



Department
for Education

Special educational needs in England, January 2016

Metadata Specification

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1. Description

This document describes the data contained in the 2016 special educational needs (SEN) underlying data files, which contains school level SEN data.

The school level file (SFR29_2016_UD.csv) contains number of pupils with statements or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans and the number of pupils on SEN support.

The information contained in the underlying data files is based on January 2016 School Census returns. Information is shown for all schools in England.

2. Coverage

The list below details the school types that are included in the files:

- Maintained nursery
- Direct Grant nursery
- Maintained primary
- Maintained secondary
- City technology colleges
- Academies - primary, secondary, special and alternative provision converters, primary, secondary and special sponsor-led and primary, secondary, special and alternative provision free schools
- Maintained special (including general hospitals)
- Non-maintained special
- Pupil referral units
- Independent schools
- General hospital schools

All schools except general hospital and independent schools have provided pupil level data on the SEN provision of all pupils.

General hospital and independent schools have provided school level data on the number of pupils with and without statements of SEN, at the time of the census in Spring 2016 (statement of SEN, SEN without a statement, no SEN – the codes within this data collection have not been amended to reflect the SEN reforms).

3. Overview

The information contained in the underlying data file relates to the SEN status of pupils as collected during the Spring Census 2016.

Data has been produced for all pupils with sole and dual main registrations, except in independent schools, where all pupils are included.

Analyses produced from this data have been published, along with further tables relating to characteristics of SEN pupils, at national, regional and local authority level in the Statistical First Release (SFR), "Special Educational Needs in England,

January 2016”.

A full description of the methods used in the collection of this data can be found in the PDF version of the above SFR.

4. Underlying data files

Title: SFR29_2016_UD.csv

Variable names: A list of the headings used in the CSV file and the corresponding variable names/descriptions are shown at Annex A.

Variables starting "Primary_need_" - This is the primary need of the pupil. It is collected for pupils with statements of SEN/ EHC plans or on SEN support (including those at School Action Plus who are yet to convert to SEN support).

Variables starting "Prov_" – This is the type of approved provision for special schools. This is collected for maintained and non-maintained special schools, excluding general hospital schools. Each school may have one or more provisions where a '1' indicates school has been approved for this type of provision and a '0' indicates school has not been approved for this type of provision.

5. Statistical disclosure control

To protect confidentiality the following conventions have been used:

- Low counts (pupil numbers of 1 or 2) have been suppressed and replaced by (x).
- 0 is shown only when the true value is 0.
- '...' not available, data item not collected for this school type or not provided.

Figures for the following variables have been rounded to the nearest '5':

| | |
|----|---------------------|
| 21 | Total Pupils |
| 22 | SEN support |
| 23 | Statement/ EHC plan |

6. Data quality

Information about data sources and data quality can be found in the 'Quality and uses' document published alongside the SFR.

Annex A – Variables in file

| | Field name | Issue / description |
|---|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | Country code | Code for country of school |
| 2 | Country | Country of school location (England) |
| 3 | Region | Region of School location |
| 4 | Region Code | Region code of School location |

| | | |
|----|---------------------------|---|
| 5 | URN | School's Unique Reference Number |
| 6 | New LA code | New LA ONS codes (introduced Jan 2011) |
| 7 | Old LA code | Old 3 digit LA code |
| 8 | LA name | Name of Local Authority of School Location |
| 9 | Estab | Establishment Number |
| 10 | School Name | School Name |
| 11 | Open Date | Open date of the school sourced from Edubase, the Department's register of educational establishments. Open date is not available for all schools. |
| 12 | Sex of school description | Gender of school intake – boys, girls or mixed. |
| 13 | Denomination | School denomination |
| 14 | Phase-type grouping | Replaces phase information given in previous years to more accurately mirror how data is broken down in the statistical release tables. |
| 15 | Type of establishment | Type of school |
| 16 | Admissions policy | School admission policy |
| 17 | Parl Con code | Parliamentary Constituency Code |
| 18 | Parl Con name | Parliamentary Constituency name |
| 19 | Ward code | Ward Code |
| 20 | Ward name | Ward Name |
| 21 | Total Pupils | Includes sole and dual main registered pupils. For PRUs also includes pupils registered with other providers and further education colleges unless otherwise stated in this section |
| 22 | SEN support | Includes sole and dual main registered pupils with SEN without a statement or EHC plan in maintained nursery, state-funded primary, state-funded secondary, special schools and PRU. This will include those on SEN support and those whose SEN provision is school action or school action plus and are yet to transfer to SEN support. In general hospital schools includes sole and dual main registered pupils with SEN without a statement or EHC plan. In independent schools includes all pupils with SEN without a statement or EHC plan. |
| 23 | Statement/ EHC plan | Includes sole and dual main registered pupils with a statement of SEN or EHC plan. In independent schools includes all pupils with a statement of SEN or EHC plan. |
| 24 | Primary_need_spld | Sole and dual main registered pupils with specific learning difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools. |
| 25 | Primary_need_mld | Sole and dual main registered pupils with moderate learning difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools. |
| 26 | Primary_need_sld | Sole and dual main registered pupils with severe learning difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by |

| | | |
|----|-------------------|--|
| | | general hospital and independent schools. |
| 27 | Primary_need_pmld | Sole and dual main registered pupils with profound and multiple learning difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools. |
| 28 | Primary_need_semh | Sole and dual main registered pupils with social, emotional and mental health as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools. |
| 29 | Primary_need_slcn | Sole and dual main registered pupils with speech, language and communication needs as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools. |
| 30 | Primary_need_hi | Sole and dual main registered pupils with hearing impairment as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools. |
| 31 | Primary_need_vi | Sole and dual main registered pupils with vision impairment as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools. |
| 32 | Primary_need_msi | Sole and dual main registered pupils with multi-sensory impairment as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools. |
| 33 | Primary_need_pd | Sole and dual main registered pupils with physical difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools. |
| 34 | Primary_need_asd | Sole and dual main registered pupils with autistic spectrum disorder as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools. |
| 35 | Primary_need_oth | Sole and dual main registered pupils with other learning difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools. |
| 36 | Prov_spld | School approved for specific learning difficulty (identified with a 1) |
| 37 | Prov_mld | School approved for moderate learning difficulty (identified with a 1) |
| 38 | Prov _sld | School approved for severe learning difficulty (identified with a 1) |
| 39 | Prov _pmld | School approved for profound and multiple learning difficulty (identified with a 1) |
| 40 | Prov _semh | School approved for social, emotional and mental health (This code was introduced in 2015; the previous code was behaviour, emotional and social difficulties. Schools who did not amend their code to the new code have also been included here.) (identified with a 1) |
| 41 | Prov _slcn | School approved for speech, language and communication needs (identified with a 1) |
| 42 | Prov _hi | School approved for hearing impairment (identified with a 1) |
| 43 | Prov _vi | School approved for vision impairment (identified with a 1) |
| 44 | Prov _msi | School approved for multi-sensory impairment (identified |

| | | |
|----|-----------|--|
| | | with a 1) |
| 45 | Prov _pd | School approved for physical difficulty (identified with a 1) |
| 46 | Prov _asd | School approved for autistic spectrum disorder (identified with a 1) |
| 47 | Prov _oth | School approved for other difficulty (identified with a 1) |