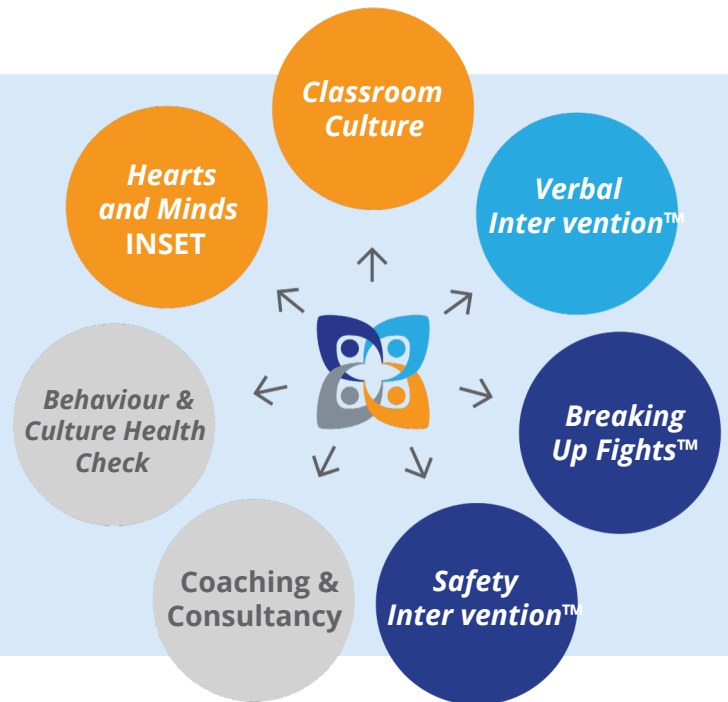
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# OVERVIEW OF SCHOOLS ACROSS ENGLAND

The following is a summary overview of the Schools across England by broad type and known pupil volume based on a snapshot of data taken in April 2024.

It should be noted that throughout this report we have excluded the following School types - other exclusions (whilst mentioned specifically in certain areas of analysis are also excluded):

- Welsh Establishments
- Offshore Schools
- Nurseries
- Higher Education Institutions
- British Schools Overseas

## BY TYPE:

Broad School Type	Total Pupils	Total Schools
Local Authority Maintained	3,196,695	10,154
Independent Schools	568,206	1,688
Special Schools	111,168	1,341
Academies	4,625,131	10,069
Other types	n/a	227
Colleges	n/a	235
Free Schools	275,299	765

## BY AREA:

Region	Total Pupils	Total Schools
London	1,433,135	3,108
South East	1,451,255	3,956
Yorkshire and the Humber	855,837	2,409
East of England	1,006,633	2,797
West Midlands	956,331	2,650
North West	1,144,478	3,496
North East	388,175	1,202
South West	800,554	2,620
East Midlands	740,101	2,241

# 02

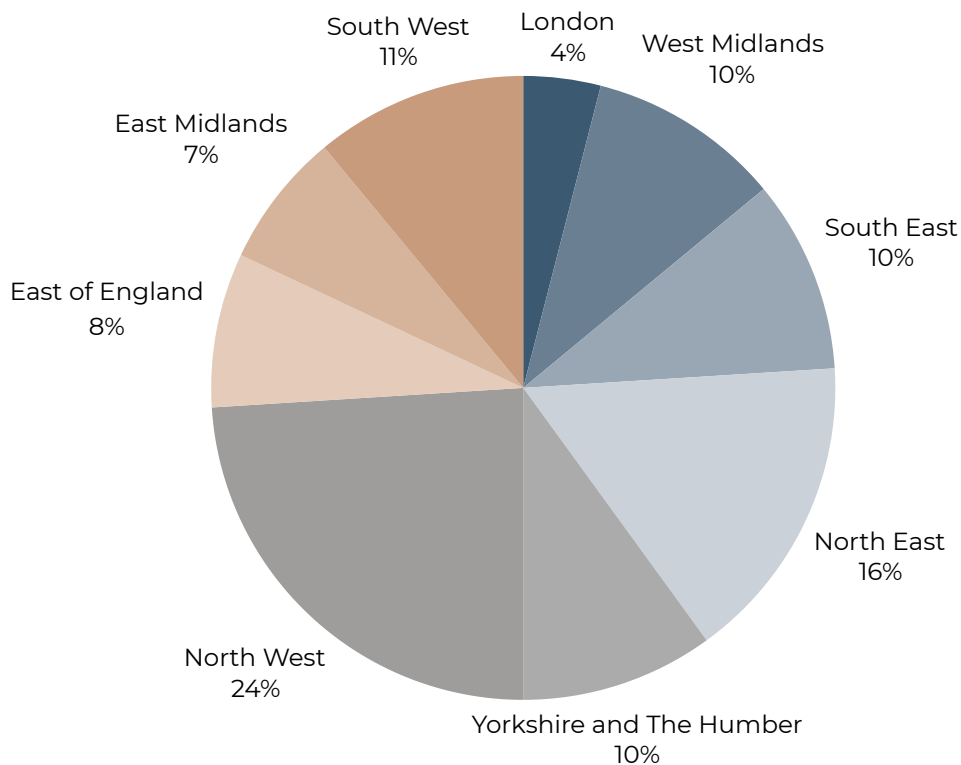
## ACADEMIES AND MATS

Looking at the details around the Academy landscape for 2024.

### 1 - ORGANISATIONAL CHANGE

Comparing March 2024 to March 2023 there was a significant increase in Academy transfer and creation within the North of England - notably the North West. In total the number of Academies across England has grown by 5.25%, from 10,233 to 10,770.

Chart Showing Share of Academy Growth 23-24



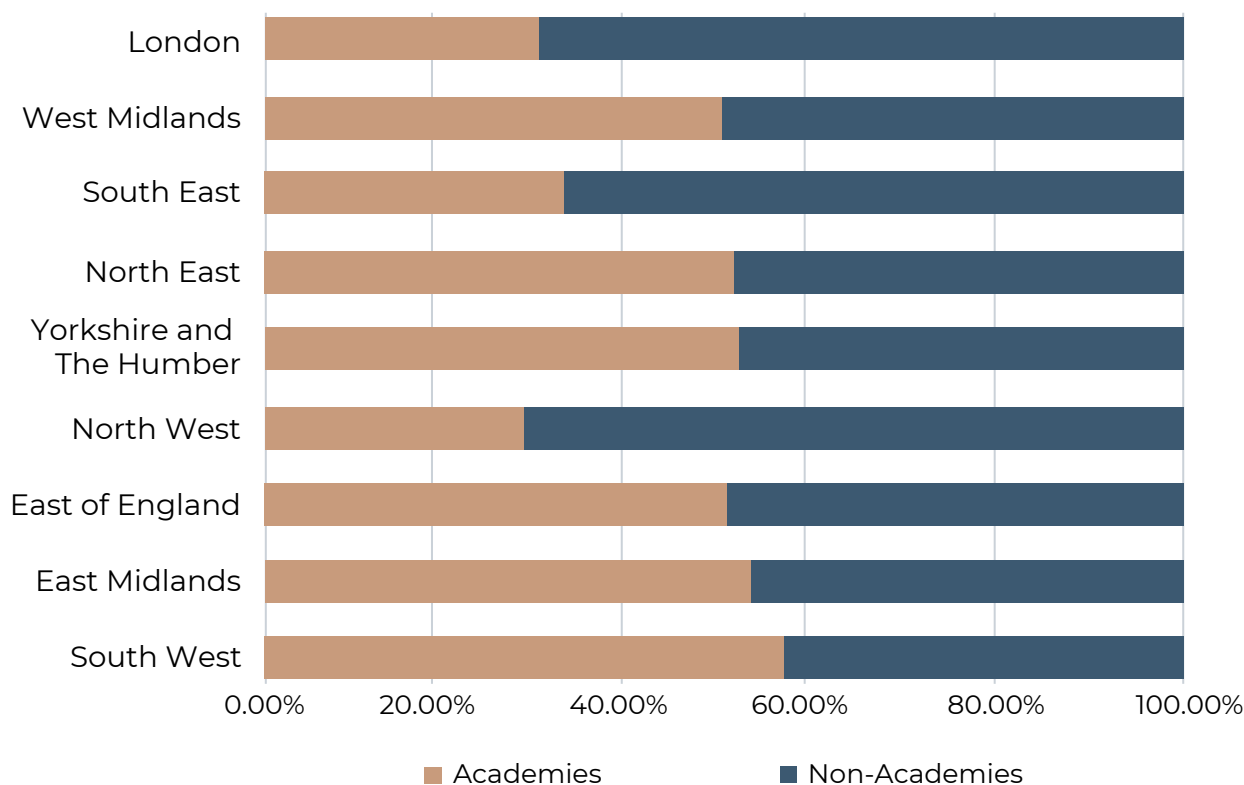


The underlying table shows the volume of Academies in 2023 and 2024 and the level of change.

Region	2024	2023	Increase	% Increase
London	1,016	996	20	2.01%
West Midlands	1,332	1,271	61	4.80%
South East	1,426	1,357	69	5.08%
North East	621	575	46	8.00%
Yorkshire and the Humber	1,255	1,193	62	5.20%
North West	1,004	898	106	11.80%
East of England	1,425	1,372	53	3.86%
East Midlands	1,186	1,148	38	3.31%
South West	1,505	1,423	82	5.76%

**Academies now represent 43.77% of all Schools (excluding Nurseries and Offshore Schools) with the South West region having the highest proportion of Academies vs the total School stock.**

% Share of Academies by Region 2024



Data table from the visual above :

Region	All Schools	Academies
London	3,144	32.32%
West Midlands	2,662	50.04%
South East	3,974	35.88%
North East	1,207	51.45%
Yorkshire and the Humber	2,421	51.84%
North West	3,510	28.60%
East of England	2,807	50.77%
East Midlands	2,250	52.71%
South West	2,633	57.16%

Despite the increase in the volume of Academies between 2023 and 2024, 71 Academies closed their doors permanently. Adjusted for the relative volume of Schools, **the area with the highest rate of Academy closures was the South West** with 14 Schools closing, representing 0.93% of all Academies. It is worth applying caution from a statistical perspective as the numbers are all very low.

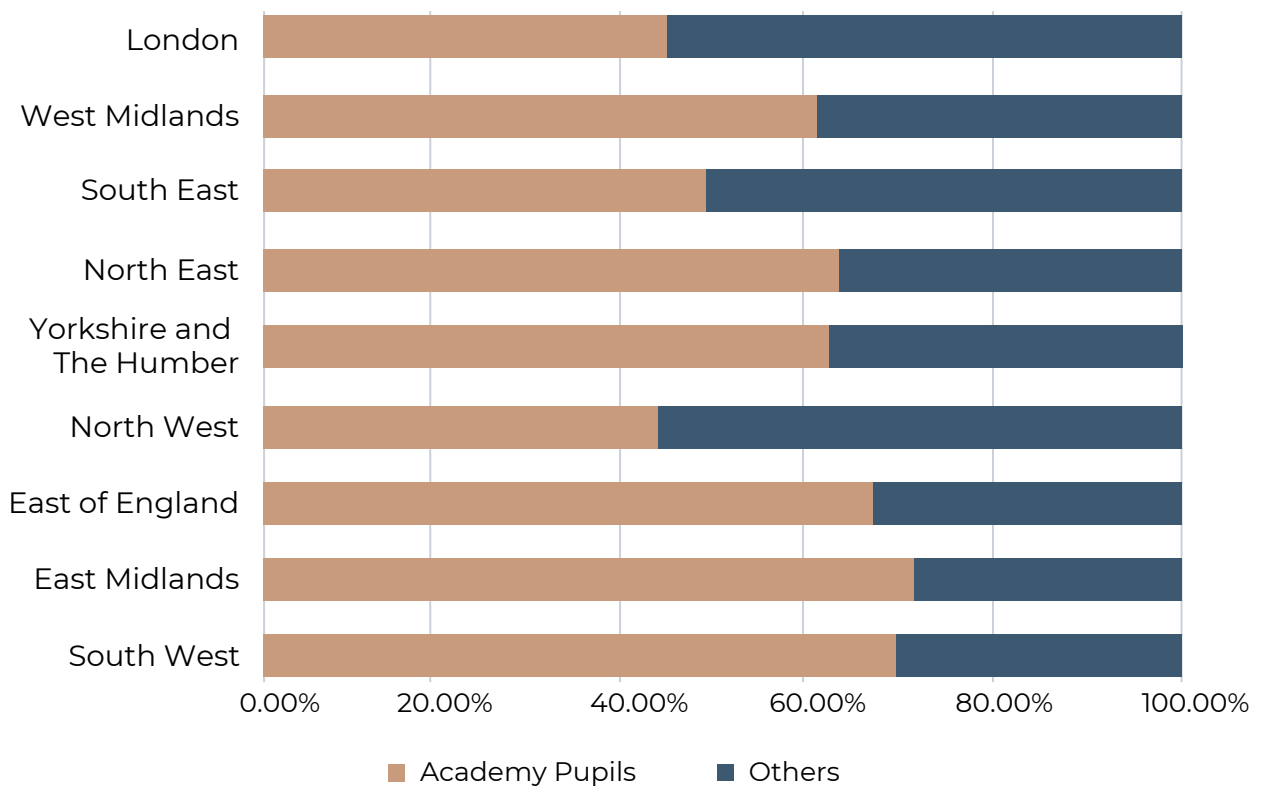
Academy Closure Volume 23-24



## 2 - PUPILS AT ACADEMIES

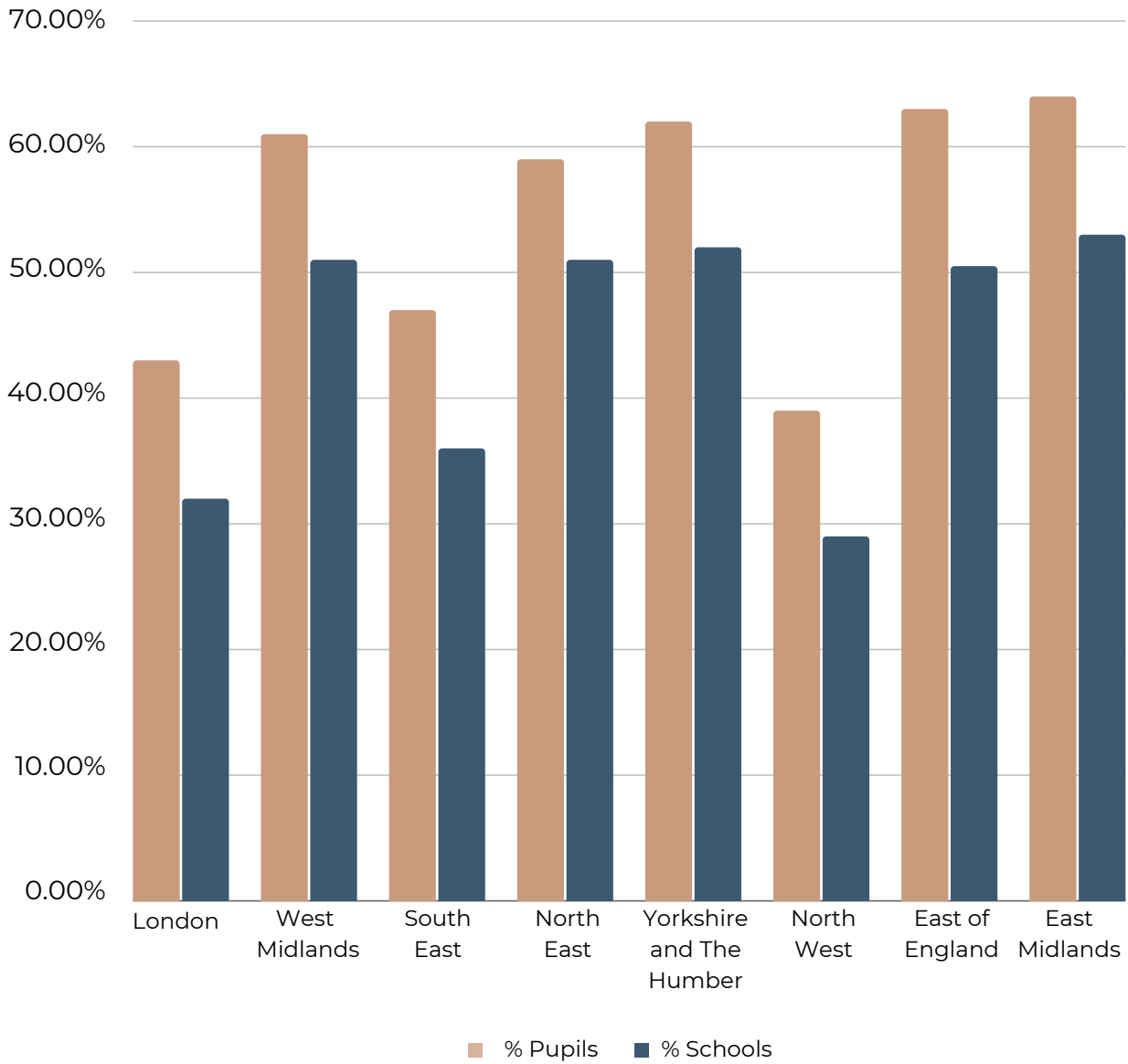
Although Academies represent 43.77% of all Schools, they educate 55.57% of all children across England (4.87m of the total 8.77m children at schools across this analysis). In simple terms, this means it is more likely that a child will be educated in an Academy than any other setting across all regions in England. The difference between the percentage of Schools and pupils is largely due to the bias of larger schools - proportionally secondary Schools are more likely to be Academies (70% of all secondaries) being Academies.

% of All Pupils at Academies



## 2 - PUPILS AT ACADEMIES

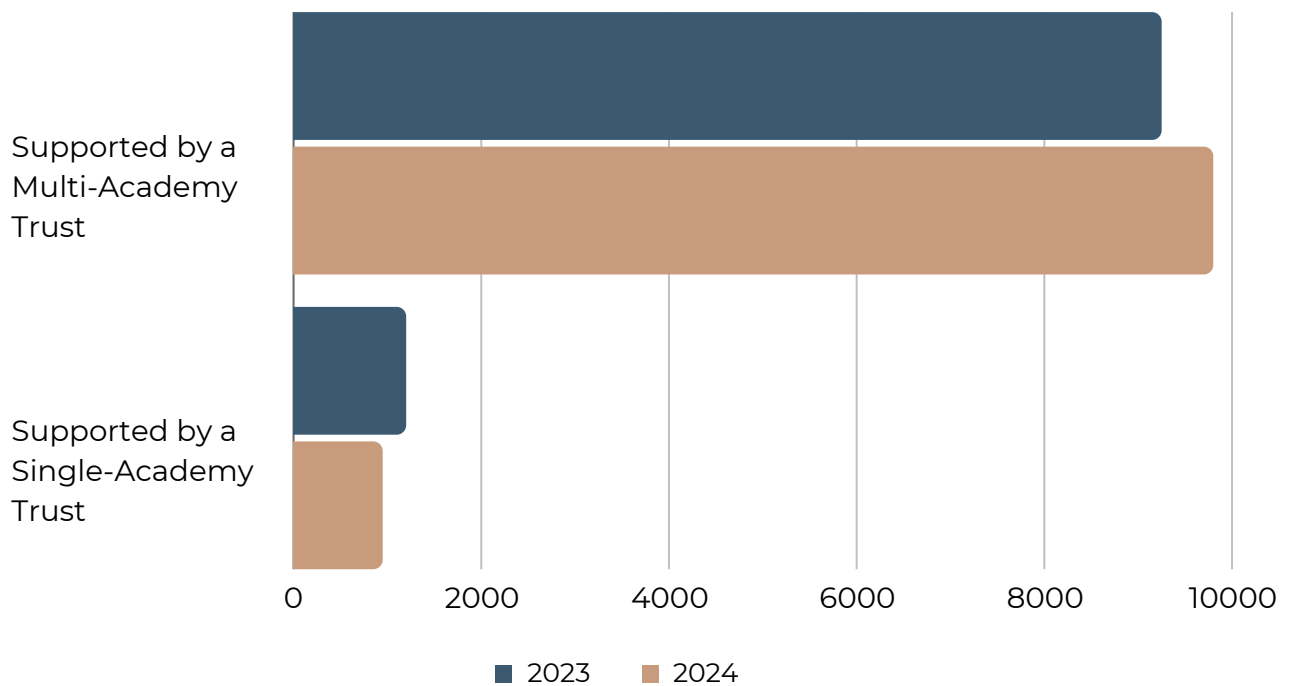
Academy Share of Schools and Pupils by Region



### 3 - ACADEMY TRUSTS

Over 91% of Academies are now part of a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT), compared with 89.7% in 2023, with 8.85% sitting under a Single-Academy Trust (SAT) vs 10.33% in 2023. Further to the continued rise of Academy creation and conversion, this demonstrates the trend of School aggregation under the MAT model.

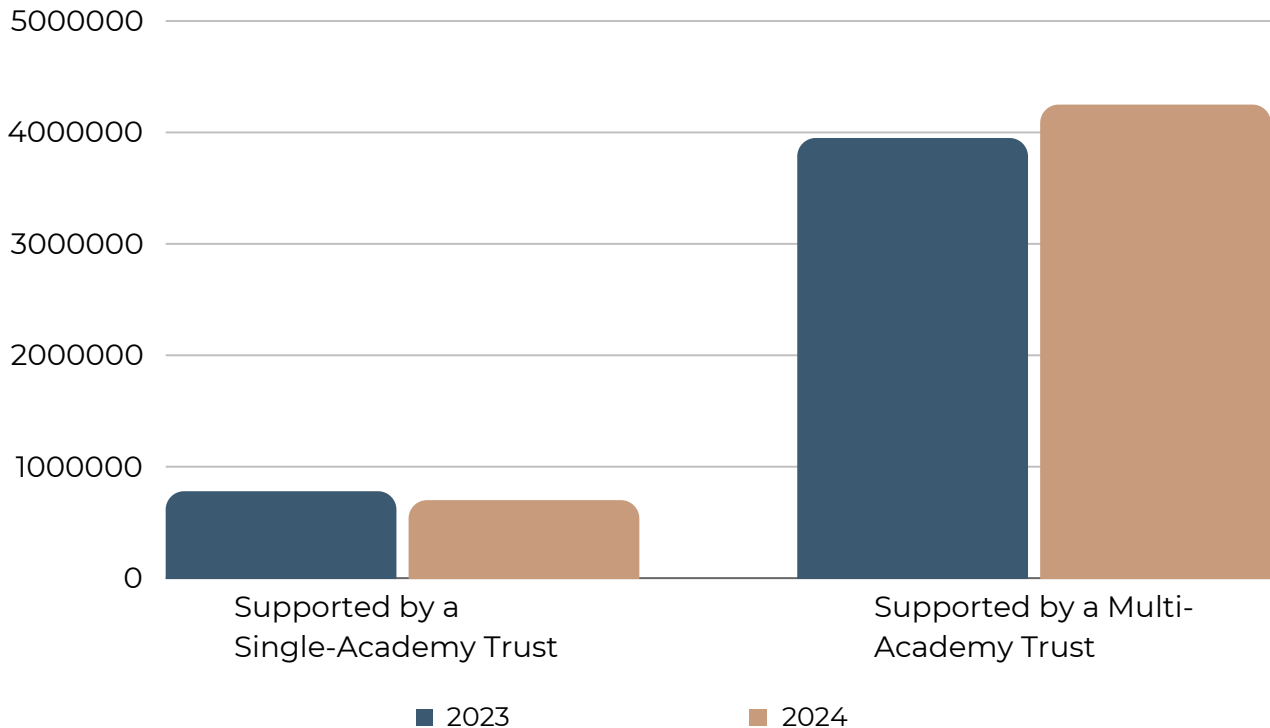
#### Academy Trust Membership Status Change



Comparatively to the percentage of Schools that are part of a MAT, at a pupil level the numbers show that **85.2% of pupils attending an Academy School are part of a MAT** vs 14.78% sitting under a SAT in 2024. Despite the percentage of pupils being lower than the total Schools vs MATs, the trend towards pupils attending MAT run Schools is still demonstrated through the data. In 2023 16.5% of pupils attended SAT run Schools vs 83.5% at MAT run institutions.

### 3 - ACADEMY TRUSTS

#### Number of Pupils Attending SAT vs MAT Schools



#### Looking into the details of MATs

Analysing the number of unique MATs that are linked to more than 1 school, **Trusts have decreased between 2023 and 2024** by 11 organisations.

