Attendance Network

- National Picture
- What the data tells us
- Developments in GCC
- Does the story join up?
- What can schools look at before a TSM?

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Living our values every day
Accountable Integrity Empower Respect Excellence
GCC

Latest publicly-available data

As derived from school census

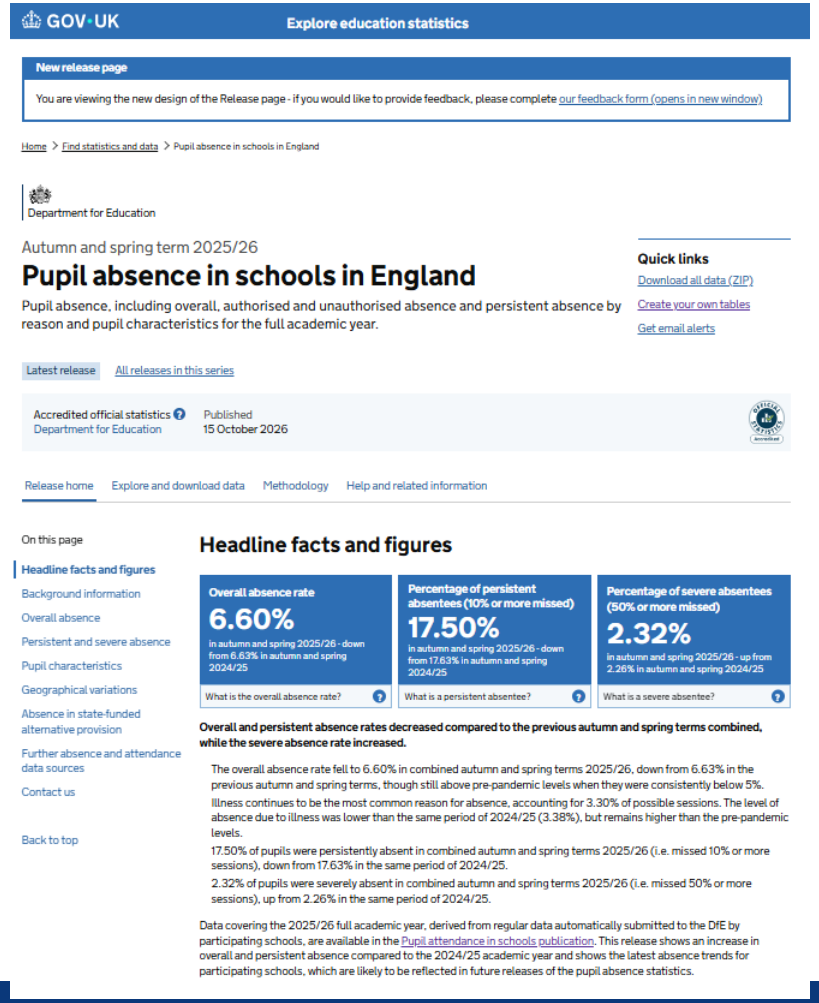
School-level absence (with reasons) and Persistent & Severe Absentee numbers

…aggregated to:

Phase and District-level
Phase and LA-level
Phase and regional-level
Phase and National

Autumn Term collected January, published **May**
Autumn & Spring terms collected May, published **October**
Whole academic year collected October, published **March**

Compare Gloucestershire with National
or
Investigate absence rates by school



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New release page

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Home > Find statistics and data > Pupil absence in schools in England

Department for Education

Autumn and spring term 2025/26

Pupil absence in schools in England

Pupil absence, including overall, authorised and unauthorised absence and persistent absence by reason and pupil characteristics for the full academic year.

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Accredited official statistics
Department for Education

Published
15 October 2026

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Headline facts and figures

Overall absence rate	Percentage of persistent absentees (10% or more missed)	Percentage of severe absentees (50% or more missed)
6.60%	17.50%	2.32%
in autumn and spring 2025/26 - down from 6.63% in autumn and spring 2024/25	in autumn and spring 2025/26 - down from 17.63% in autumn and spring 2024/25	in autumn and spring 2025/26 - up from 2.26% in autumn and spring 2024/25
What is the overall absence rate?	What is a persistent absentee?	What is a severe absentee?

Overall and persistent absence rates decreased compared to the previous autumn and spring terms combined, while the severe absence rate increased.

