



Department
for Education

Special educational needs in England: January 2018

Metadata Specification

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1. Description

This document describes the data contained in the 2018 special educational needs (SEN) underlying data files, which contains school level SEN data.

The school level file (SEN_2018_UD.csv) contains the 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 2018 School Census, General hospital schools census 2018 and School Level Annual School Census (SLASC) 2018 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 SEN provision of all pupils.

3. Overview

The information contained in the underlying data file relates to the SEN status of pupils as collected during the January 2018 School Census, General hospital schools census 2018 and School Level Annual School Census (SLASC) 2018.

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 publication, "Special Educational Needs in England, January 2018".

4. Underlying data files

Title: SEN_2018_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.

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.

6. Data quality

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

Annex A – Variables in file

	Field name	Issue / description
1	term	School Census term (e.g. spring)
2	year	Year in format YYYY (e.g.2018)
3	level	Level of data (e.g. School)
4	country_code	Code for country of school
5	country_name	Country of school location (England)
6	region code	Region code of School location
7	region_name	Region of School location
8	old_LA_code	Old 3 digit LA code
9	new_LA_code	New LA ONS codes (introduced Jan 2011)
10	la_name	Name of Local Authority of School Location
11	URN	School's Unique Reference Number
12	estab	Establishment Number
13	laestab	Concatenation of old_la_code and estab
14	school_name	School Name

15	open_date	Open date of the school sourced from GIAS, the Department's register of educational establishments. Open date is not available for all schools.
16	gender	Gender of school intake – boys, girls or mixed.
17	denomination	School denomination
18	phase_type_grouping	Phase of School
19	type_of_establishment	Type of school
20	admission	School admission policy
21	parlc_code	Parliamentary Constituency Code
22	parlc_name	Parliamentary Constituency name
23	ward_code	Ward Code
24	ward_name	Ward Name
25	all_through	Indicator of whether school is an all-through school
26	general_hospital_school	Indicator of whether school is a general hospital school
27	middle_school	Indicator of whether school is a middle school
28	Total Pupils	Includes sole and dual main registered pupils.
29	SEN support	Includes sole and dual main registered pupils with SEN without a statement or EHC plan (i.e. SEN support). In independent schools includes all pupils with SEN without a statement or EHC plan (i.e. SEN support).
30	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.
31	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.
32	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.
33	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.
34	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.
35	Primary_need_scmh	Sole and dual main registered pupils with social, emotional and mental health as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent

		schools.
36	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.
37	Primary_need_hi	Sole and dual main registered pupils with hearing impairment as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
38	Primary_need_vi	Sole and dual main registered pupils with vision impairment as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
39	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.
40	Primary_need_pd	Sole and dual main registered pupils with physical difficulty as their primary need. Not provided by general hospital and independent schools.
41	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.
42	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.
43	Prov_spld	School approved for specific learning difficulty (identified with a 1)
44	Prov_mld	School approved for moderate learning difficulty (identified with a 1)
45	Prov_sld	School approved for severe learning difficulty (identified with a 1)
46	Prov_pmld	School approved for profound and multiple learning difficulty (identified with a 1)
47	Prov_semh	School approved for social, emotional and mental health (identified with a 1)
48	Prov_slcn	School approved for speech, language and communication needs (identified with a 1)
49	Prov_hi	School approved for hearing impairment (identified with a 1)
50	Prov_vi	School approved for vision impairment (identified with a 1)
51	Prov_msi	School approved for multi-sensory impairment (identified with a 1)
52	Prov_pd	School approved for physical difficulty (identified with a 1)
53	Prov_asd	School approved for autistic spectrum disorder (identified with a 1)
54	Prov_oth	School approved for other difficulty (identified with

		a 1)
55	SEN_UNIT	A school is determined as having a SEN unit if one or more pupils in that school have been recorded as being a member of a SEN unit.
56	RP_UNIT	A school is determined as having resourced provision if one or more pupils in that school have been recorded as receiving support for their type of SEN from a specialist resourced provision.