Looking across all Schools linked to a MAT, **the average number of Schools has increased from 6.87 in 2023 to 7.55 in 2024** and **the average number of pupils across MATs has increased from 2959 to 3194**.

**The largest 20 MATs** based on number of Schools is shown in the table below, including the change across School and pupil membership in the past 12 months.

These Trusts collectively **cover 942 Schools and 443,847 pupils** - up 28 and 17,523 respectively.

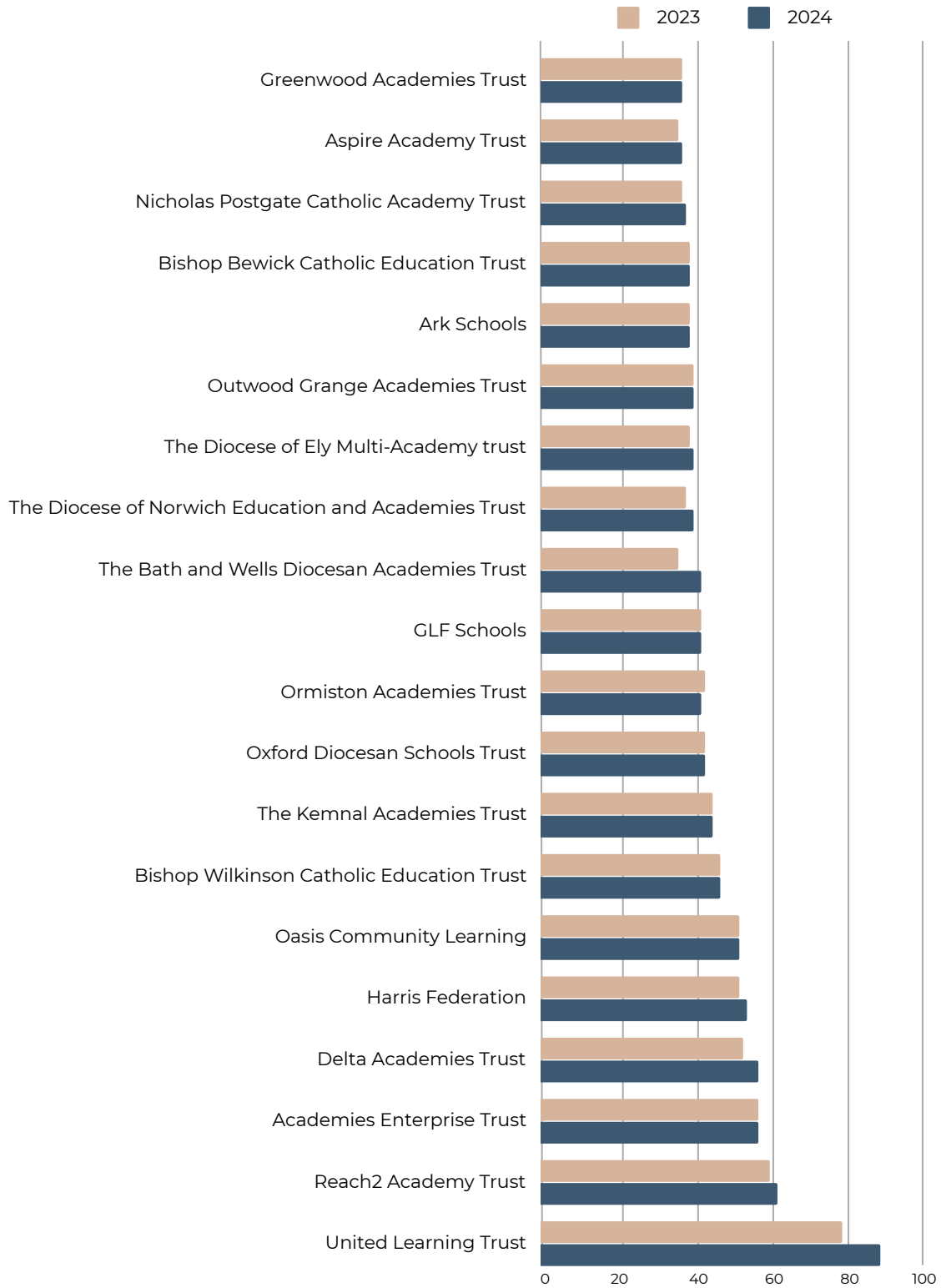
**United Learning Trust** saw the largest gain in this cohort, both in terms of Schools (10 new members or **12.66% growth**) and pupils (5016 new students or a 9.19% rise).

**The only Trust from this group to see a decrease in School membership was Ormiston Academies Trust** (albeit the pupil volume still rose by 782) **and the only Trust to see a significant fall in pupil numbers was Oasis Community Learning** whose total population of students across all sites fell by 1,013.

Trust Name	Total Schools 2024	School Increase	Total Pupils 2024	Pupil Increase	2023 List Position
UNITED LEARNING TRUST	89	10	59,569	5,016	1
REACH2 ACADEMY TRUST	62	2	19,994	587	2
ACADEMIES ENTERPRISE TRUST	57	0	33,573	932	3
DELTA ACADEMIES TRUST	57	4	26,262	2,047	4
HARRIS FEDERATION	54	2	41,584	2,619	5
OASIS COMMUNITY LEARNING	52	0	30,880	-1,013	6
BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST	47	0	14,900	1,878	7
THE KEMNAL ACADEMIES TRUST	45	0	23,413	215	8
OXFORD DIOCESAN SCHOOLS TRUST	43	0	9,096	408	10
ORMISTON ACADEMIES TRUST	42	-1	33,989	782	9
GLF SCHOOLS	42	0	17,602	320	11
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ACADEMIES TRUST	42	6	7,913	164	19
THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH EDUCATION AND ACADEMIES TRUST	40	2	5,930	164	16
THE DIOCESE OF ELY MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST	40	1	6,996	34	14
OUTWOOD GRANGE ACADEMIES TRUST	40	0	30,342	1,166	12
ARK SCHOOLS	39	0	30,084	498	13
BISHOP BEWICK CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST	39	0	14,764	1,751	15
NICHOLAS POSTGATE CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST	38	1	11,278	-19	18
ASPIRE ACADEMY TRUST	37	1	6,422	-2	20
GREENWOOD ACADEMIES TRUST	37	0	19,256	-24	17

Data visual from the table of data above looking at School volume change across the largest Trusts :

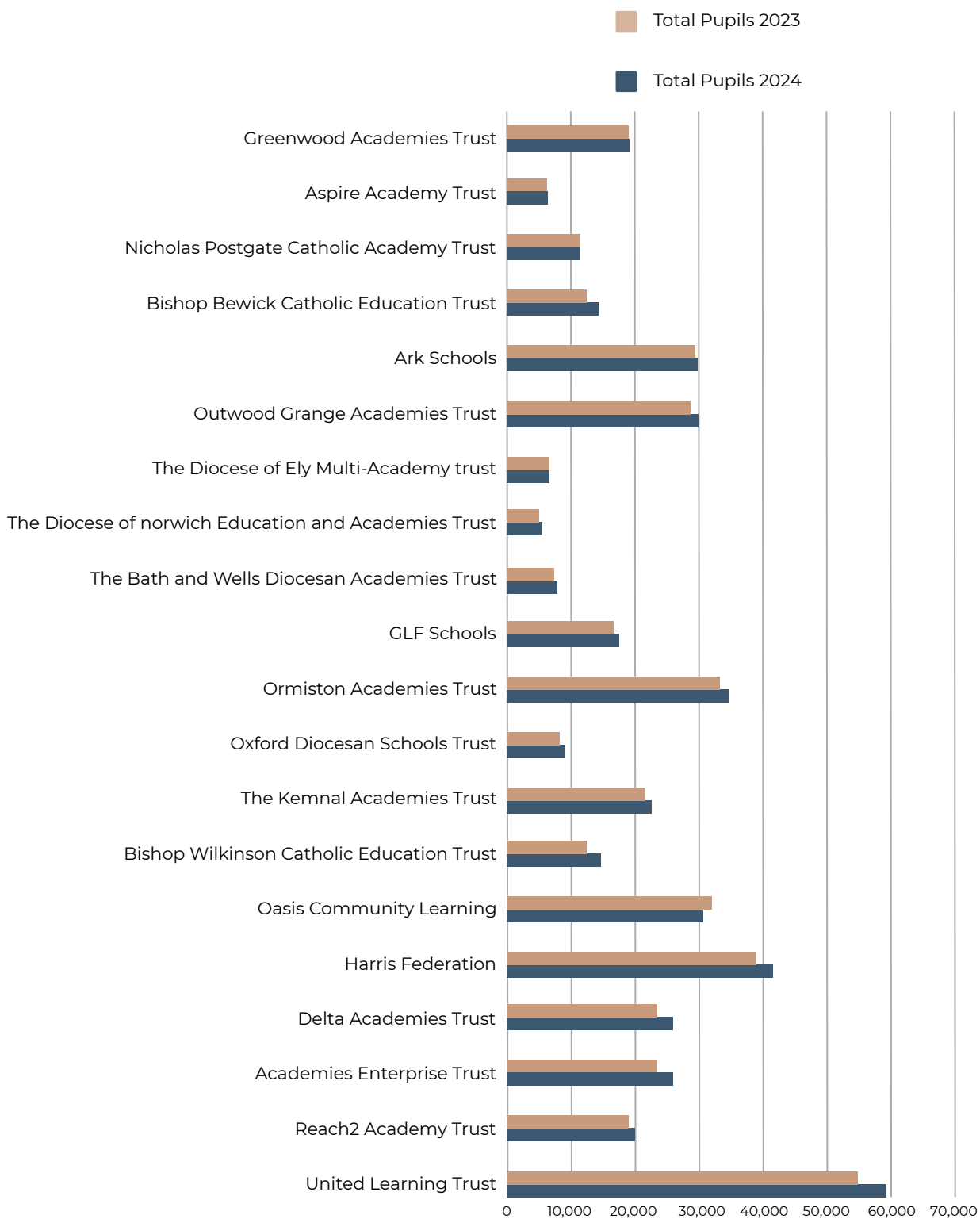
## Top 20 Trusts School Volume Change





Data visual from the table of data above looking at pupil volume change across Trusts

## Top 20 Trusts Pupil Roll Change



# 03

## SCHOOLS ACROSS THE POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

Taking a look at schools across the political landscape in England starting with analysing school volumes, types and results by Political Party across Westminster Constituencies. It should be noted that both the national and local political landscape was taken in April 2024, so before either the Local or National elections.

### 1 - SCHOOLS BY POLITICAL PARTY ACROSS CONSTITUENCIES

The data shows the variations in distribution of schools across different political constituencies in the UK, grouped by Political Party. **Constituencies held by the Conservative Party currently comprise 63.02% of all Schools**, followed in size by constituencies held by the Labour and Labour/Co-op Parties which account for 31.59% of schools. Independent and Liberal Democrat-held constituencies each contribute a minimal share of around 2% of the total schools; other parties and the Green Party collectively contribute less than 1% of schools.

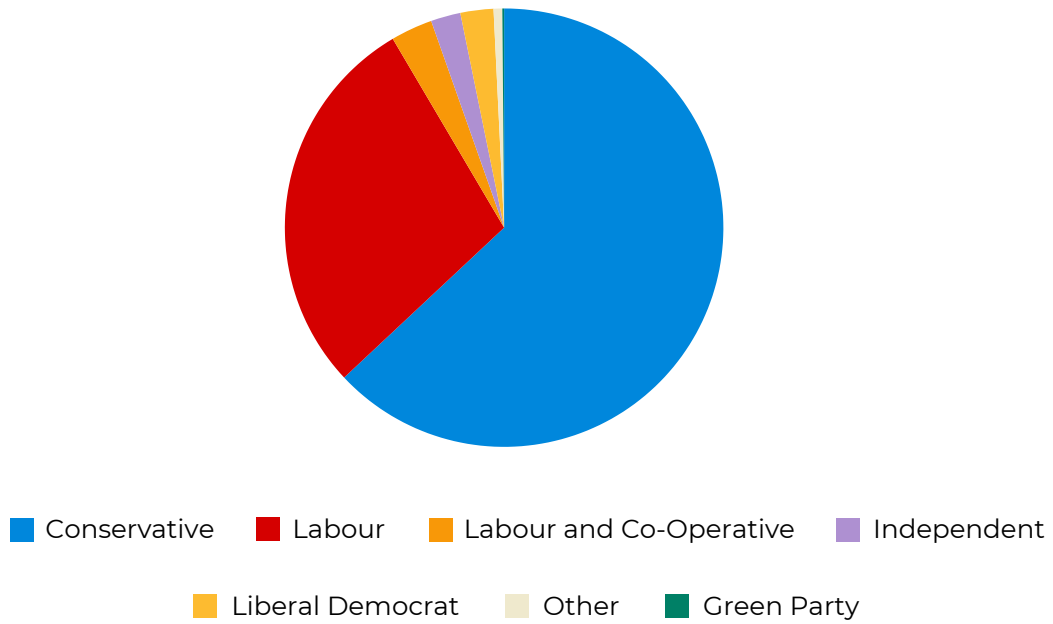
Constituency Held Party	Total Schools	% of All Schools
Conservative	15,514	63.02%
Labour	7,018	28.51%
Labour and Co-operative	758	3.08%
Independent	540	2.19%
Liberal Democrat	599	2.43%
Other	158	0.64%
Green Party	32	0.13%

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## 1 - SCHOOLS BY POLITICAL PARTY ACROSS CONSTITUENCIES

Data visual from the table above :

Schools vs Westminster Political Party



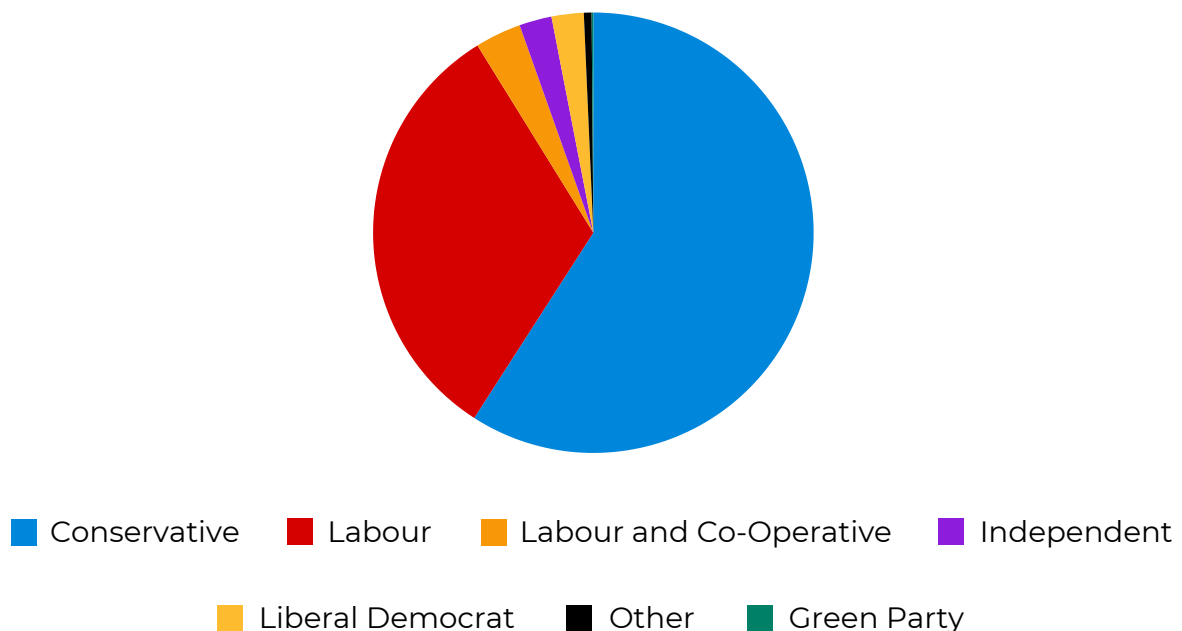
## 2 - PUPILS BY POLITICAL PARTY ACROSS CONSTITUENCIES

Comparing the number of Schools to the number of pupils reveals a slightly different make-up between Labour and the Conservatives, in part reflecting the different political landscape across populous metropolitan and more sparsely populated rural areas. Labour (and Labour and Co-Op) currently representing the areas covering 31.59% of Schools, but 35.48% of pupils.

Political Party	Total Pupils	% of All Pupils
Conservative	5,187,394	59.10%
Labour	2,816,492	32.09%
Labour and Co-operative	297,308	3.39%
Independent	208,962	2.38%
Liberal Democrat	207,175	2.36%
Other	49,540	0.56%
Green Party	11,119	0.13%

Data visual from the table above :

Pupils vs Westminster Political Party

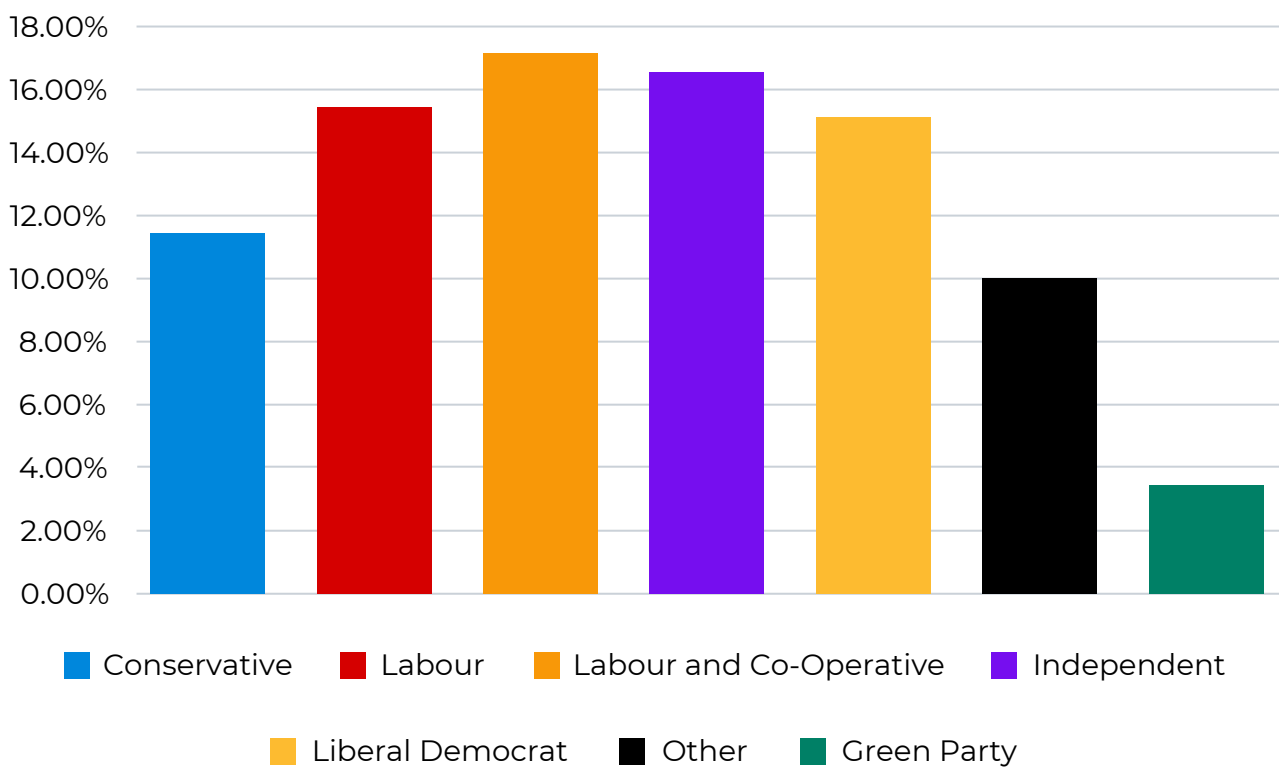


### 3 - RESULTS BY POLITICAL PARTY ACROSS CONSTITUENCIES

The following looks at Ofsted results (where known) across political parties representing Westminster Constituencies. The set of tables below provide an analysis by inspection outcome vs political party based on percentages of those Schools with a known result.

Looking at “Outstanding” schools, areas covered by **Labour/Co-operative and Independent parties have the highest percentage of Outstanding Schools**. Figures and visuals for Green and Other should be treated with caution as they have a much smaller set of Schools. **The average “Outstanding” percentage across England is 12.9%.**

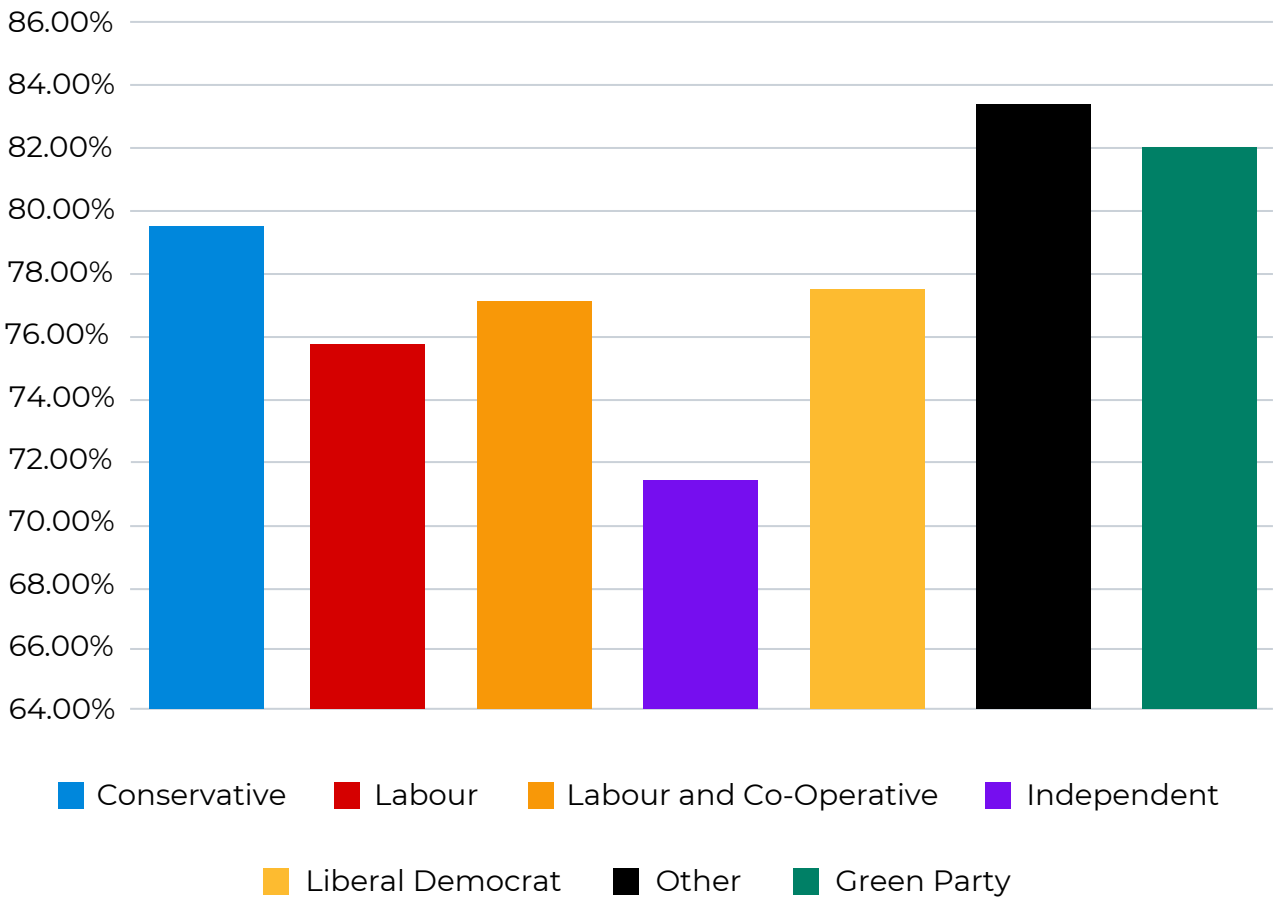
#### Schools Rated Outstanding vs All Ratings



### 3 - RESULTS BY POLITICAL PARTY ACROSS CONSTITUENCIES

Looking at “Good” schools, areas covered by **Conservatives (and marginally the Lib Dems ) have the highest percentage of schools rated Good**. As above, Green and Other have a much smaller set of Schools which can provide false positives and negatives. **The average “Good” percentage across England is 78.08%**.

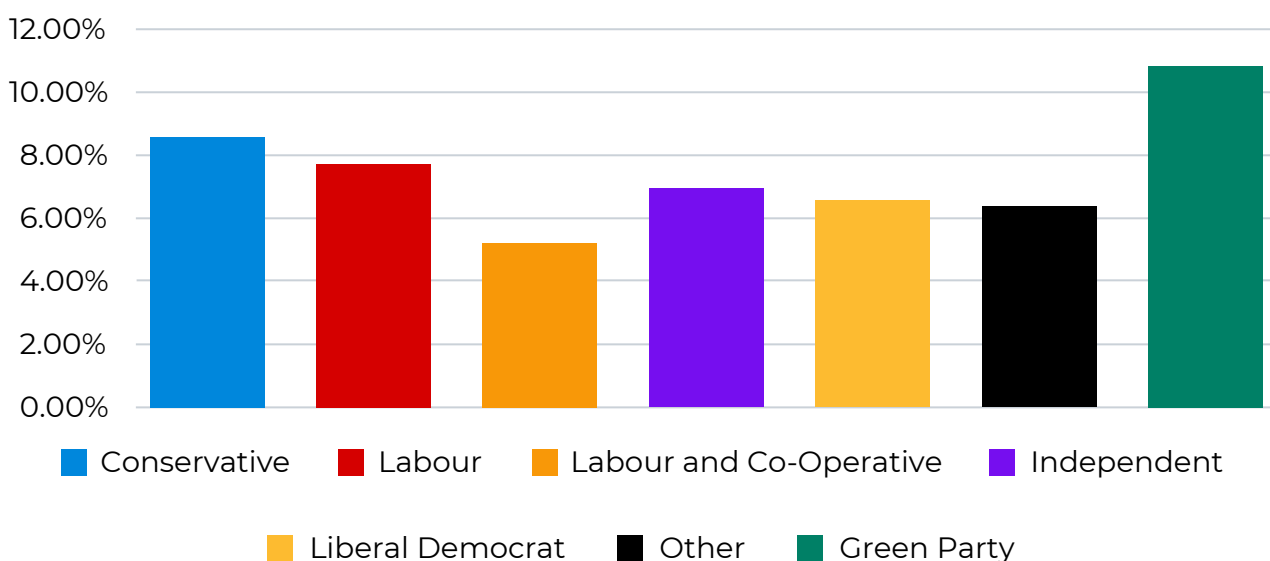
Schools Rated Good vs All Ratings



### 3 - RESULTS BY POLITICAL PARTY ACROSS CONSTITUENCIES

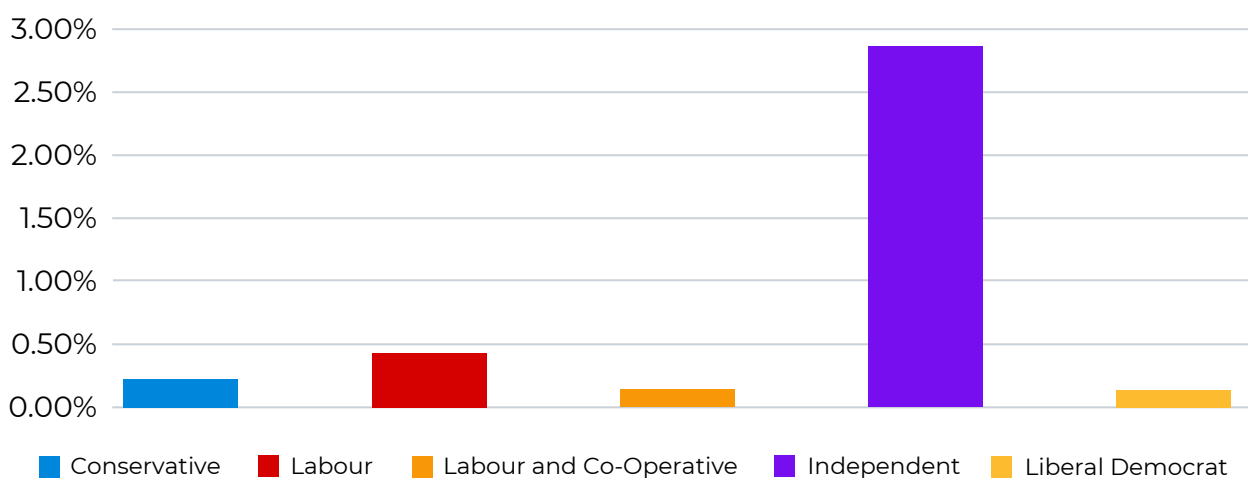
Looking at schools “Requiring Improvement” (ignoring Green and Other) the Conservatives have the highest percentage of schools. The average percentage of Schools “Requiring Improvement” across England is 7.97%.

#### Schools Rated Requiring Improvement vs All Ratings



Looking at schools rated as “Inadequate” (ignoring Green and Other), Independents have the highest overall percentage. The average percentage of “Inadequate” Schools across England is 0.44%.

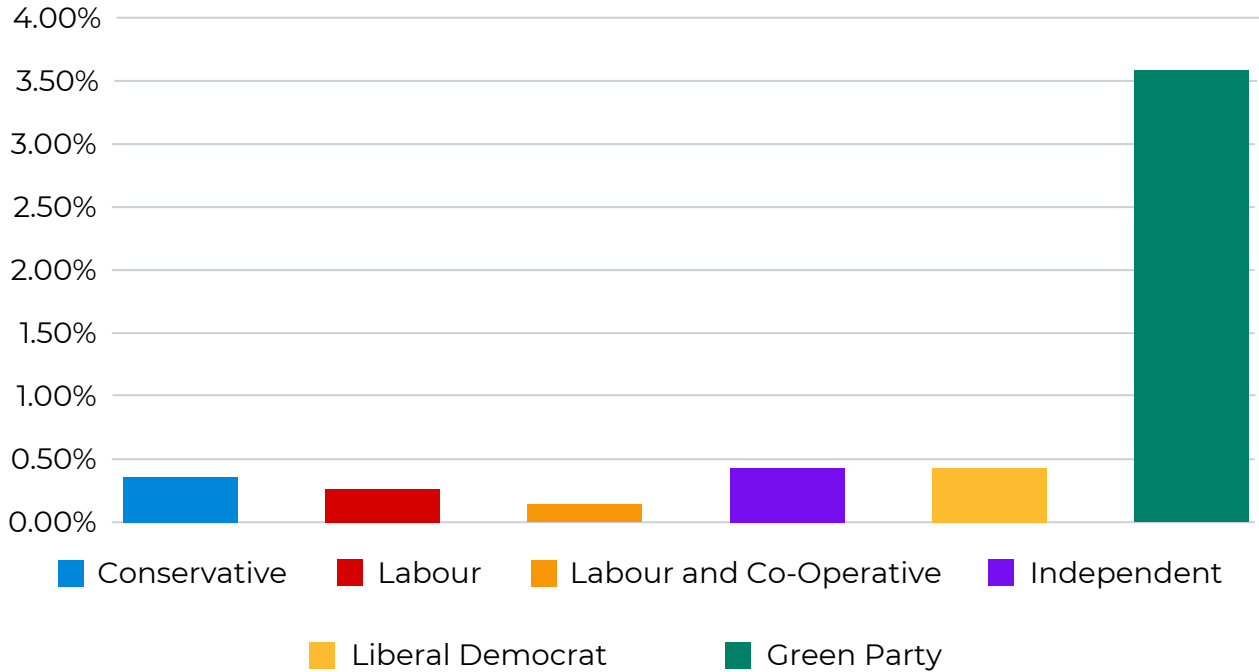
#### Schools Rated Inadequate vs All Ratings



### 3 - RESULTS BY POLITICAL PARTY ACROSS CONSTITUENCIES

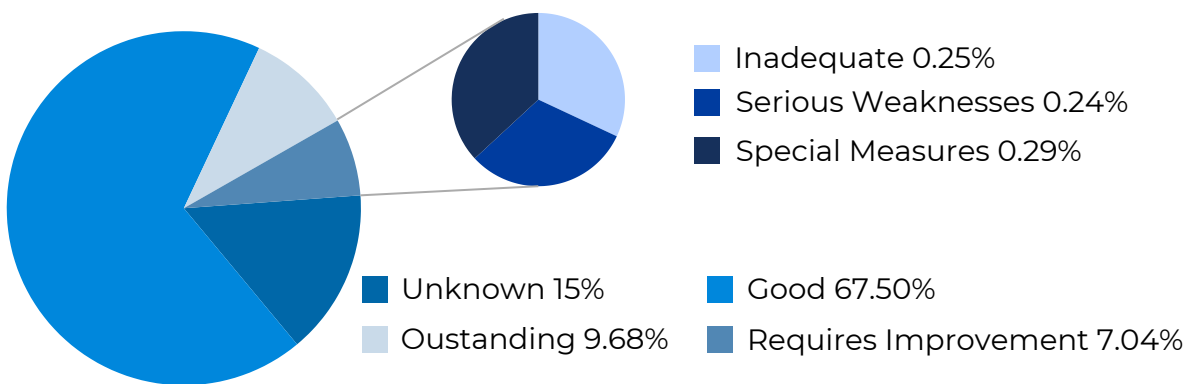
Looking at schools in “Special Measures” (ignoring Green and Other), Liberal Democrats have marginally the highest overall percentage. The average percentage of Schools in “Special Measures” across England is 0.33%.

Schools in Special Measures vs All Ratings



Focusing on each Political Party, visualisation of Ofsted results can be seen below :

#### CONSERVATIVE PARTY



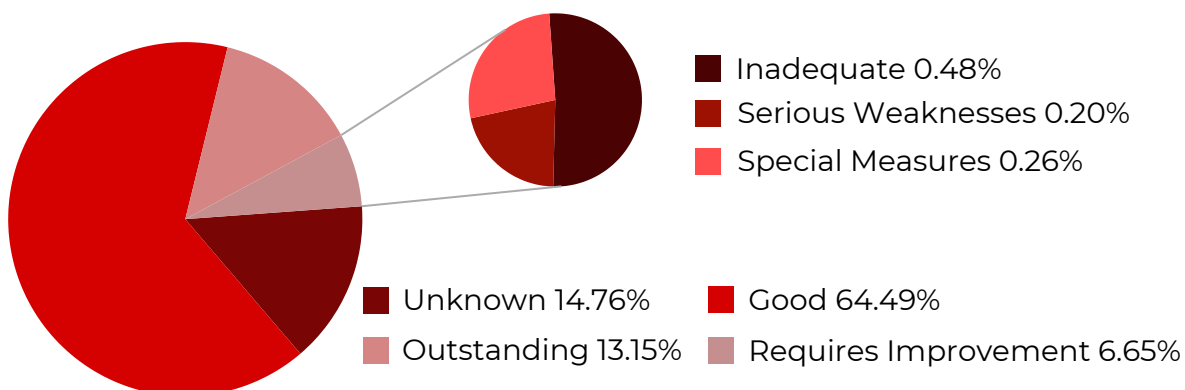


### 3 - RESULTS BY POLITICAL PARTY ACROSS CONSTITUENCIES

#### CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Ofsted Rating	Schools	% of Schools
Unknown	2,327	15.00%
Good	10,472	67.50%
Outstanding	1,501	9.68%
Inadequate	39	0.25%
Requires Improvement	1,092	7.04%
Serious Weaknesses	38	0.24%
Special Measures	45	0.29%

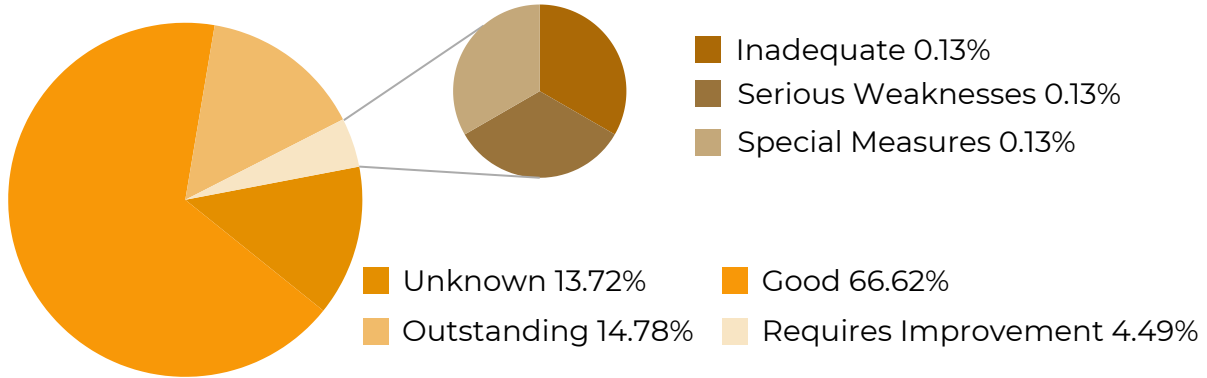
#### LABOUR



Ofsted Rating	Schools	% of Schools
Unknown	1,036	14.76%
Good	4,526	64.49%
Inadequate	34	0.48%
Outstanding	923	13.15%
Requires Improvement	467	6.65%
Serious Weaknesses	14	0.20%
Special Measures	18	0.26%

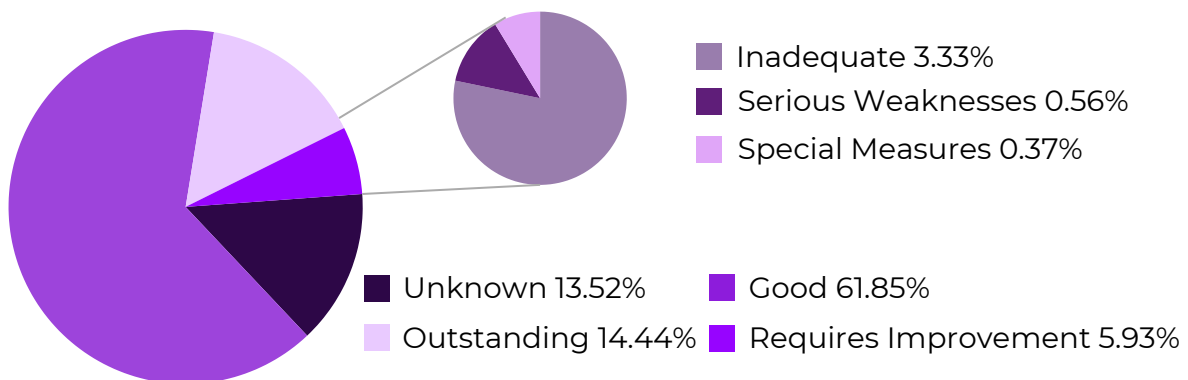
### 3 - RESULTS BY POLITICAL PARTY ACROSS CONSTITUENCIES

#### LABOUR AND CO-OPERATIVE



Ofsted Rating	Schools	% of Schools
Unknown	104	13.72%
Good	505	66.62%
Inadequate	1	0.13%
Outstanding	112	14.78%
Requires Improvement	34	4.49%
Serious Weaknesses	1	0.13%
Special Measures	1	0.13%

#### INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

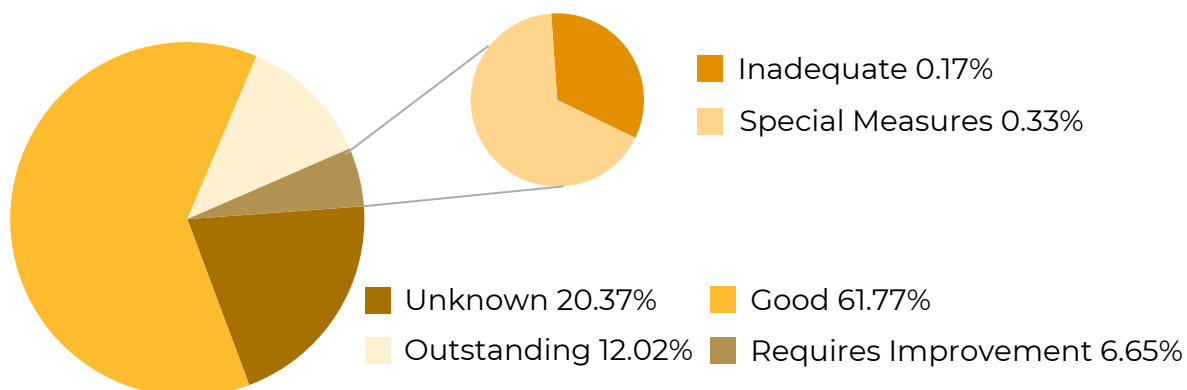


### 3 - RESULTS BY POLITICAL PARTY ACROSS CONSTITUENCIES

#### INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

Ofsted Rating	Schools	% of Schools
Unknown	73	13.52%
Good	334	61.85%
Inadequate	18	3.33%
Outstanding	78	14.44%
Requires Improvement	32	5.93%
Serious Weaknesses	3	0.56%
Special Measures	2	0.37%

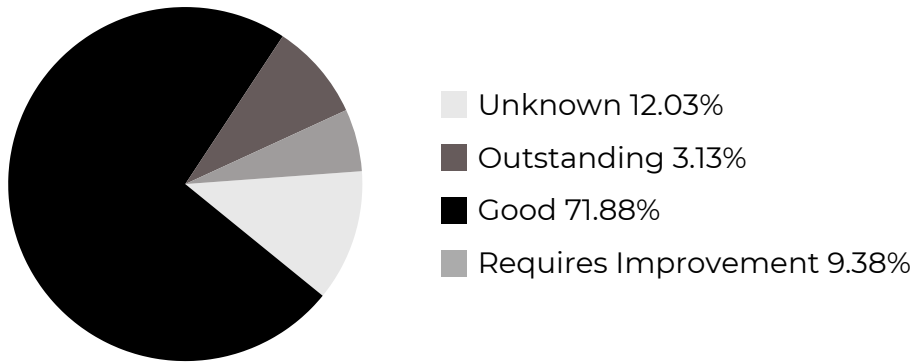
#### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT



Ofsted Rating	Schools	% of Schools
Unknown	122	20.37%
Good	370	61.77%
Inadequate	1	0.17%
Outstanding	72	12.02%
Requires Improvement	32	5.34%
Special Measures	2	0.33%

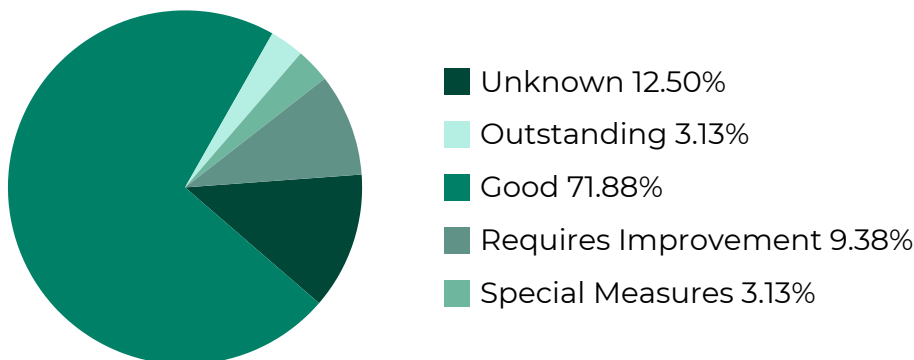
### 3 - RESULTS BY POLITICAL PARTY ACROSS CONSTITUENCIES

#### OTHER



Ofsted Rating	Schools	% of Schools
Unknown	19	12.03%
Good	116	73.42%
Outstanding	14	8.86%
Requires Improvement	9	5.70%

#### GREEN PARTY



Ofsted Rating	Schools	% of Schools
Unknown	4	12.50%
Good	23	71.88%
Outstanding	1	3.13%
Requires Improvement	3	9.38%
Special Measures	1	3.13%

## 4 - SCHOOLS AND PUPILS BY POLITICAL CONTROL OF COUNCIL

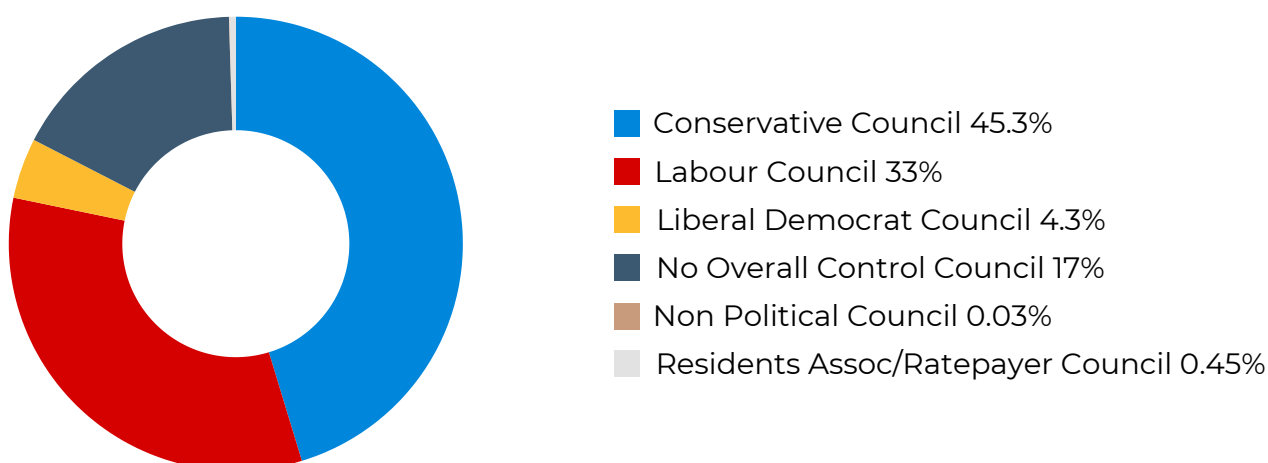
The following analysis examines the political control of Councils where Schools are located. In the case of Two Tier areas (Districts and Counties), we have used the political control of the County Council (the 'Education Authority') in the analysis below. It should be noted this analysis was run before the May 2024 elections - the impact of which across this landscape will be reflected in the 2025 Report, as will an analysis of change between 2024 and 2025.

Similarly to the Westminster constituency analysis in the previous section, **Labour have proportionally more pupils than Schools when compared with the Conservatives - 37% and 33% respectively.** Conversely, **Conservative and Liberal Democrat Council areas both have a lower percentage of pupils than Schools** - clearly suggesting smaller School sizes on average.

Political Control	Total Schools	Total Known Pupils
Conservative Council	11,148	3,606,227
Labour Council	8,109	3,234,404
Liberal Democrat Council	1,060	355,939
No Overall Control Council	4,173	1,529,123
Non Political Council	9	3,205
Residents Assoc/Ratepayer Council	110	47,601

Data visuals taken from the table above:

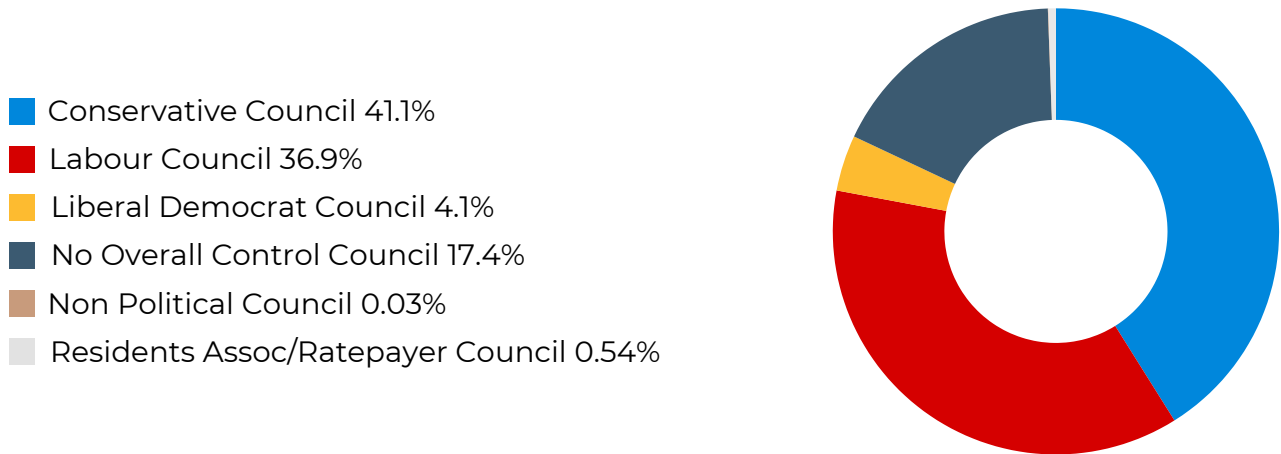
Schools by Council Control



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## 4 - SCHOOLS AND PUPILS BY POLITICAL CONTROL OF COUNCIL

Pupil Volume by Council Control



## 5 - OFSTED RESULTS BY POLITICAL CONTROL OF COUNCIL

This section unpacks the relationship between Schools by Council control and Ofsted ratings.

It should be noted that the numbers in the table and data visuals below include the variable amounts (percentages) of Schools with a currently unknown Ofsted score.

The volumes of Schools across Residents Assoc/Ratepayer Councils and the Non Political Council are very low comparatively (213 and 9 Schools respectively) and therefore statistically should be read with caution and cannot be meaningfully compared.

The following tables show the percentage of all Schools and pupils grouped by the political control of the Council and Ofsted rating.

### CONSERVATIVE COUNCIL

Rating	% of Schools	% of Pupils
Outstanding	9.58%	12.47%
Good	67.26%	66.93%
Requires Improvement	7.28%	7.70%
Inadequate	0.19%	0.13%
Serious Weaknesses	0.25%	0.55%
Special Measures	0.30%	0.34%
Unknown	15.14%	11.89%

### LABOUR COUNCIL

Rating	% of Schools	% of Pupils
Outstanding	13.49%	16.41%
Good	64.80%	66.57%
Requires Improvement	6.36%	6.92%
Inadequate	0.78%	0.29%
Serious Weaknesses	0.17%	0.36%
Special Measures	0.32%	0.37%
Unknown	14.07%	9.08%

## 5 - OFSTED RESULT BY POLITICAL CONTROL OF COUNCIL

### LIBERAL DEMOCRAT COUNCIL

Rating	% of Schools	% of Pupils
Outstanding	11.04%	15.47%
Good	65.66%	63.16%
Requires Improvement	5.66%	4.82%
Serious Weaknesses	0.28%	0.66%
Special Measures	0.19%	0.10%
Unknown	17.17%	15.79%

### NO OVERALL CONTROL COUNCIL

Rating	% of Schools	% of Pupils
Outstanding	9.47%	11.98%
Good	67.79%	68.92%
Requires Improvement	6.64%	8.00%
Inadequate	0.17%	0.01%
Serious Weaknesses	0.26%	0.46%
Special Measures	0.19%	0.21%
Unknown	15.48%	10.42%

### NON POLITICAL COUNCIL

Rating	% of Schools	% of Pupils
Outstanding	11.11%	8.46%
Good	11.11%	8.21%
Unknown	77.78%	83.34%



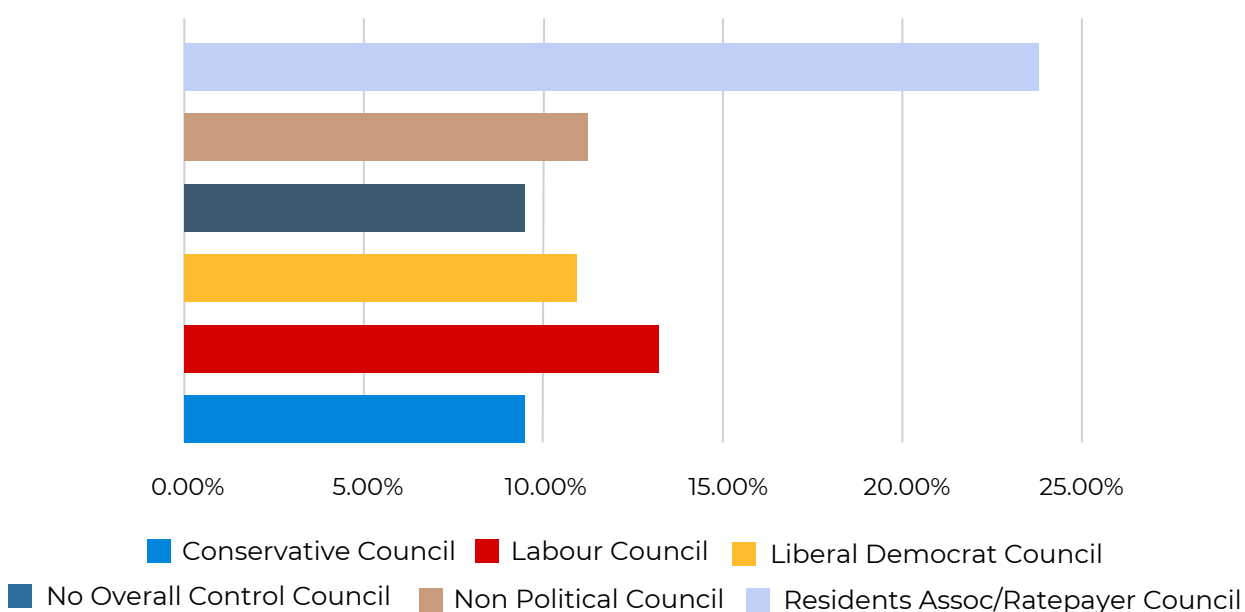
## 5 - OFSTED RESULT BY POLITICAL CONTROL OF COUNCIL

### RESIDENTS ASSOC/RATEPAYER COUNCIL

Rating	% of Schools	% of Pupils
Outstanding	23.64%	24.28%
Good	60.91%	66.38%
Requires Improvement	3.64%	2.64%
Inadequate	1.82%	0.67%
Unknown	10.00%	6.04%

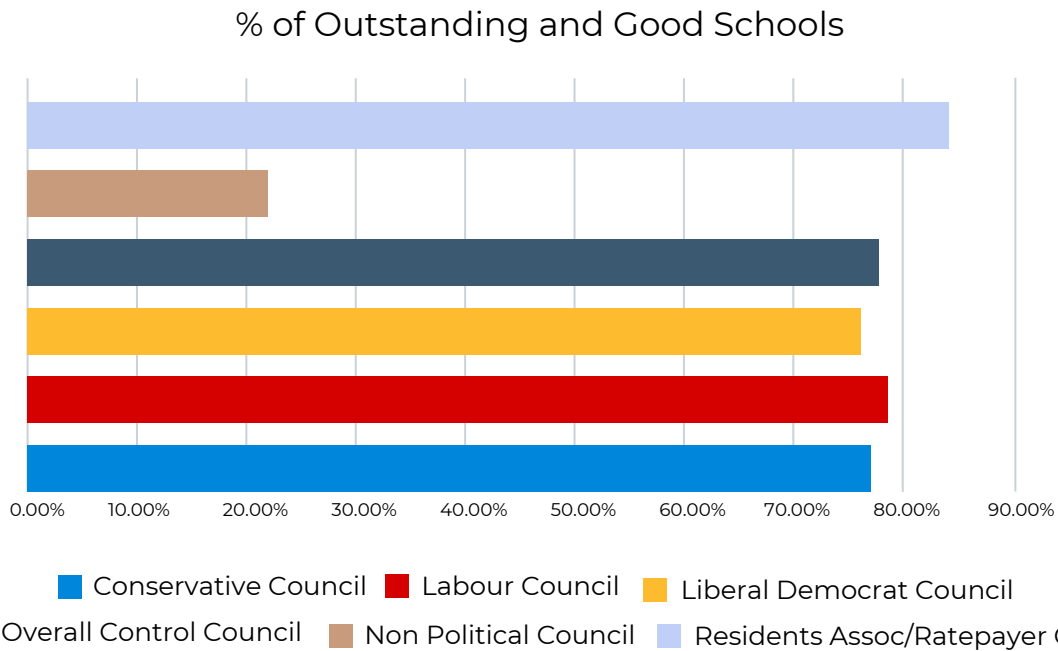
As mentioned above the volume of Schools across Residents Assoc/Ratepayer and Non Political Councils are comparatively very low and therefore although the figures have been included in the visuals for completeness, they should be treated with caution. Focusing on “Outstanding” Schools by Council control, considering the previous statement, **Labour Councils have the highest overall percentage of “Outstanding” Schools.**

% of Outstanding Schools

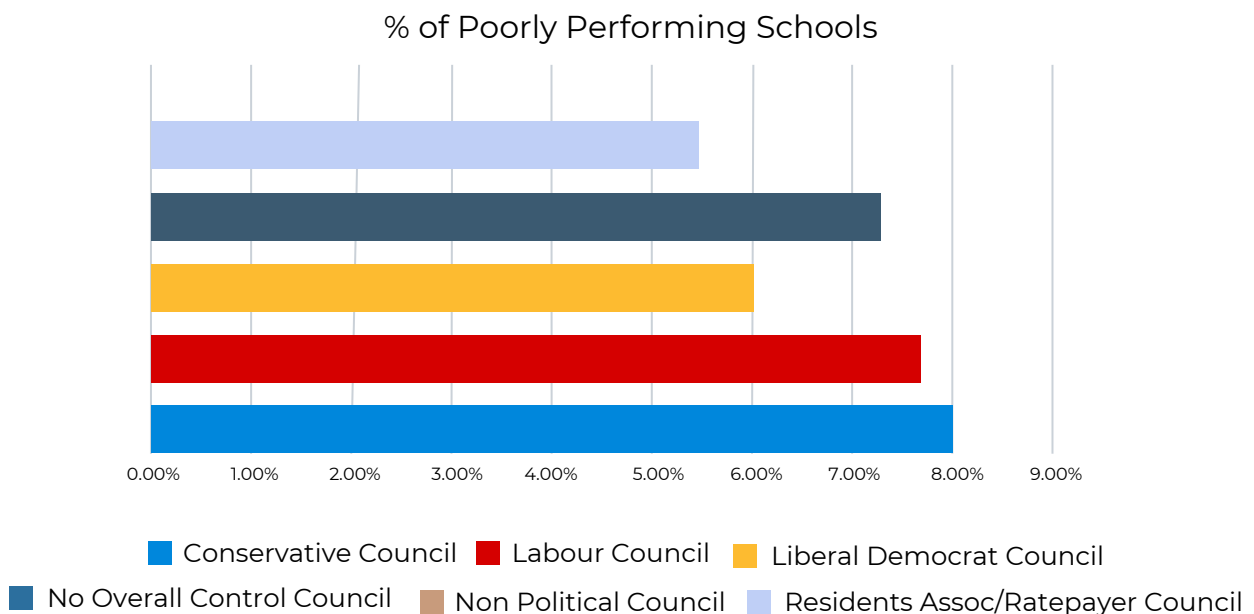


Blending “Outstanding” and “Good” to provide a better balance of analysis. Again, ignoring Residents Assoc/Ratepayer Councils and the Non Political Councils, this still puts **Labour controlled Councils marginally ahead of the other Council controls at 78.29% of Schools when considering “Outstanding” and “Good” Schools as a group**, based on the volume of Schools.

## 5 - OFSTED RESULT BY POLITICAL CONTROL OF COUNCIL



Blending the bottom 4 categories of Ofsted outcomes (3 - Requires improvement / 4 - Inadequate / 5 - Serious Weaknesses / 6 - Special Measures), we see **Conservative Council areas have the highest percentage of poorly performing Schools at 8.02%** and across the control types with a meaningful volume of schools, **the lowest is Liberal Democrat Councils at 6.13%.**



## 6 - TOP 20 PERFORMING COUNCIL AREAS

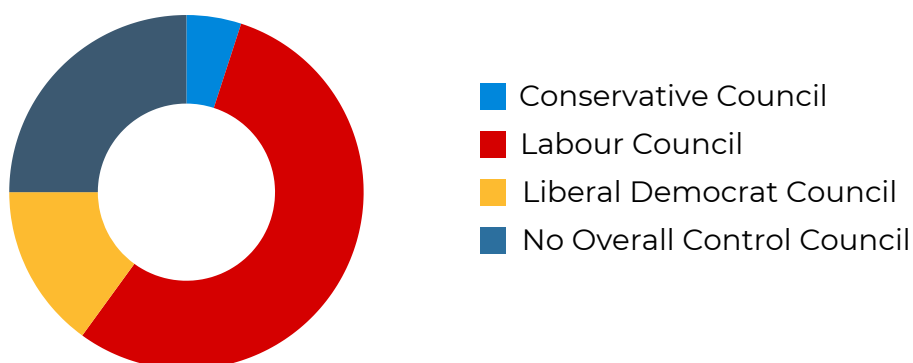
Combining the relative volume of “Excellent” and “Good” Schools, and ordering by the highest percentage across Council areas, to show the top 20 Council names and their political control.

Please note the percentage of Schools listed is relative to the total number of Schools with a known current Ofsted rating :

LA Name	Political Control	% Excellent/Good Schools
Richmond upon Thames	Liberal Democrat Council	100%
Rutland	No Overall Control Council	100%
Warrington	Labour Council	98.81%
Hounslow	Labour Council	98.73%
Hammersmith and Fulham	Labour Council	98.31%
Kingston upon Thames	Liberal Democrat Council	98.08%
Lewisham	Labour Council	97.62%
Havering	No Overall Control Council	97.62%
Camden	Labour Council	97.06%
Bracknell Forest	Labour Council	97.06%
Luton	Labour Council	96.97%
Sutton	Liberal Democrat Council	96.72%
Bromley	Conservative Council	96.23%
Herefordshire, County of	No Overall Control Council	96%
Slough	No Overall Control Council	95.92%
Islington	Labour Council	95.38%
Cheshire East	No Overall Control Council	95.33%
Greenwich	Labour Council	95.29%
Sunderland	Labour Council	95.1%
Ealing	Labour Council	95.1%

The following visual shows the results from the table above, split by political control :

### 20 Best Performing Council Areas by Council Control for Schools with Excellent and Good Ofsted Results



## 7 - PERCENTAGE OF FREE SCHOOL MEALS (FSM) BY POLITICAL CONTROL OF COUNCIL

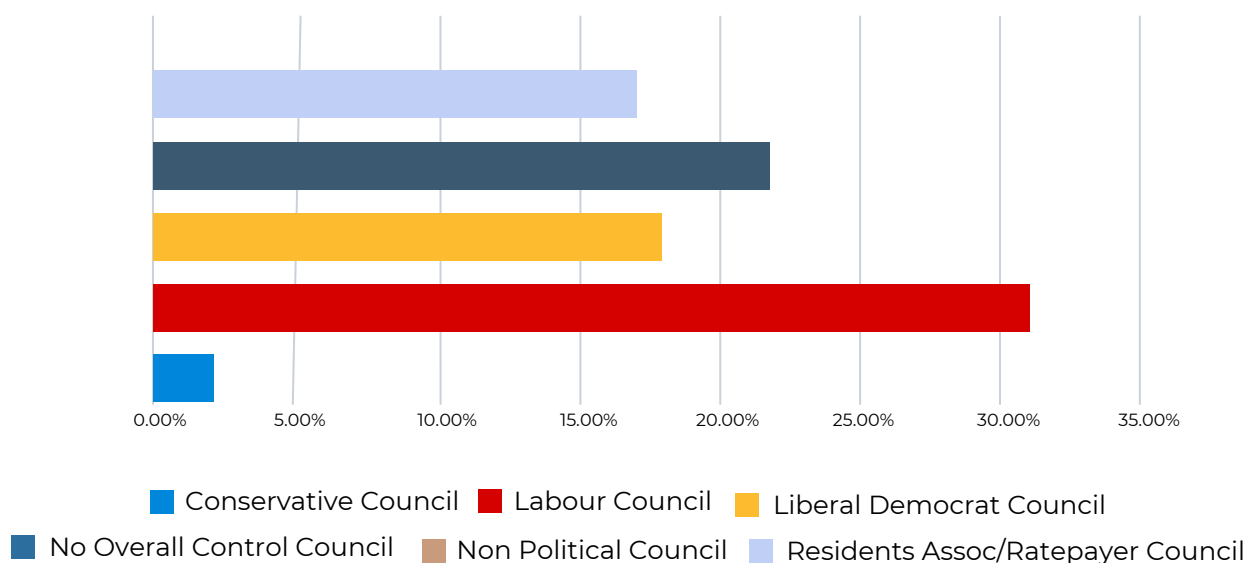
Looking at the percentage of children eligible for free school meals (FSM) across all Schools by Council control, we see the following :

Political Control	FSM Percent	Total Schools	Total Known Pupils	Those Eligible for FSM
Non Political Council	2.34%	9	3,205	75
Labour Council	26.35%	8,109	3,234,404	852,265
Residents Assoc/Ratepayer Council	30.86%	110	47,601	14,690
Conservative Council	18.07%	11,148	3,606,227	651,645
No Overall Control Council	21.61%	4,173	1,529,123	330,443
Liberal Democrat Council	16.87%	1,060	355,939	60,047

Again, the volumes of Schools across Residents Assoc/Ratepayer Councils and the Non Political Council are very low comparatively and therefore statistically should be read with caution and cannot be meaningfully compared.

Across this set of Schools, **an average of 19.35% of children are entitled to free School meals**. Based on meaningful volumes, **Labour councils saw the largest cohort as both a percentage and total volume, with 852,265 children entitled to free School meals** across all School types.

Percentage of Pupils Entitled to FSM



# 04

# SCHOOL INSPECTION PERFORMANCE

Beyond the political analysis of School performance based on Ofsted inspection results, this section digs into results and trends of this measure across regions and School type.

It should be noted that the 2023 comparison is made against Schools that are still in existence.

## 1 - OFSTED RESULTS AND CHANGE OVERVIEW

The data shows - as might be expected due to the COVID-19 pandemic - an increase in total School inspections and therefore number of pupils at inspected Schools. It is worth considering that this level of uptick in the amount of schools inspected may have disproportionately affected some of the results in ways beyond the scope of this report. Equally, the proportion of schools with a currently 'Unknown' Ofsted result should be considered alongside the analysis below.

The comparison between the position in March 2023 and 2024 reveals an **8.87% increase in pupils attending "Good" Schools and a 1.56% increase in those attending "Outstanding" Schools** by the same measure. Likewise on the positive side, the number of **Schools defined as having "Series Weaknesses" fell, with 14 fewer Schools and 4,961 pupils** attending institutions within this category.

Conversely, the number of Schools and pupils in those categorised as "Requiring Improvement" or being "Inadequate" rose by 29 and 7,222 respectively. **Notably a 32.72% rise in pupils attending Schools defined by Ofsted as "Inadequate"**.

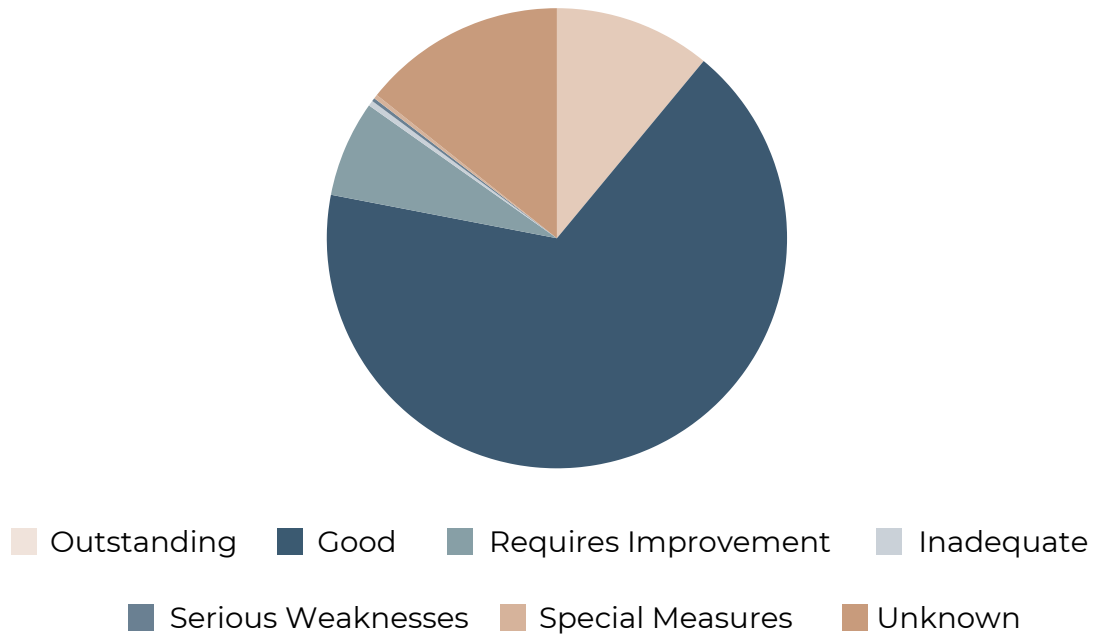
Rating	2024 School Count	Change vs 2023	2024 Pupil Count	Change vs 2023
1 - Outstanding	2,630	-97	1,223,564	19,111
2 - Good	16,014	1,377	5,871,666	520,791
3 - Requires improvement	1,617	15	642,369	2,533
4 - Inadequate	91	14	14,332	4,689
5 - Serious Weaknesses	56	-14	40,549	-4,961
6 - Special Measures	68	15	27,726	2,154
7 - Unknown	3,418	-784	942,479	-387,170

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## 1 - OFSTED RESULTS AND CHANGE OVERVIEW

Data visual from the table above :

Pupil Volume vs Inspection Outcome



## 2 - OFSTED RESULTS AND CHANGE BY REGION

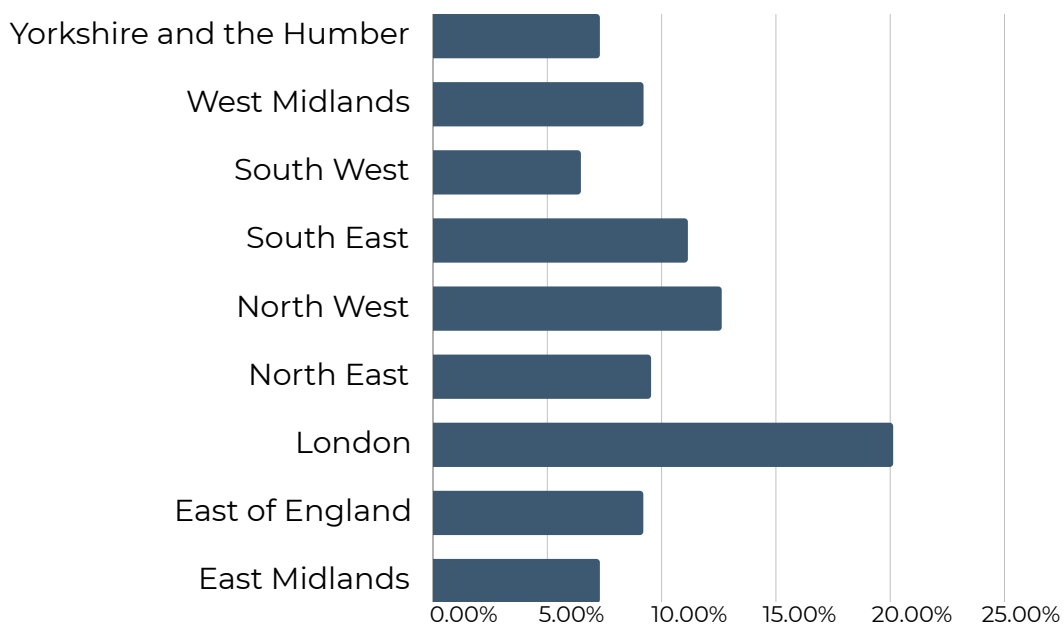
Factoring in the observations above, the following looks at Schools regionally by inspection result.

Looking first at **“Outstanding” Schools**, the area with the **highest percentage of all Schools in this category is London at 20.13%** with the **lowest percentage of “Outstanding” Schools being in the South West at 6.47%**. Looking at the proportional number of pupils educated **within “Outstanding” Schools by region, London remains at the top with 23.85% of pupils** (or nearly 1 in 4) **with the East Midlands marginally at the bottom of the table with 9.18%** (or less than 1 in ten).

Region	Number of Outstanding Schools	Number of Pupils	Schools as Percentage	Pupils as Percentage	School Change vs 2023	Pupil Change vs 2023
East Midlands	161	67,737	7.30%	9.18%	0	1,960
East of England	253	121,007	9.20%	12.06%	-16	10,032
London	604	340,788	20.13%	23.85%	5	3,132
North East	112	50,119	9.54%	12.92%	-1	214
North West	430	144,490	12.63%	12.63%	-42	-12,135
South East	430	202,429	11.15%	13.96%	-37	4,359
South West	166	75,929	6.47%	9.49%	-10	-3,406
West Midlands	258	109,731	9.96%	11.49%	-6	2,821
Yorkshire and the Humber	216	111,334	9.21%	13.03%	10	12,134

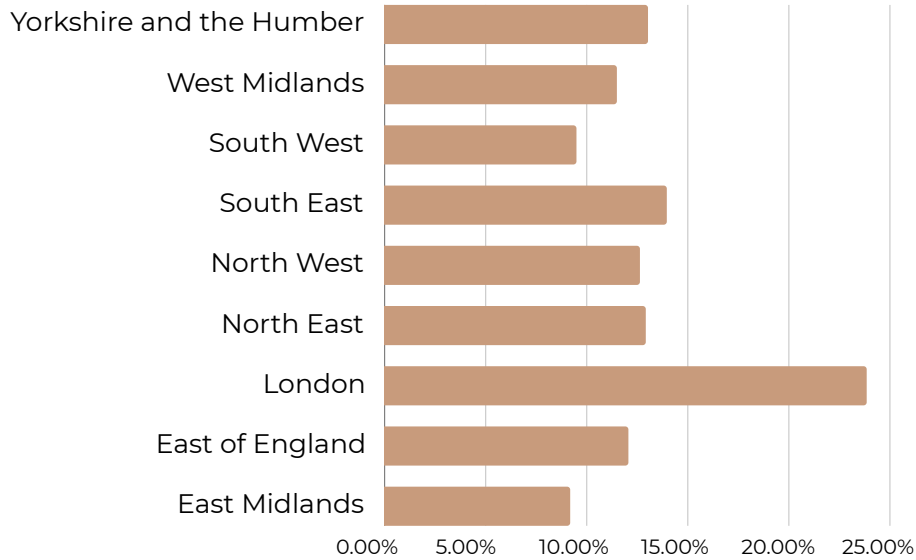
Data Visuals from the table above:

Outstanding Schools as Percentage



## 2 - OFSTED RESULTS AND CHANGE BY REGION

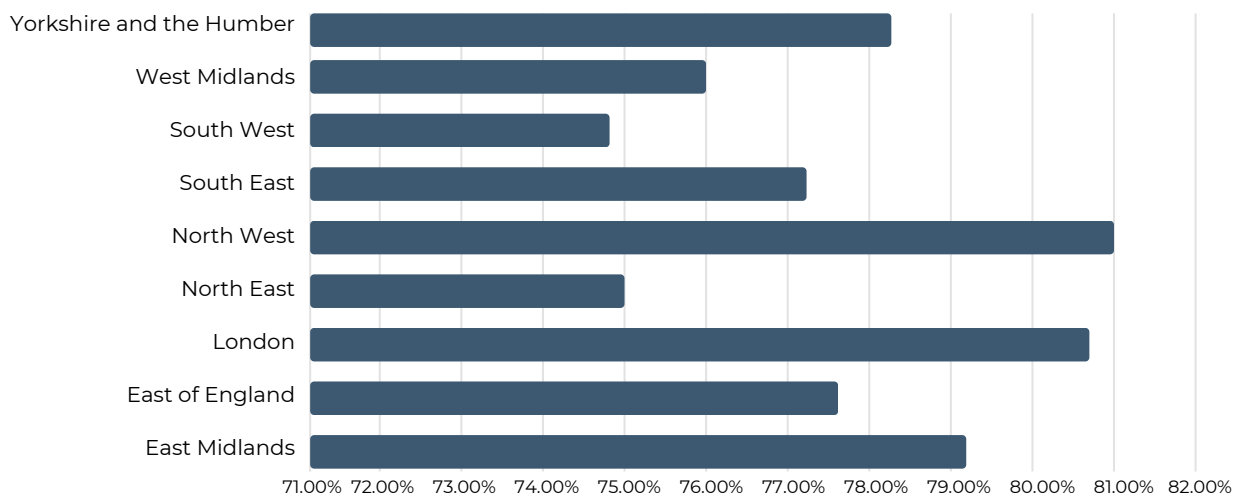
### Pupils at Outstanding Schools as Percentage



Looking at changes between 2023 and 2024, there was a **net reduction of 97 Schools being classified as “Outstanding” with the North West and South East (-42 and -37 respectively) accounting for the majority of the decline.**

**Combining “Outstanding” with “Good” Schools** provides a slightly more balanced view of school inspections and also a more balanced set of results. **The North West now represents the higher overall proportion of Schools in this group at 81.05% with the South West marginally still having the least percentage for 2024.**

### % of Outstanding and Good Schools

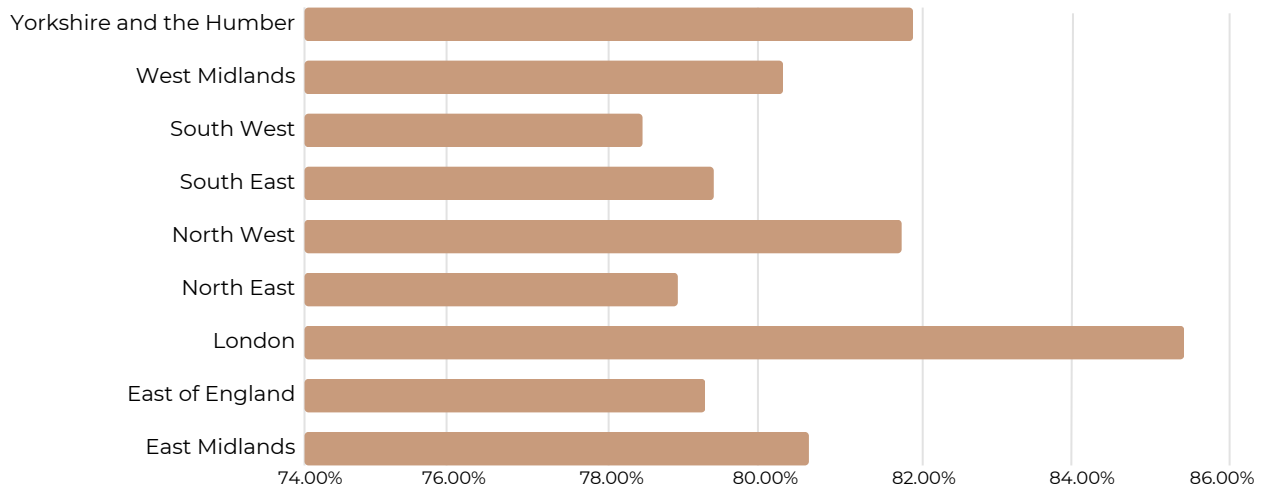




## 2 - OFSTED RESULTS AND CHANGE BY REGION

Looking at the percentage of pupils in this group by region, London remains at the top and the South West at the bottom, but the margins of difference are smaller. **85.24% vs 78.59%** an **England-wide average of 80.64%**.

### % of Pupils at Outstanding and Good Schools



At an “Outstanding” and “Good” level, all regions saw an increase in the number of Schools and pupils in this group when compared to 2023 :

Region	School Change vs 2023	Pupil Change vs 2023
East Midlands	181	74,838
East of England	164	67,949
London	102	52,018
North East	93	35,515
North West	115	51,367
South East	133	54,910
South West	177	51,558
West Midlands	153	75,386
Yorkshire and the Humber	162	76,361
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,280</b>	<b>539,902</b>

## 2 - OFSTED RESULTS AND CHANGE BY REGION

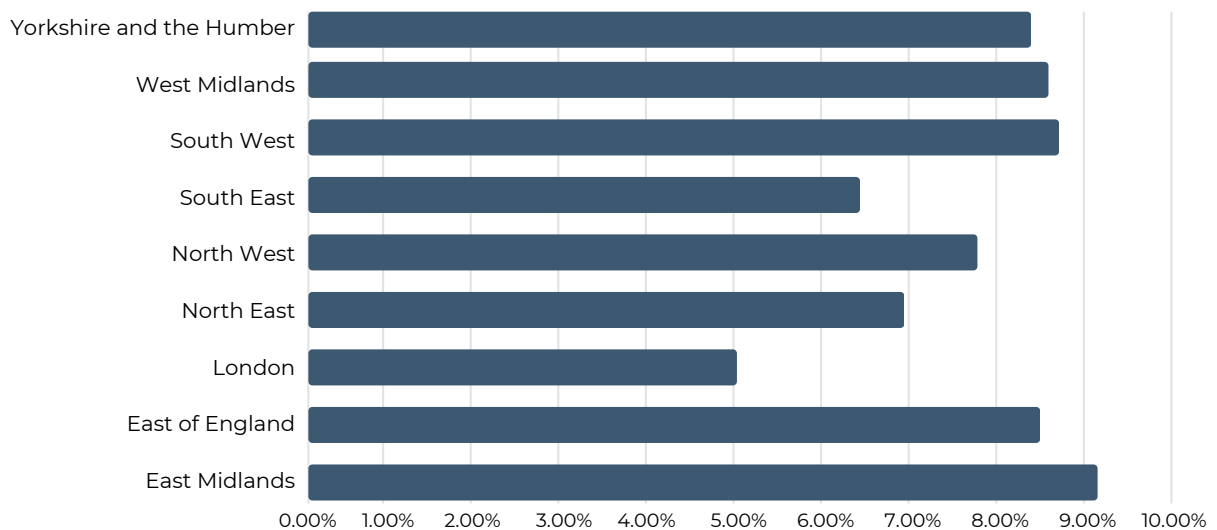
Grouping the following Ofsted results into a single group:

- 3 - Requires improvement
- 4 - Inadequate
- 5 - Serious Weaknesses
- 6 - Special Measures

We see the following results, the **East Midlands has the highest overall percentage of poorly performing Schools and pupils** and **London has the least poorly performing Schools and pupils**.

Region	Sum of Schools as Percentage (Ofsted Results 3/4/5/6)
East Midlands	9.25%
East of England	8.54%
London	5.03%
North East	6.98%
North West	7.87%
South East	6.43%
South West	8.73%
West Midlands	8.61%
Yorkshire and the Humber	8.40%

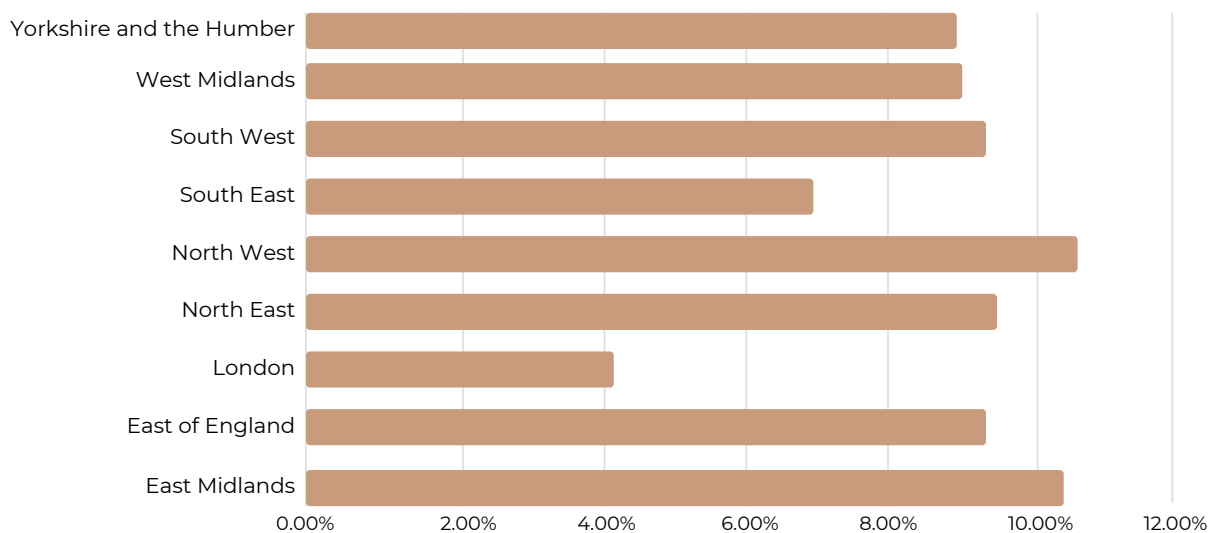
% of Schools with Ofsted 3/4/5/6



## 2 - OFSTED RESULTS AND CHANGE BY REGION

Region	Sum of Pupils as Percentage (Ofsted Results 3/4/5/6)
East Midlands	10.94%
East of England	9.42%
London	4.13%
North East	9.47%
North West	10.61%
South East	6.72%
South West	9.35%
West Midlands	8.88%
Yorkshire and the Humber	8.85%

% of Pupils at Schools with Ofsted 3/4/5/6



# 05

## SCHOOL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

This section explores the income and expenditure at a School level, as well as calculated spend per pupil and per teacher.

Please note the data used in this section covers the years of 2020 to 2023 (data for the 2023-2024 financial year will be included in the 2025 report) and, in the case of Academies only, includes those where a full 12 month set of income and expenditure have been recorded.

Further, the data explored in this section is across LA Maintained and Academy Schools only.

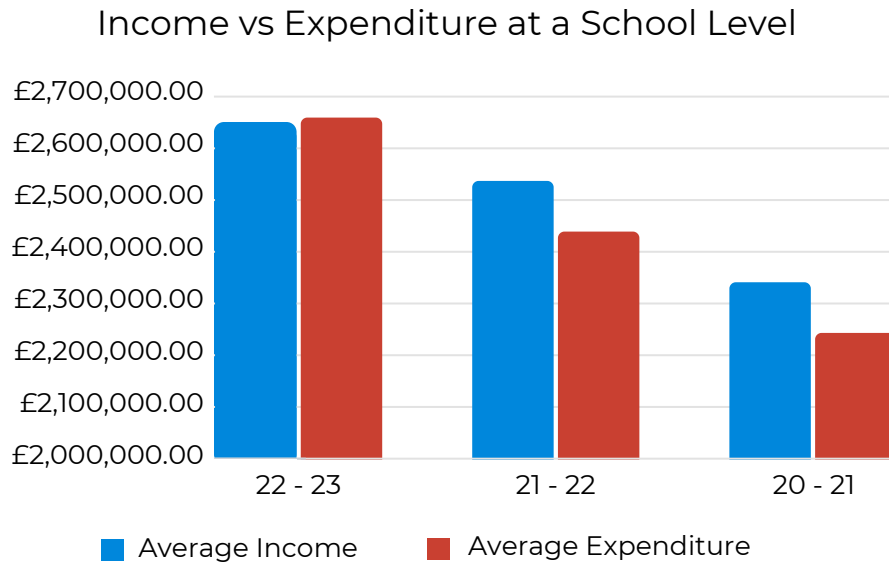
### 1 - OVERALL AVERAGE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The following summary table and visuals covers all Schools and shows the average income and expenditure at a School and pupil level across the 3 years mentioned. The data shows a **10.66% uplift in average school income vs a 16.33% increase in school expenditure across the 2020-2023 period**. The sections further down delve deeper into the type and regional variations of these figures. **Income per pupil is up 10.03% and expenditure per pupil is up 15.67%**. This indicates a modest rise in the total number of pupils across the analysed data/period.

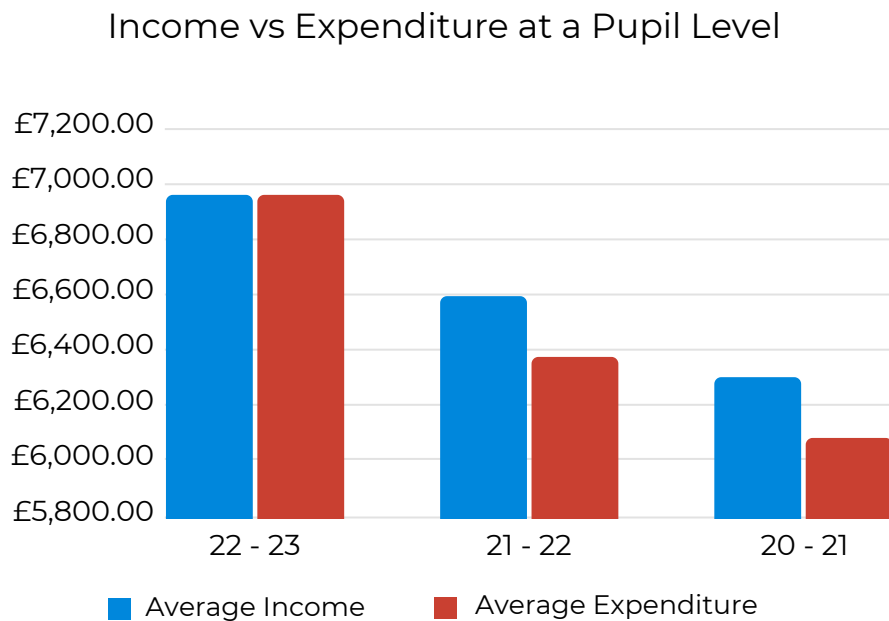
Year	Average Income	Average Expenditure	Income Per Pupil	Expenditure Per Pupil
22-23	£2,630,393.59	£2,632,357.71	£6,926.16	£6,931.33
21-22	£2,509,918.61	£2,422,025.40	£6,603.23	£6,372.00
20-21	£2,377,103.61	£2,262,866.73	£6,294.66	£5,992.15

# 1 - OVERALL AVERAGE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Data visual using the data in the table above



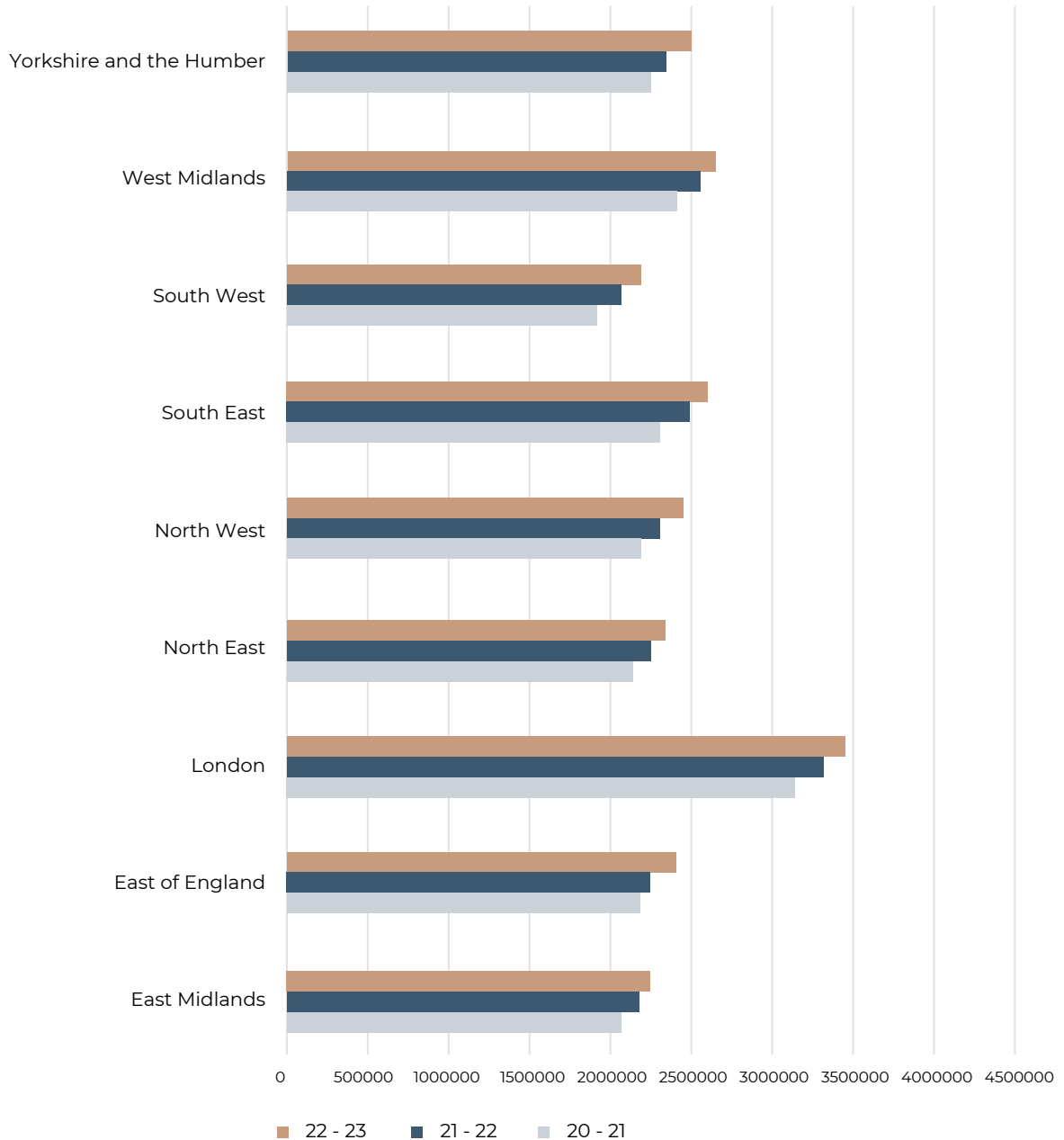
Across 2020-2023, it should be noted that **2023 is the only one to show a higher average cost vs income.**



## 2 - REGIONAL AVERAGE INCOME AND INCOME PER PUPIL

Breaking the data down to regional level across all Schools shows **London** having the **largest average income at £3,983,800 in the 2022-2023 year** and the **South West** having the lowest at **£2,154,919**.

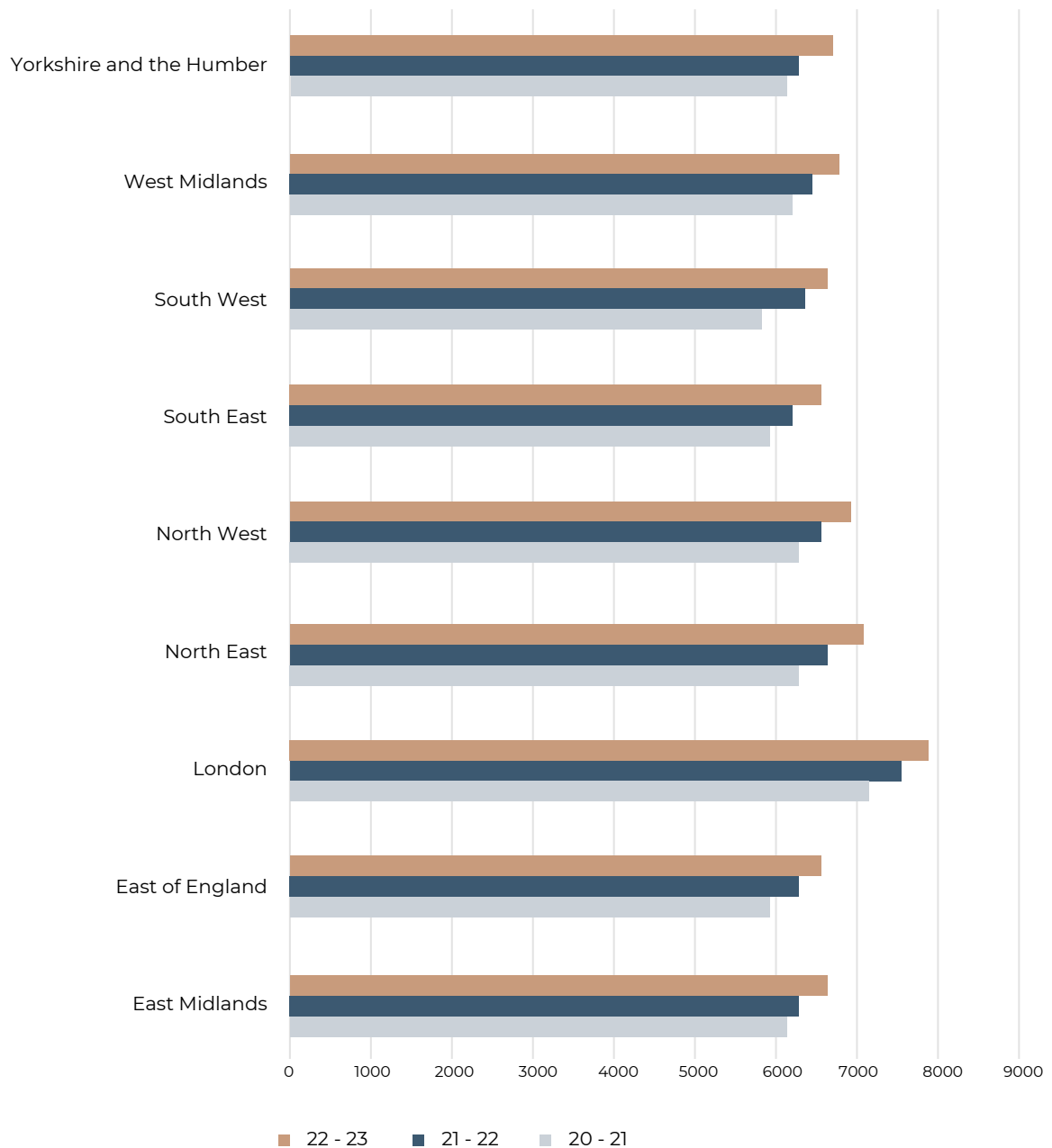
Average School Income by Region



## 2 - REGIONAL AVERAGE INCOME AND INCOME PER PUPIL

Adjusting these figures for the average School income by pupil (IPP) tightens the ranges significantly, albeit **London** remains at the **top** with an **average School IPP at £7,943** and the **East of England** having the **lowest at £6,555**. The area with the **largest increase in School IPP across 2020-2023** is the **South West** with a **13% jump** (or £784.42).

Average School Income Per Pupil by Region



### 3 - AVERAGE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE - LOCAL AUTHORITY MAINTAINED VS ACADEMY

Comparing Academies to Local Authority (LA) Maintained Schools, and looking at the 2022-2023 year, the average total income and expenditure across Academies and LA Maintained Schools are as follows:

Please note this analysis excludes **Special Schools** of either type as their **income and IPP is much higher than a typical School at £3.9M and £26,000 respectively.**

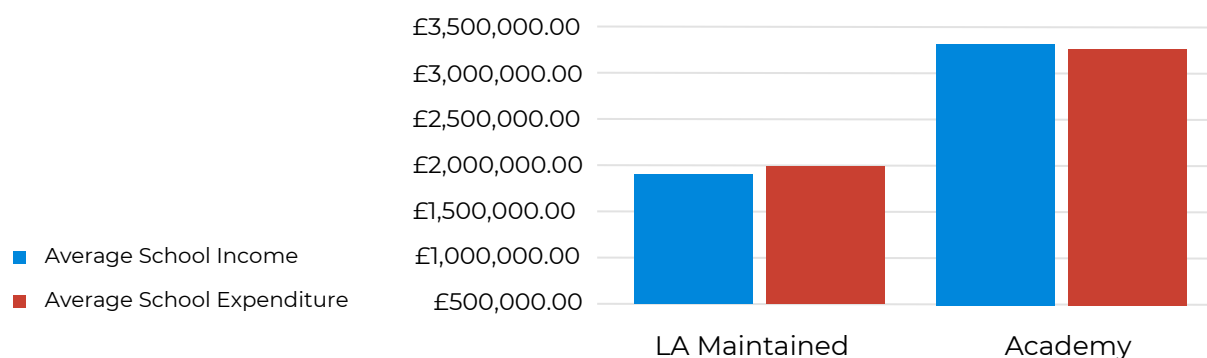
School Type	Average School Income	Average School Expenditure	Income Per Pupil	Expenditure Per Pupil
LA Maintained	£1,980,639.25	£1,996,335.71	£6,540.61	£6,592.44
Academy	£3,308,760.84	£3,292,355.67	£6,594.81	£6,579.10

**Although the total income per School looked at by type shows a significant disparity, the actual income per pupil is closer** - for example in terms of IPP; £6594.81 vs £6540.61 between Academies and LA Maintained Schools respectively. The disparity at a School level is due - in part - to Academies being larger School types and sizes. **The average number of pupils at LA Maintained Schools being 302 vs 482 at Academies.**

Outside of this, in the round, **Academies are showing a surplus of income vs expenditure across their Schools at an average of £7,839** whereas **LA Maintained Schools on average are operating on a deficit of £15,696.**

Data visual based on the table above:

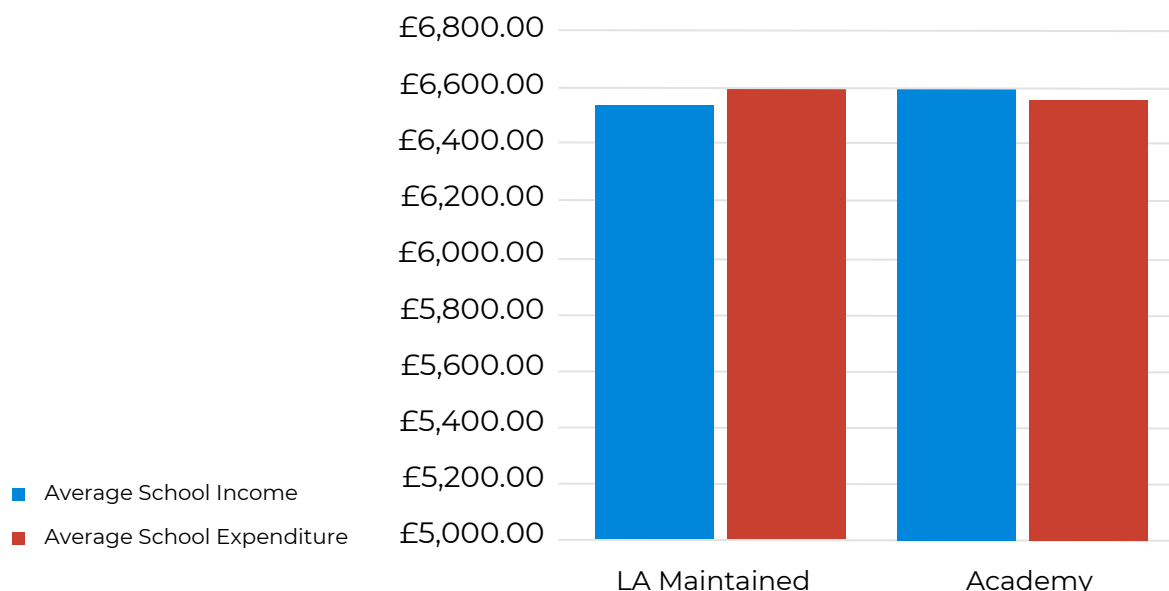
Average Income vs Expenditure by School Type





### 3 - AVERAGE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE - LOCAL AUTHORITY MAINTAINED VS ACADEMY

Average (£) Income and Expenditure Per Pupil by School Type



To consider the bias around School sizes, and in particular the phase of education provided across Academies and LA Maintained Schools, the following looks at the data more deeply.

As mentioned previously, the following data excludes the types and phases of Nursery, 16+, Special and PRU settings. Caution should also be applied to the figures for 'All-Through' Schools as the volumes of Schools and pupils could make the results statistically less significant.

School Type	Education Phase	Total Schools Analysed	Total Pupils	Average Pupil Numbers	Average School Income	Average School Expenditure	Income Per Pupil	Expenditure Per Pupil
Academy	All-through	128	166507	1301	£8,771,765.63	£8,655,265.63	£6,743.18	£6,653.62
LA Maintained	All-through	25	38493.5	1540	£11,227,172.70	£11,158,223.08	£7,291.60	£7,246.82
Academy	Primary	6549	1861400	284	£1,762,503.61	£1,677,878.25	£6,201.05	£5,903.31
LA Maintained	Primary	10183	2690567	264	£1,641,916.42	£1,660,346.92	£6,214.17	£6,283.92
Academy	Secondary	2534	2651006	1046	£7,028,792.83	£7,142,261.20	£6,718.57	£6,827.03
LA Maintained	Secondary	668	693667.5	1038	£7,418,680.48	£7,395,511.43	£7,144.17	£7,121.86

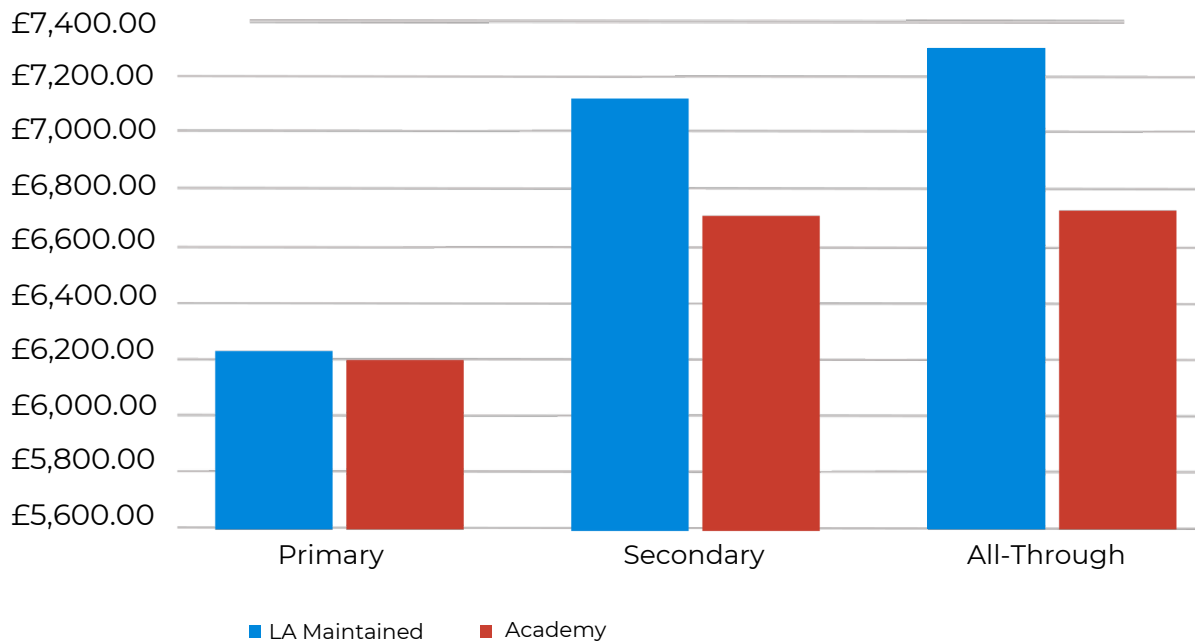
### 3 - AVERAGE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE - LOCAL AUTHORITY MAINTAINED VS ACADEMY

The average number of pupils across primary and secondary Schools is very similar when comparing LA Maintained and Academy Schools. In all cases LA Maintained Schools have a higher income per pupil. At a primary level the average IPP is £13 higher, secondary £426 higher and at the all- through phase £548 higher.

In terms of spend vs income, **Academies for 2022-2023 showed a deficit of £298 per pupil at a primary level but a surplus of £108 across secondaries. LA Maintained are currently showing the opposite with figures of £70 and -£22 respectively.**

Data visual showing the average income per pupil, comparing Academies to LA Maintained schools by type and phase :

Average (£) Income Per Pupil by School Type & Phase



## 4 - LOCAL AUTHORITY MAINTAINED AND ACADEMY INCOME PER PUPIL VS OFSTED AND PHASE

Looking at any correlations across Ofsted Ratings between income per pupil (IPP), School type and phase.

Please note here we have excluded those with no currently known Ofsted results (often Academy Convertors who have yet to be assessed) - this excluded 1,127 Schools from the following analysis.

The following table shows the Ofsted results vs School type and comparing the percentage of all schools and average IPP of Schools across the analysed set.

It should be noted that due to the very low numbers of Schools with Ofsted ratings of "Serious Weakness" and "Special Measures" that the data should be viewed with caution and are not statistically significant.

School Type	Income Per Pupil (IPP)	Ofsted Rating	Total Schools	% of All Schools Included	vs Average IPP of Schools Included
Academy	£6,482.53	Good	6,337	78.33%	−£33.28
LA Maintained	£6,417.22	Good	8,619	79.29%	£2.54
Academy	£6,383.64	Outstanding	925	11.43%	−£132.17
LA Maintained	£6,313.30	Outstanding	1,284	11.81%	−£101.38
Academy	£6,885.19	Requires improvement	734	9.07%	£369.37
LA Maintained	£6,685.40	Requires improvement	846	7.78%	£270.72
Academy	£6,899.49	Serious Weaknesses	55	0.68%	£383.68
LA Maintained	£4,426.76	Serious Weaknesses	42	0.39%	−£1,987.93
Academy	£7,365.70	Special Measures	39	0.48%	£849.89
LA Maintained	£6,475.45	Special Measures	79	0.73%	£60.77

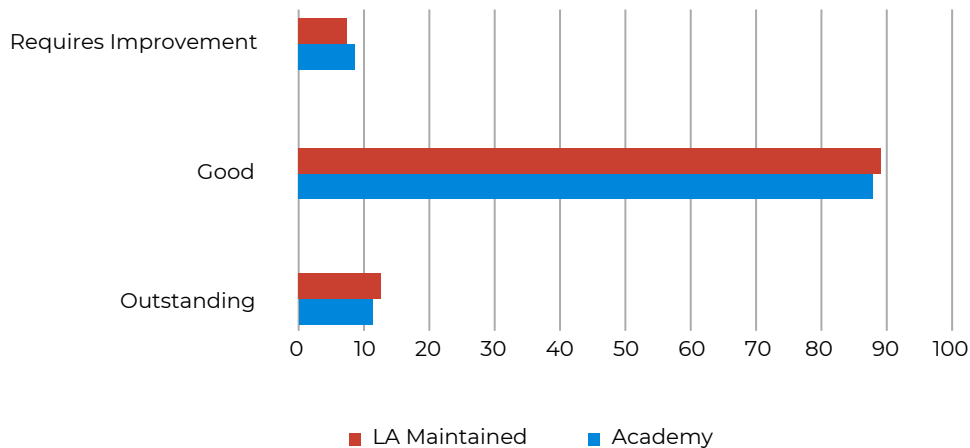
Meaningful conclusions and comparisons cannot be drawn for those classified as having "Serious Weaknesses" or in "Special Measures" due to the low volume of entities.

**LA Maintained Schools currently perform marginally better than Academies across the board and do so at lower IPP. Conversely, Academies achieve "Good" or "Outstanding" ratings at a lower cost relative to their average IPP across all Schools.**

## 4 - LOCAL AUTHORITY MAINTAINED AND ACADEMY INCOME PER PUPIL VS OFSTED AND PHASE

Data visual showing the percentage of schools by Ofsted result and Academy vs LA Maintained taken from the table above:

% of Ofsted Results vs % of All Schools Analysed



Looking at these figures across the largest School phases, primary and secondary Schools, and factoring in IPP, type and Ofsted results.

At a primary phase, the same pattern of **LA Maintained Schools achieving a higher percentage of “Outstanding” results at a lower IPP** can be seen. Conversely, **Academies have a higher level of “Good” results.**

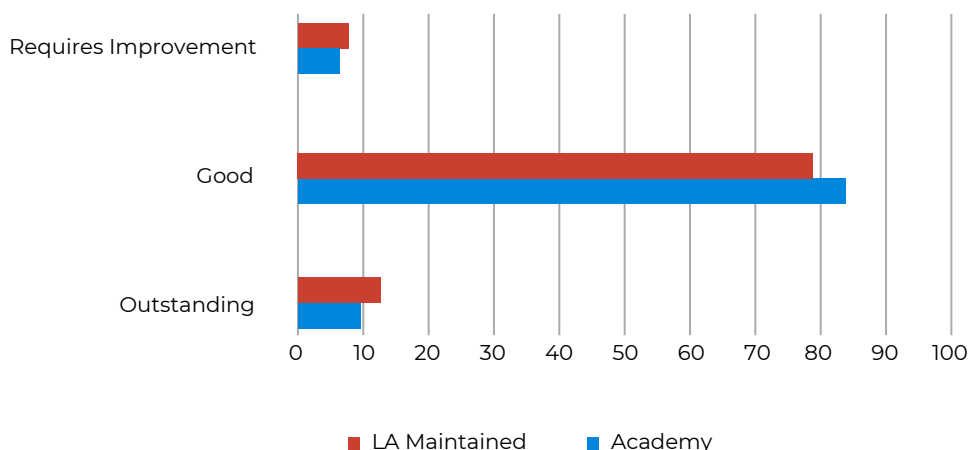
Primary Schools Data:

School Type	Income Per Pupil (IPP)	Ofsted Rating	Total Schools	% of Primary Schools
Academy	£6,165.40	Good	4,620	82.68%
LA Maintained	£6,218.86	Good	8,101	79.60%
Academy	£6,323.72	Outstanding	534	9.56%
LA Maintained	£6,115.51	Outstanding	1,202	11.81%
Academy	£6,396.58	Requires improvement	409	7.32%
LA Maintained	£6,433.07	Requires improvement	765	7.52%
Academy	£6,688.25	Serious Weaknesses	10	0.18%
LA Maintained	£4,734.02	Serious Weaknesses	36	0.35%
Academy	£6,904.55	Special Measures	15	0.27%
LA Maintained	£6,150.75	Special Measures	73	0.72%

## 4 - LOCAL AUTHORITY MAINTAINED AND ACADEMY INCOME PER PUPIL VS OFSTED AND PHASE

Data visual from the table above:

% of Primary School Ofsted Results vs % of Schools



At the secondary phase, the pattern changes with Academies achieving a higher percentage of “Outstanding” Schools at a lower IPP cost. LA Maintained Schools have a higher “Good” percentage of Schools, but these are delivered at a higher IPP.

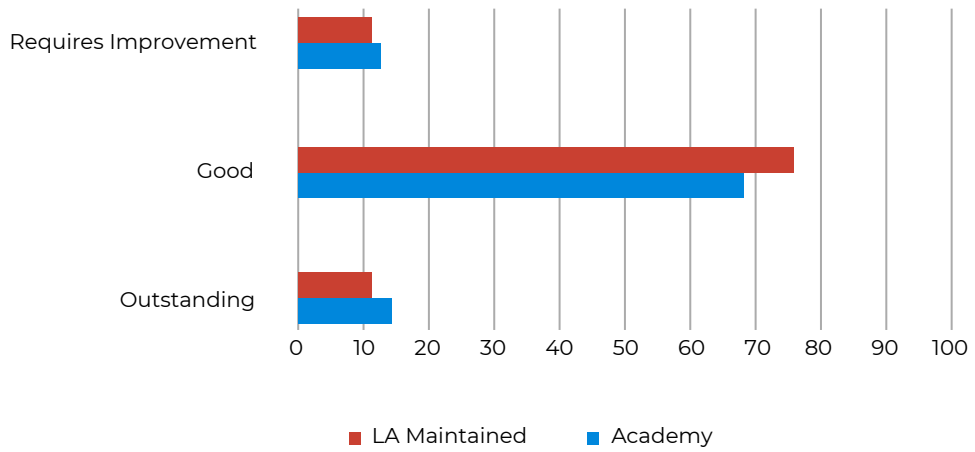
Secondary Schools Data :

School Type	Income Per Pupil (IPP)	Ofsted Rating	Total Schools	% of Secondary Schools
Academy	£6,711.42	Good	1626	68.38%
LA Maintained	£7,170.84	Good	498	74.55%
Academy	£6,404.09	Outstanding	374	15.73%
LA Maintained	£7,079.02	Outstanding	79	11.83%
Academy	£7,025.39	Requires improvement	312	13.12%
LA Maintained	£7,271.30	Requires improvement	80	11.98%
Academy	£6,935.40	Serious Weaknesses	43	1.81%
LA Maintained	£3,356.68	Serious Weaknesses	5	0.75%
Academy	£7,350.54	Special Measures	23	0.97%
LA Maintained	£7,341.42	Special Measures	6	0.90%

## 4 - LOCAL AUTHORITY MAINTAINED AND ACADEMY INCOME PER PUPIL VS OFSTED AND PHASE

Data visual taken from the table above:

% of Secondary School Ofsted Results vs % of Schools



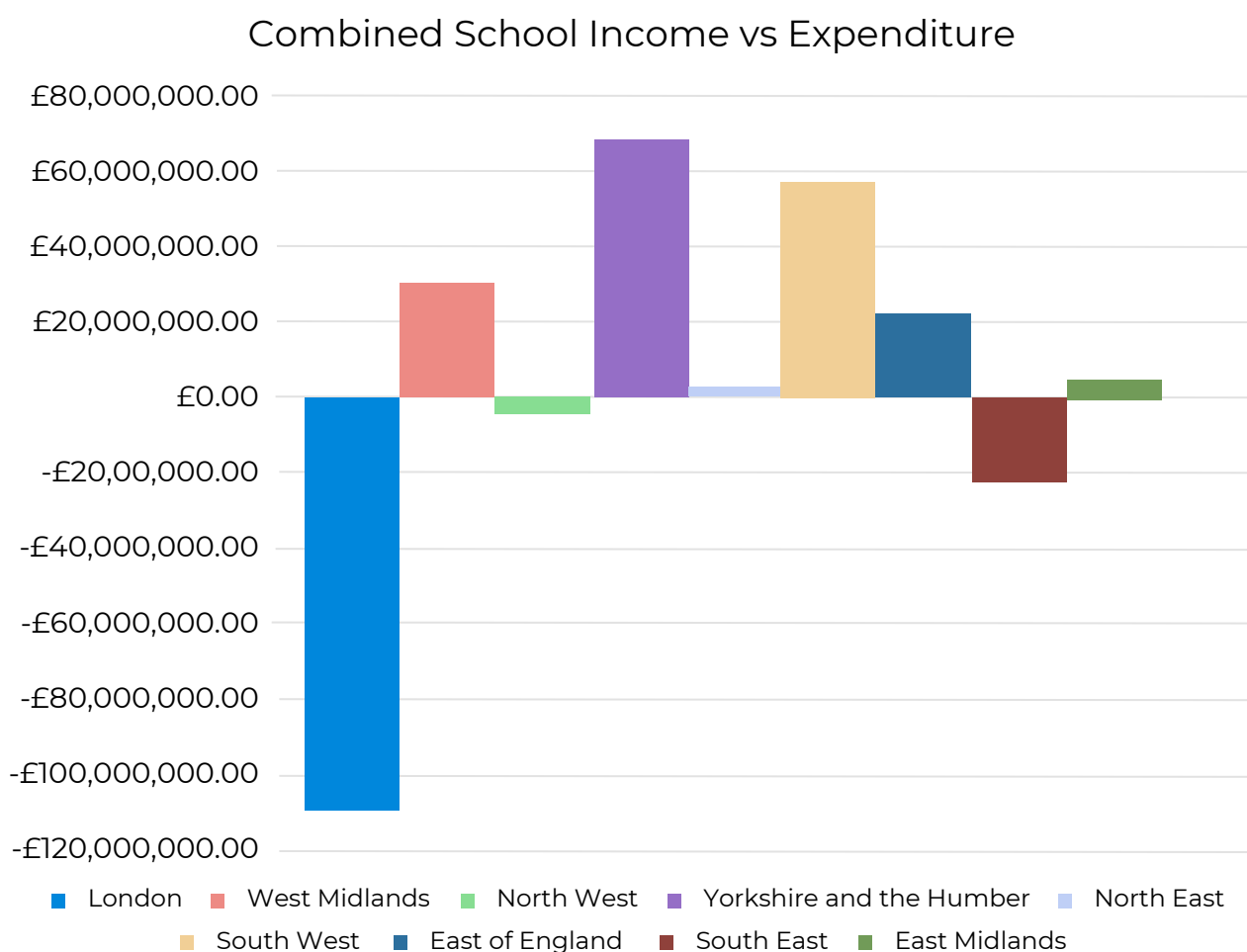
## 5 - REGIONAL INCOME/EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS

Combining Academies and LA Maintained primary, secondary and all-through Schools and looking at income vs expenditure for the 2022-2023 year across the regions to explore areas by surplus or deficit.

**London** is notable as having the **largest deficit**; two other regions had a funding shortfall for the same period.

Region	Income vs Expenditure	Total Schools
London	-£109,178,483.58	2,216
West Midlands	£30,554,316.10	2,020
North West	-£6,144,951.05	2,795
Yorkshire and the Humber	£68,046,589.82	1,940
North East	£1,986,287.22	917
South West	£58,182,099.63	2,021
East of England	£21,381,519.79	2,241
South East	-£21,680,597.03	2,978
East Midlands	£5,264,765.05	1,832

Data visual from the table above :

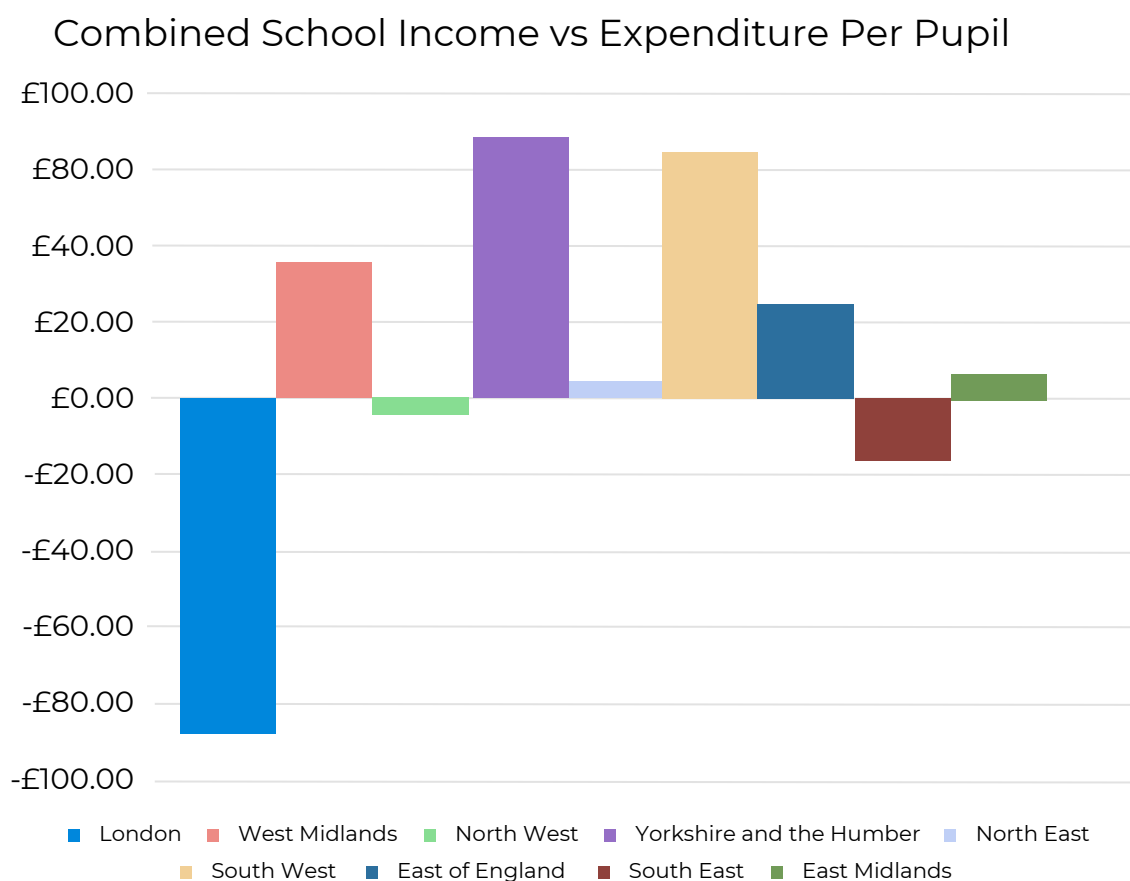


## 5 - REGIONAL INCOME/EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS

Looking at the average school income across the regions, again **London comes at the top with an average** (not adjusted for School volume or size) **school income of over 76% more than the East Midlands (the area with the lowest average income)**. As the previous section would suggest, **London also has the highest average difference in income and expenditure**:

Region	Average School Income	Average School Expenditure	Average Difference
London	£4,031,716.66	£4,080,984.92	£-49,268.26
West Midlands	£2,696,861.41	£2,681,735.50	£15,125.89
North West	£2,473,057.10	£2,475,255.65	£-2,198.55
Yorkshire and the Humber	£2,517,880.75	£2,482,805.19	£3,5075.56
North East	£2,432,004.92	£2,429,838.85	£2,166.07
South West	£2,119,766.52	£2,090,977.76	£28,788.76
East of England	£2,440,050.05	£2,430,508.99	£9,541.06
South East	£2,566,783.78	£2,574,064.03	£-7,280.25
East Midlands	£2,288,055.91	£2,285,182.13	£2,873.78

Beyond the figures for Schools, looking at income and expenditure per pupil shows the two extreme positions of **Yorkshire and the Humber having the highest net surplus per pupil at £90 per pupil** and **London with a net deficit of -£90 per pupil**:

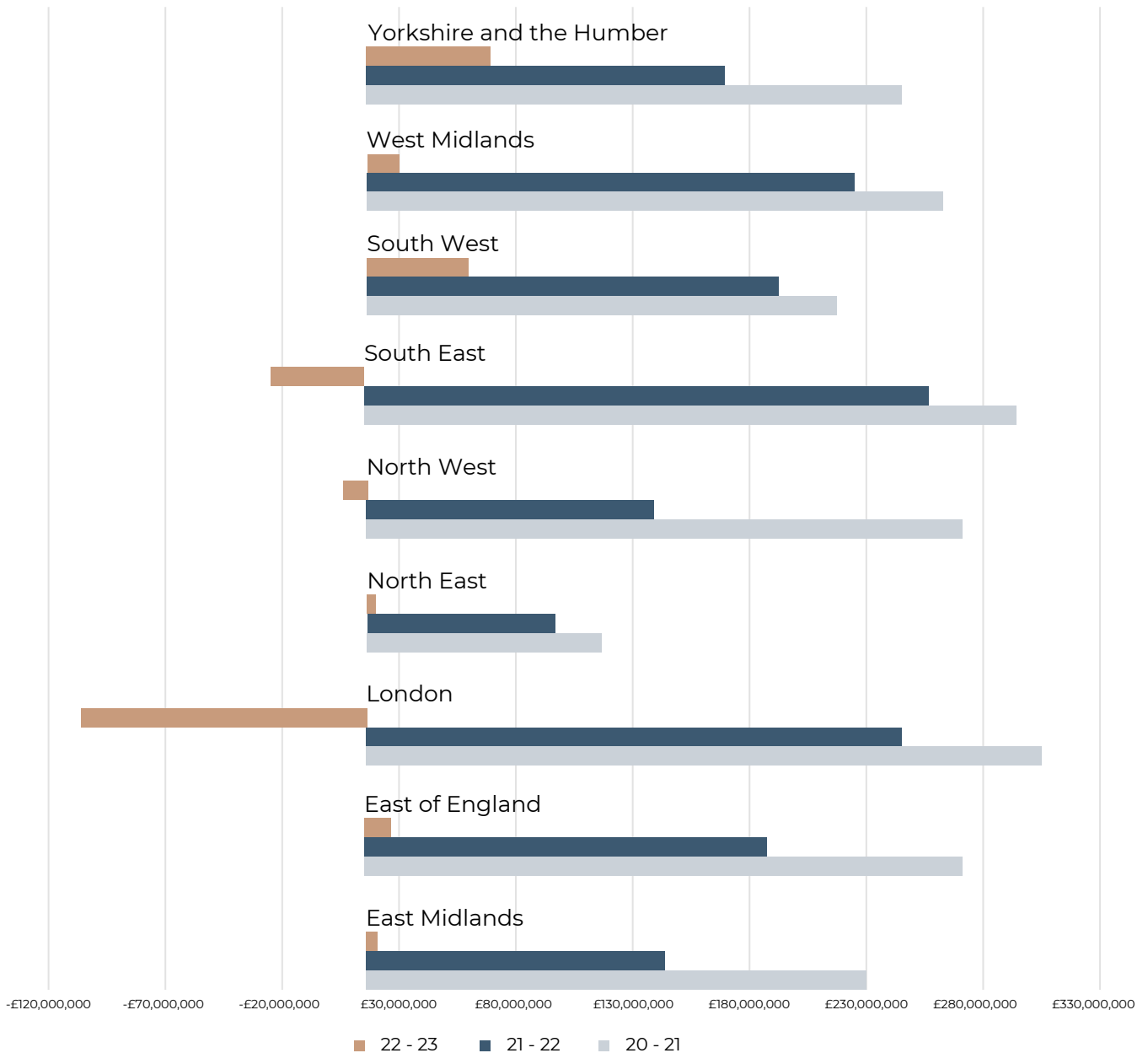




## 5 - REGIONAL INCOME/EXPENDITURE ANALYSIS

The figures above are for the data across the current 2022-2023 period, now adding in the data for the two previous financial years, to provide a picture across 2020-2023. Looking at these figures over time shows the trend towards School costs increasing relative to income across all areas. Notably though **London** and the **South East both went from having the largest surplus to the largest deficits across the periods.**

Sum of Income Minus Expenditure by Region and Year



## 6 - AVERAGE SCHOOL SPEND PER TEACHER

Looking at teacher numbers across Academies and LA Maintained Schools comparing the average number of teachers and the cost per teacher - both across the board and regionally.

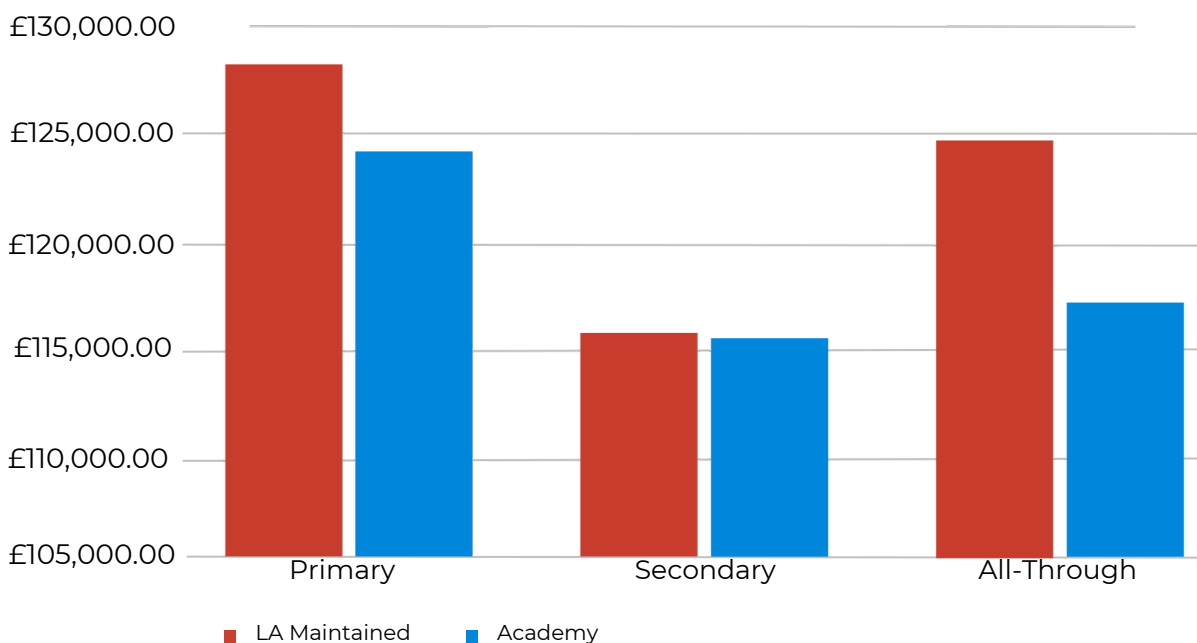
Looking at total spend in Schools divided by FTE number of teachers to calculate a spend per teacher (SPT), split by phase of education.

**At a secondary level, SPT is very similar when comparing LA Maintained and Academy run schools. The SPT at primary schools is higher than at secondary level, across both LA Maintained and Academy run schools, but with LA Maintained schools spending £4,814.62 more than Academy run schools.**

School Type	Education Phase	Spend Per Teacher (SPT)	Total Teachers FTE	Average FTE Pupils per Teacher	Total Schools
Academy	All-through	£ 117,520.13	9,301.3	17.79	124
LA Maintained	All-through	£ 124,607.73	2,238.67	17.37	25
Academy	Primary	£ 123,959.06	76,652.2	21.08	5,588
LA Maintained	Primary	£ 128,773.67	131,186.66	20.20	10,177
Academy	Secondary	£ 115,600.82	149,142.5	17.13	2,378
LA Maintained	Secondary	£ 115,704.61	42,696.67	16.26	668

Data visual from table above showing the average school spend divided by the number of teachers:

School Spend/FTE Teachers



## 6 - AVERAGE SCHOOL SPEND PER TEACHER

Now looking regionally and comparing the school type with the SPT including a total for teachers, schools and the average teachers per school.

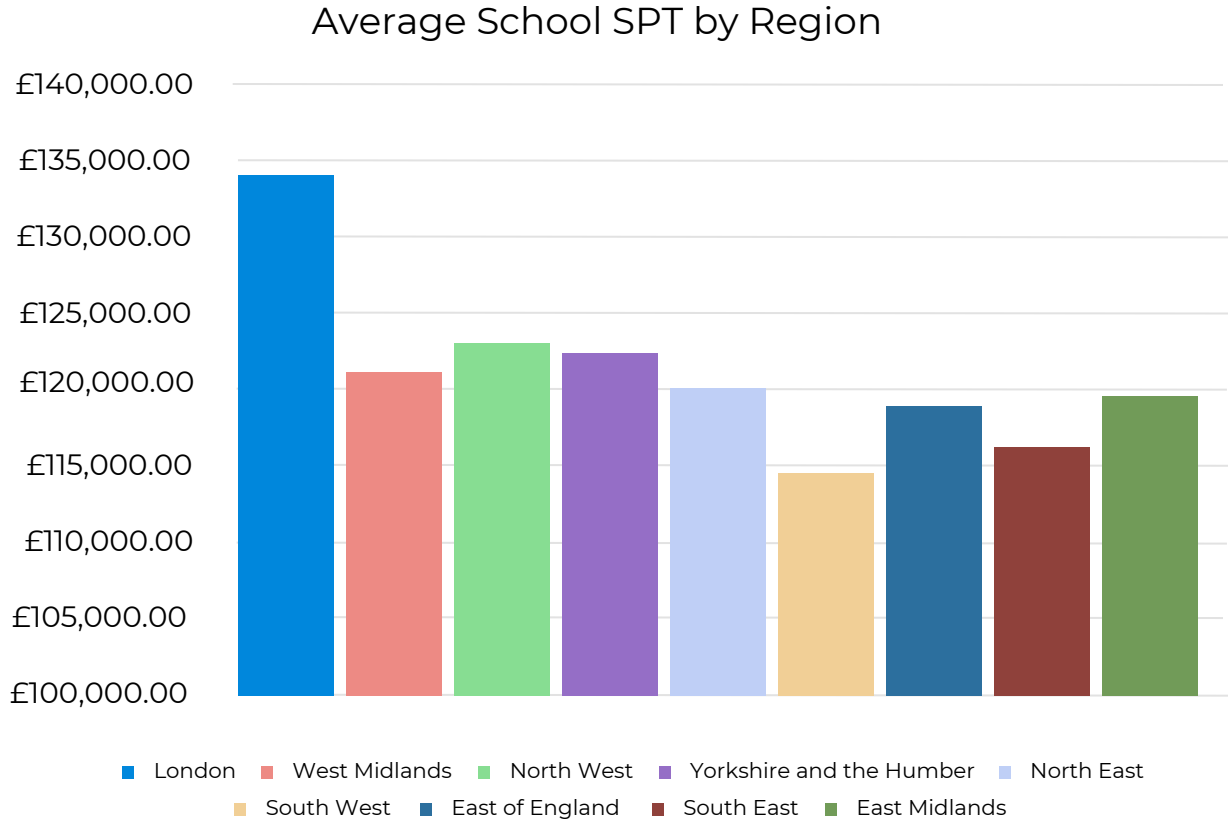
As may be expected **London has the highest SPT at £139,622.45**, partly (as covered before) due to the higher overall percentage of LA Maintained schools being primaries and these having a higher SPT. **London Academy run schools**, partly due to their average larger school size, **have the largest amount of average teachers per school and the second highest overall SPT.**

**The South West has the lowest of all SPT figures across Academy run schools and the second lowest average of teachers per school.**

Region	School Type	Spend Per Teacher (SPT)	Total FTE Teachers	Total Schools	Average FTE Teachers Per School
East Midlands	Academy	£116,902.66	24,285.70	939	25.86336528
East Midlands	LA Maintained	£123,709.84	10,891.54	893	12.19657335
East of England	Academy	£116,585.38	31,236.90	1,127	27.71685892
East of England	LA Maintained	£120,314.39	15,002.40	1,114	13.46714542
London	Academy	£127,734.12	32,668.10	809	40.38084054
London	LA Maintained	£139,622.45	34,884.30	1,407	24.79339019
North East	Academy	£119,290.67	10,891.90	396	27.50479798
North East	LA Maintained	£121,377.59	7,652.65	521	14.68838772
North West	Academy	£119,976.21	22,858.20	683	33.46734993
North West	LA Maintained	£124,874.65	33,440.73	2,112	15.83367898
South East	Academy	£114,099.16	34,983.00	1,099	31.83166515
South East	LA Maintained	£117,601.30	31,241.42	1,879	16.62662054
South West	Academy	£113,153.11	25,433.00	1,121	22.68777877
South West	LA Maintained	£117,464.85	11,476.14	900	12.75126667
West Midlands	Academy	£118,188.04	28,074.50	979	28.67671093
West Midlands	LA Maintained	£126,154.89	16,638.56	1,041	15.98324688
Yorkshire and the Humber	Academy	£119,725.52	24,664.70	937	26.32305229
Yorkshire and the Humber	LA Maintained	£125,125.25	14,894.26	1,003	14.84971087

## 6 - AVERAGE SCHOOL SPEND PER TEACHER

Using the data above and taking the average spend per teacher across both School types and shown by region as follows:



# 06

## SCHOOL SUSPENSIONS AND EXCLUSIONS

The picture of recorded Suspensions and Exclusions across England over time can be seen in the table below. The first line for each year shows the total instances of Exclusions and Suspensions and the average Exclusion rate per 10,000 pupils and the average Suspension rate per 1,000 pupils across the year.

Year/Term	Schools	Pupils	Exclusions	Suspensions	Exclusion Rate Per 10,000	Suspension Rate Per 1,000
<b>2016/17</b>			<b>7,719</b>	<b>381,863</b>	<b>3.21</b>	<b>15.89818277</b>
Autumn term	21,193	7,961,695	2,816	129,151	3.54	16.221546
Spring term	21,259	8,025,073	2,509	131,843	3.13	16.428885
Summer term	21,195	8,034,303	2,394	120,869	2.98	15.044118

Year/Term	Schools	Pupils	Exclusions	Suspensions	Exclusion Rate Per 10,000	Suspension Rate Per 1,000
<b>2017/18</b>			<b>7,905</b>	<b>410,753</b>	<b>3.27</b>	<b>16.9631029</b>
Autumn term	21,173	8,027,663	3,177	149,934	3.96	18.677167
Spring term	21,231	8,092,747	2,189	121,521	2.70	15.016038
Summer term	21,192	8,100,556	2,539	139,298	3.13	17.196104

Year/Term	Schools	Pupils	Exclusions	Suspensions	Exclusion Rate Per 10,000	Suspension Rate Per 1,000
<b>2018/19</b>			<b>7,894</b>	<b>438,265</b>	<b>3.23</b>	<b>17.90951063</b>
Autumn term	21,178	8,103,340	3,015	157,138	3.72	19.391757
Spring term	21,251	8,179,491	2,751	153,465	3.36	18.762170
Summer term	21,224	8,196,805	2,128	127,662	2.60	15.574605

Year/Term	Schools	Pupils	Exclusions	Suspensions	Exclusion Rate Per 10,000	Suspension Rate Per 1,000
<b>2019/20</b>			<b>5,057</b>	<b>310,733</b>	<b>2.05</b>	<b>12.58950648</b>
Autumn term	21,233	8,206,845	3,167	178,412	3.86	21.739414
Spring term	21,255	8,255,046	1,850	131,124	2.24	15.884103
Summer term	21,248	8,255,020	40	1,197	0.05	0.145003

Year/Term	Schools	Pupils	Exclusions	Suspensions	Exclusion Rate Per 10,000	Suspension Rate Per 1,000
<b>2020/21</b>			<b>3,928</b>	<b>352,454</b>	<b>1.58</b>	<b>14.19005449</b>
Autumn term	21,233	8,233,118	1,737	159,979	2.11	19.431156
Spring term	21,279	8,291,354	491	43,137	0.59	5.202648
Summer term	21,256	8,325,993	1,700	149,338	2.04	17.936359

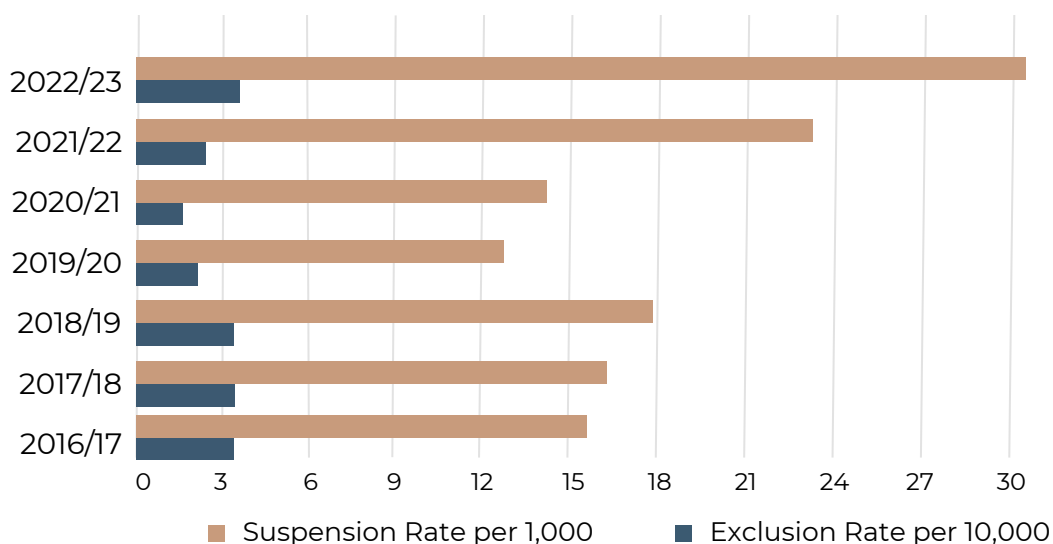
Year/Term	Schools	Pupils	Exclusions	Suspensions	Exclusion Rate Per 10,000	Suspension Rate Per 1,000
<b>2021/22</b>			<b>6,497</b>	<b>578,462</b>	<b>2.59</b>	<b>23.04963798</b>
Autumn term	21,287	8,316,450	2,097	183,817	2.52	22.102820
Spring term	21,305	8,368,678	2,179	201,090	2.60	24.028885
Summer term	21,293	8,409,143	2,221	193,555	2.64	23.017209

Year/Term	Schools	Pupils	Exclusions	Suspensions	Exclusion Rate Per 10,000	Suspension Rate Per 1,000
<b>2022/23</b>			<b>6,143</b>	<b>511,270</b>	<b>3.66</b>	<b>30.4362281</b>
Autumn term	21,296	8,365,645	3,104	247,366	3.71	29.569268
Spring term	21,314	8,430,579	3,039	263,904	3.60	31.303188

It can be noted that the level of Exclusions has risen modestly across the periods looked at (14% when comparing the average rate from 2016/17 to 2022/23) and Suspensions have increased at a more marked level (91% when compared across the same years and measures).

Some caution needs to be applied with the figures as the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted to varying degrees the 2019-2022 figures and when comparing averages across the year, and may have indirectly impacted the 2022/23 figures. It should also be noted that the data for the Summer Term of 2022/23 is not yet available.

### Annualised Averages for Suspension and Exclusions





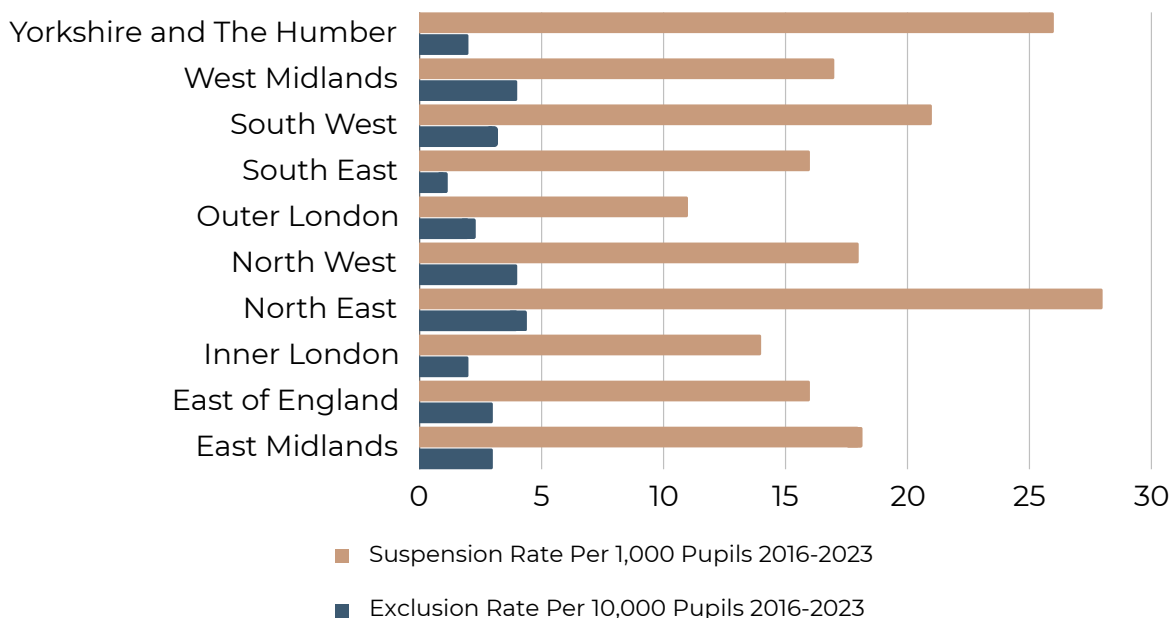
Looking at the data now by region and combining the totals across all terms within the 2016 - 2023 period (noting the absence of summer 22/23) and focusing on the average per 10,000 and 1,000 pupils for Exclusions and Suspensions respectively.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Exclusion Rate Per 10,000 Pupils 2016-2023</b>	<b>Suspension Rate Per 1,000 Pupils 2016-2023</b>
East Midlands	2.67	18.36
East of England	2.55	16.62
Inner London	1.93	13.67
North East	4.32	28.29
North West	3.8	17.81
Outer London	1.95	11.31
South East	1.56	15.95
South West	3.15	21.77
West Midlands	3.69	17.22
Yorkshire and The Humber	2.58	26.13

Using the measures described, the average Exclusion rate across England through the period is 2.82 pupils per 10,000.

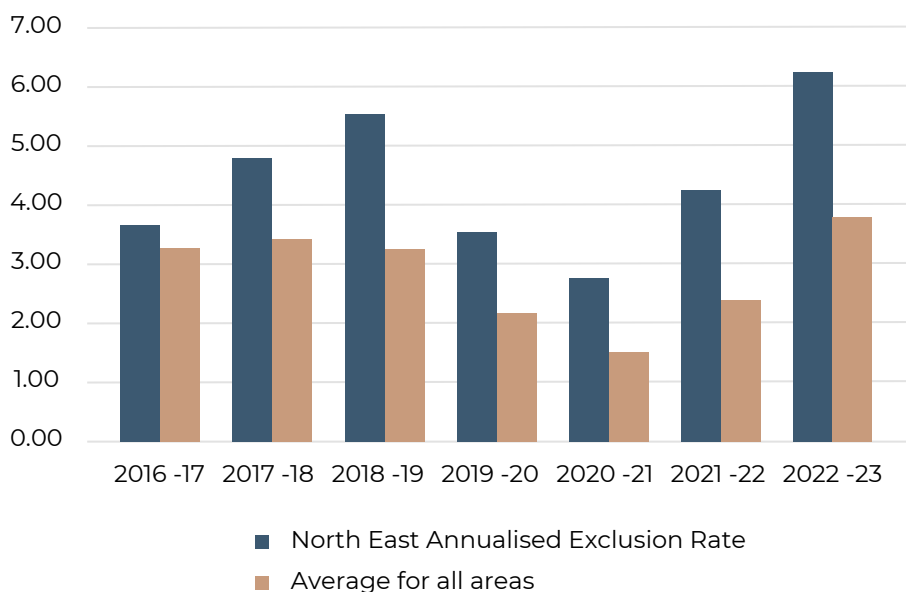
The North East shows the highest Exclusion and Suspension rates across England with Outer London being the lowest across the same measures.

### Average Suspension and Exclusion Rates 2016-2023



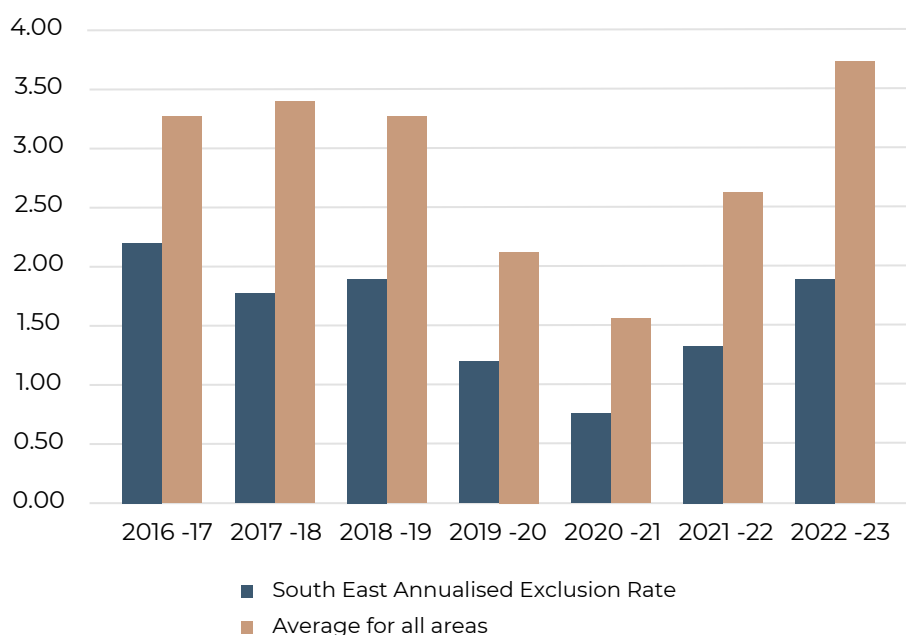
Comparing the areas with the highest and lowest Exclusion rates. Firstly, looking at the area with the highest figures, the North East, over time compared with England as a whole reveals a broadly similar trend but with a divergence increasing from 12.4% higher vs the national average in 2016-17 to a high of 74.94% higher in 2020/21 period.

### North East Average Annual Exclusion Rates per 10,000 Pupils vs England Average



Now looking at the region with the lowest Exclusion rates, the South East, vs England as a whole. With the exception of 2017-19 where figures dropped whilst the rest of England remained relatively constant, the South East has tracked the average trends albeit at a lower rate.

### South East Average Annual Exclusion Rates per 10,000 Pupils vs England Average



### Academy Vs LA Maintained Exclusion and Suspension Results

Taking the total reported Exclusions and Suspensions separately, divided by the total pupils across all terms and averaged for each academic year. Then split between Academies and all other State Funded settings.

It should be noted that this section is not showing the proportion of those in Primaries vs Secondary Schools which is higher in the case of academies and therefore could impact the results. More on this below.

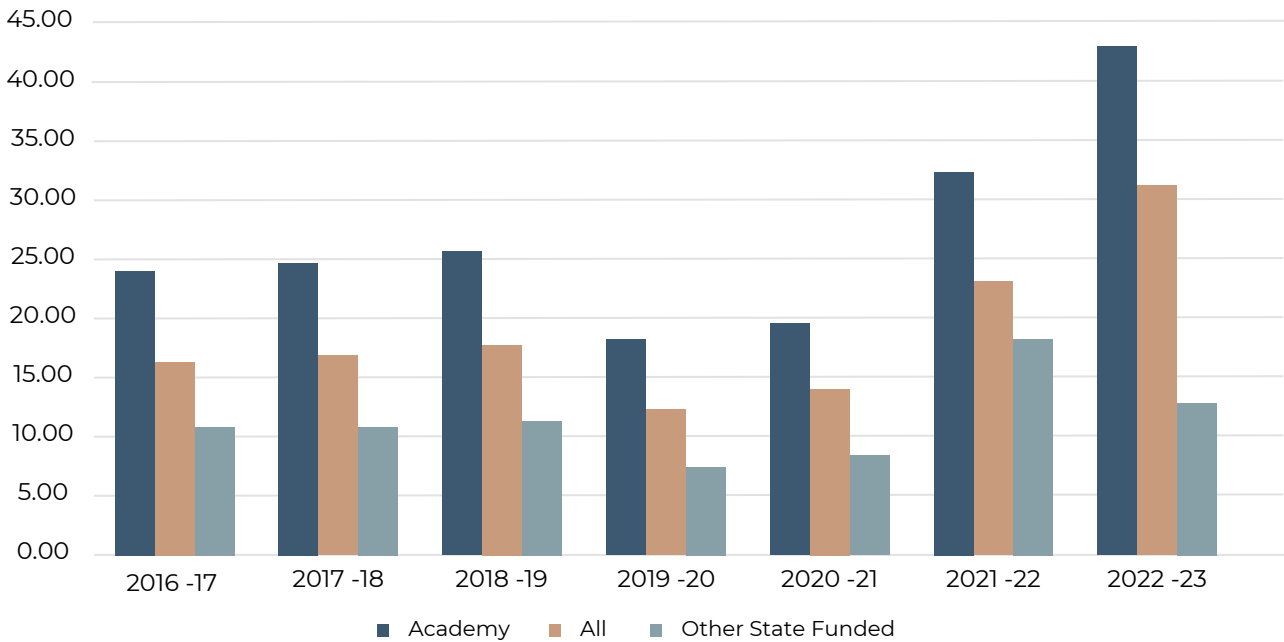
Exclusions and Suspensions (as before) are based on per 10,000 and 1,000 pupils respectively.

Year	School Type	Av Excl per 10,000	Av Suspension per 1000
2016-17	All	3.213428743	15.89700143
2016-17	Academy	4.707028014	23.90719807
2016-17	Other State Funded	2.181856316	10.36466209
2017-18	All	3.263701373	16.95857217
2017-18	Academy	4.6751035	24.74666897
2017-18	Other State Funded	2.090491123	10.48481476
2018-19	All	3.224721152	17.90324823
2018-19	Academy	4.476396252	25.1619246
2018-19	Other State Funded	1.99210213	10.7550813
2019-20	All	2.045967637	12.57167613
2019-20	Academy	2.85056282	17.6002177
2019-20	Other State Funded	1.142385955	6.924490865
2020-21	All	1.580654527	14.18299416
2020-21	Academy	2.171198125	19.57946243
2020-21	Other State Funded	0.869887989	7.68791221
2021-22	All	2.589037155	23.05155627
2021-22	Academy	3.466665792	32.06829829
2021-22	Other State Funded	2.058641358	17.60227867
2022-23	All	3.657369656	30.43957975
2022-23	Academy	4.885932852	42.38936475
2022-23	Other State Funded	1.957199079	13.90264219

As might be expected the data reveals a dip during the Covid years in both Exclusions and Suspensions, but a marked jump from 2021 onwards, particularly in Exclusions across Academies.

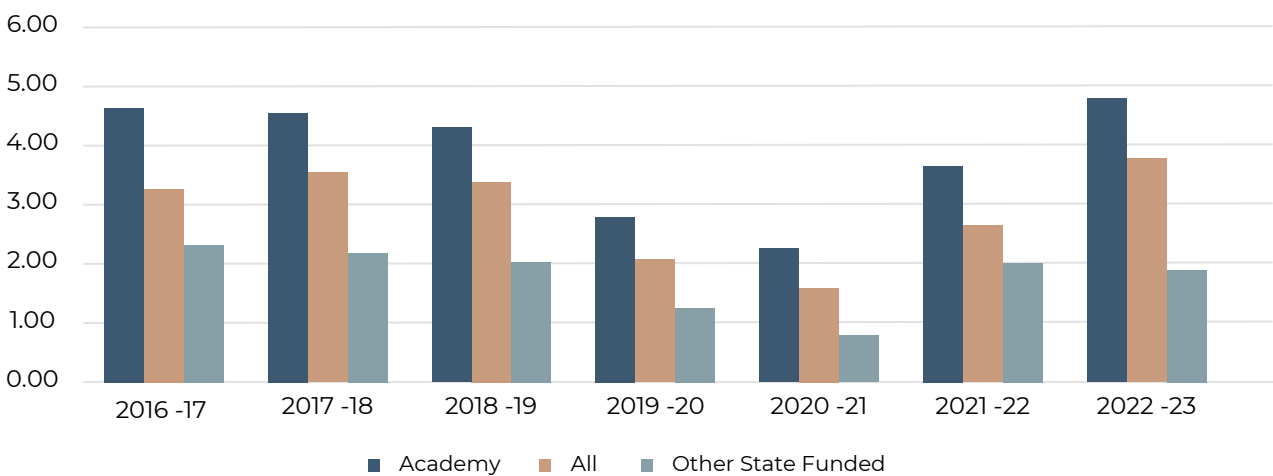
From the table above, looking first at Suspension rates over time:

Sum of Av Suspension per 1,000 by Year and School Type



From the table above, now looking at Exclusion Rates:

Sum of Av Exclusion per 10,000 by Year and School Type



So the data suggests that Academies have a significantly higher rate of Suspension and Exclusion than other state-maintained settings. When factoring in the phase of education and zooming in to Primary vs Secondary Schools only, the story is slightly different.

Taking Exclusions and Suspensions separately from 2016 to 2023 as an average across Academies vs Others, dividing by the total headcount across the terms and academic years and analysing by School Type and Scope we see the following:

Type	Scope	Exclusions Per 10,000	Suspensions per 1,000
Academy	Special	2.120137012	415.3262621
Academy	Primary	0.86936482	55.93516703
Academy	Secondary	5.638457525	378.8529114
Other State Funded	Special	1.784520543	309.8688461
Other State Funded	Primary	0.568148529	38.05087618
Other State Funded	Secondary	5.673882989	332.2865995

Chart from the table above, showing Exclusions by Type and Scope:

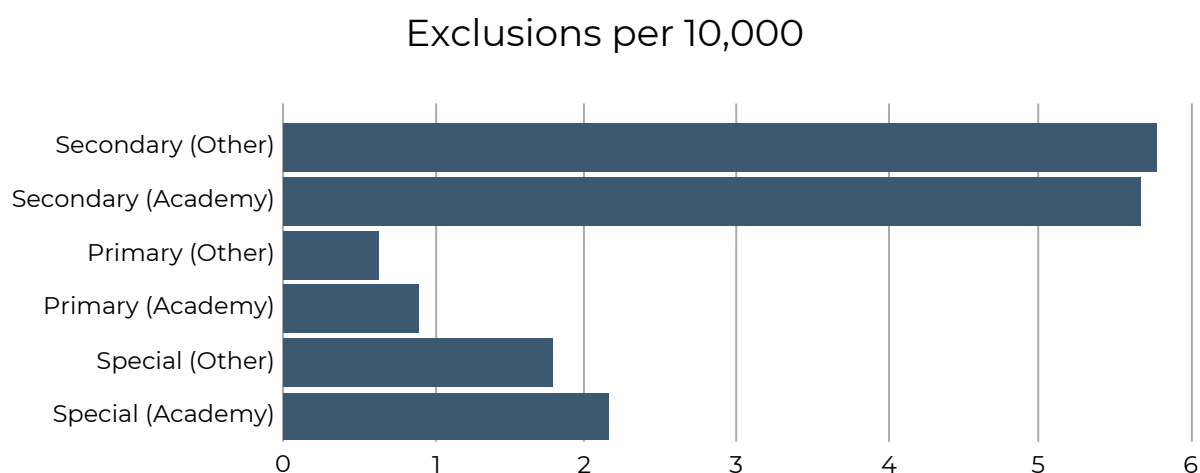
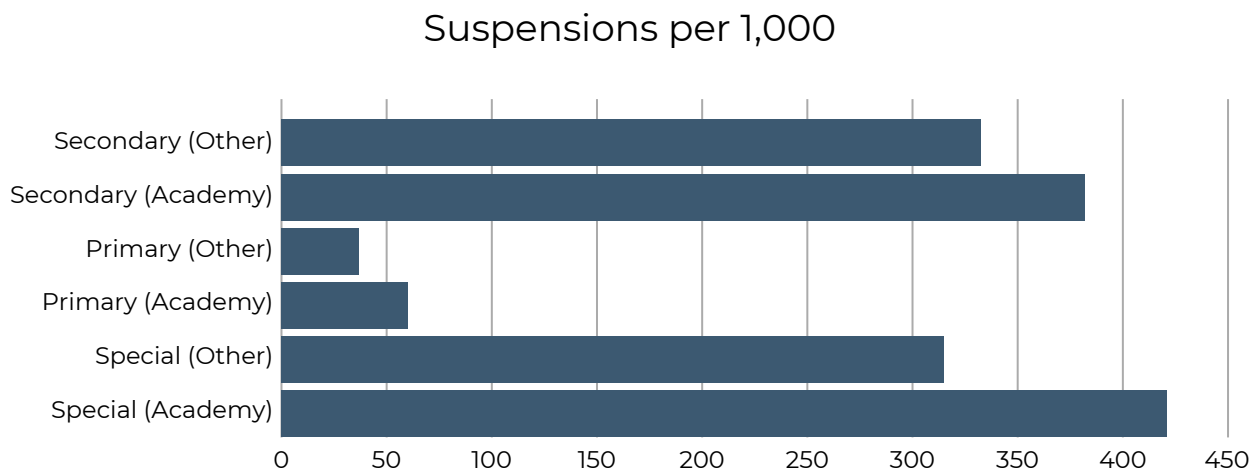


Chart from the table above, showing Suspensions by Type and Scope :



The data shows that due to the bias of Academies towards Secondary Schools and the higher rate of Exclusions in Primary Academies, the initial picture of Exclusions across all age ranges didn't necessarily reveal a balanced picture. That said, Suspensions are higher across Academies at all levels and types.

It should be noted that different types of Academies have different rates of Exclusions and the data may not reflect all circumstances in which children are removed from a given School.

## At a Local Authority Level

Looking at Schools falling within Council boundaries and comparing the Exclusion and Suspension data on the same measures across 2016 - 2023, the following 10 Council areas have the highest level of permanent Exclusions vs headcount.

Local Authority Area	Exclusion rate per 10,000 (2016-2023)
Bournemouth	7.067337593
Redcar and Cleveland	6.986154502
Torbay	5.975455815
Rochdale	5.959050067
Tameside	5.937643845
Wolverhampton	5.855139275
Blackpool	5.743780603
Gateshead	5.720013224
Poole	5.507713668
Lancashire	5.408687046



The Council area with the lowest level of permanent Exclusions are as follows:

Local Authority Area	Exclusion rate per 10,000 (2016-2023)
City of London	0
Isles of Scilly	0
Leeds	0.230818119
Cambridgeshire	0.321739046
Tower Hamlets	0.412979153
Kent	0.443131617
Milton Keynes	0.478843447
Wiltshire	0.548144782
Bristol, City of	0.684174868
Brighton and Hove	0.707433713

**The average permanent exclusion rate per Council area being 2.93 per 10,000 pupils and 18.91 for Suspensions per 1,000 pupils.**

Despite some areas having very high or low permanent Exclusion figures, these do not necessarily correlate to Suspension rates. When combining the Exclusion results with an equal weighting for the rate of Suspensions (adding the rate of Exclusion per 10,000 pupils to the rate of Suspension per 100 pupils), the top 10 Council areas for permanent Exclusion and Suspension are as follows:

Local Authority Area	Exclusion rate per 10,000 (2016-2023)	Suspension Rate per 1,000 (2016-2023)
Redcar and Cleveland	6.986154502	68.27524988
Middlesbrough	5.074926211	62.67330873
Bournemouth	7.067337593	26.61559337
Doncaster	3.314554388	62.47776178
Barnsley	5.08134533	44.28655283
Blackpool	5.743780603	31.88188084
Tameside	5.937643845	29.33550139
Torbay	5.975455815	26.95677505
Nottingham	5.301532722	33.33741144
Hartlepool	3.125616898	52.42811081

The areas on the same basis with the lowest levels are as follows:

Local Authority Area	Exclusion rate per 10,000 (2016-2023)	Suspension Rate per 1000 (2016-2023)
Isles of Scilly	0	0.599760096
City of London	0	1.818843216
Tower Hamlets	0.412979153	8.641309747
Kingston upon Thames	1.147613729	5.430125625
Cambridgeshire	0.321739046	15.35901768
Kent	0.443131617	14.96755794
Richmond upon Thames	1.114737003	8.353335671
Leeds	0.230818119	18.97125956
Barking and Dagenham	1.47827056	6.863723923
Merton	1.306123602	8.67513176

## CONCLUSION: A THIRD-SECTOR PERSPECTIVE



The Children's Alliance is a leading charity committed to improving the lives of children across the UK. With the support of over 250 organizations, associations, charities, and professionals, we advocate for children's rights and welfare at both local and national levels, striving to create a brighter future for every child.

The Children's Alliance is driven by two key missions:

### **Political Mission:**

- We advocate for a dedicated voice for children within the heart of government. This could be achieved by establishing a Department for Children, Young People & Families or by appointing a stand-alone cabinet-level minister focused on children's issues.

### **Community Mission:**

- We believe that access to water is essential for the physical, social, and emotional well-being of children and young people. Our goal is to ensure that every child and young person has this fundamental resource.

We believe that every child deserves the best possible start in life and the brightest future. Education does not begin when a child enters school; it starts at home, in nurseries, and through schooling/teaching life skills in the home. A child's early years are critical, as their development is shaped by their environment, family structure, access to early education, and the care they receive.

The Children's Alliance is dedicated to supporting children from conception through to adulthood, providing evidence-based policy recommendations to the government and establishing specific community funds. Our aim is to build a society that nurtures children from the very beginning, helping them grow into the strongest and most resilient members of our communities.

We fully support this report and its findings on the state of schools across the UK, as it provides crucial information for our advocacy efforts. However, we also acknowledge the critical role of early education, whether in homes, nurseries, or through homeschooling.

Education is a complex issue, and while some changes have been implemented post-COVID, further reforms are necessary to cultivate well-rounded individuals for the future. This includes revising the curriculum, reviewing future skills requirements, and incorporating more practical and creative skills within educational institutions that are safe, inspiring, and well-resourced.

The report highlights the expansion of multi-academy trusts (MATs) compared to local authority schools, yet it does not present clear advantages of MATs. Regarding school inspection performance, there is a marked difference between London and the rest of the country in terms of good and outstanding schools. However, the financial stability of London schools is a significant concern; can they sustain their results under increasing financial pressure?

The higher rates of exclusions and expulsions in MATs raise questions about whether this is linked to the autonomy these trusts possess. Additionally, the political landscape information in the report is outdated, and it would be beneficial to update this in 2025 to reflect changes following the recent election. It would also be valuable to include data on student attendance, comparing attendance rates between MATs and local authority schools.

The Health & Well-being of our children is sorely lacking in schools, and we can find that in cases such as School Meals, where rather than best nutritional outcomes for children, we find schools and academies are purchasing on cost, rather than quality. It is so important we have data as shown in this report, to allow charities and organisations to understand the changing school landscape, that all too often sees children as an object to pass through the system, rather than the cultivation of a young person into a rounded, physically and mentally well adult, that can contribute to our society.

Paul Wright, Public Health Director  
Children's Alliance

Get Involved We invite you to join the Children's Alliance at no cost. To become a part of our movement, simply email us at [info@childrensalliance.org.uk](mailto:info@childrensalliance.org.uk). You can also support our campaign by contacting your local MP and urging them to prioritize children's welfare in government policy, either through a dedicated department or a stand-alone minister. For more information, please [visit our website](#)



# A word from the Author

As a parent of a 10-year-old and someone who loves data and takes an interest in the workings, dynamics, changes, and outcomes in education, this project has been very interesting and, dare I say, rewarding.

As the first edition - of what I hope will be a long-running annual publication - it has taken a little time to complete and will likely span the (at the time of typing) upcoming election.

The intention (and hope) though is that this edition will provide both interest and value now and a framework for further insights in the years to come that may otherwise not have been possible.

Thanks for reading,

James Williams  
Managing Director

## GET IN TOUCH

We hope that the insights and data presented in the Schools Report 2024 have been informative and valuable to you. Our aim is to support better understanding and informed decision-making within the Public Sector. Should you require further assistance or bespoke data solutions tailored to your specific needs, we invite you to get in touch with us.

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