The overall absence rate fell to 6.60% in combined autumn and spring terms 2025/26, down from 6.63% in the previous autumn and spring terms, though still above pre-pandemic levels when they were consistently below 5%.

Illness continues to be the most common reason for absence, accounting for 3.30% of possible sessions. The level of absence due to illness was lower than the same period of 2024/25 (3.38%), but remains higher than the pre-pandemic levels.

17.50% of pupils were persistently absent in combined autumn and spring terms 2025/26 (i.e. missed 10% or more sessions), down from 17.63% in the same period of 2024/25.

2.32% of pupils were severely absent in combined autumn and spring terms 2025/26 (i.e. missed 50% or more sessions), up from 2.26% in the same period of 2024/25.

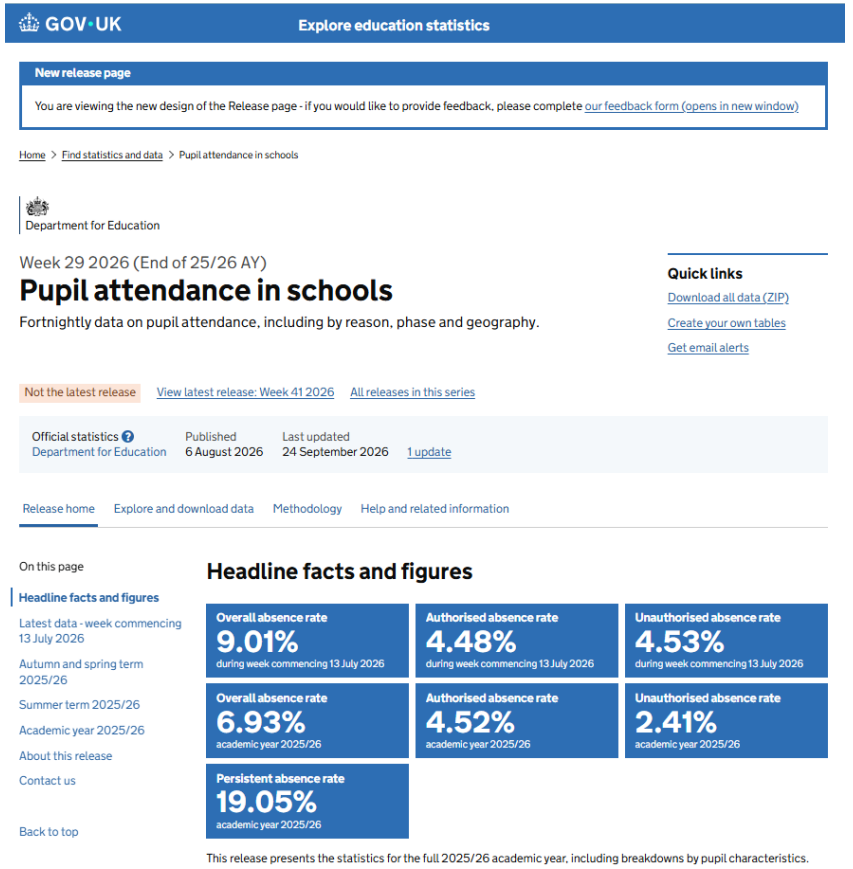
Data covering the 2025/26 full academic year, derived from regular data automatically submitted to the DfE by participating schools, are available in the Pupil attendance in schools publication. This release shows an increase in overall and persistent absence compared to the 2024/25 academic year and shows the latest absence trends for participating schools, which are likely to be reflected in future releases of the pupil absence statistics.

National Picture

Whole AY 2025/26 data from VYED

Headlines from the end-of-year daily attendance data:

- Overall absence across 2025/26 was **6.93%**, equivalent to 93.07% attendance.
- Primary absence was **5.31%**.
- Secondary absence was **8.57%**.
- Special school absence was **13.19%**.
- Persistent absence was **19.05%** nationally.


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New release page

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Home > Find statistics and data > Pupil attendance in schools

Department for Education

Week 29 2026 (End of 25/26 AY)

Pupil attendance in schools

Fortnightly data on pupil attendance, including by reason, phase and geography.

Quick links
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Official statistics | Published 6 August 2026 | Last updated 24 September 2026 | 1 update

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Headline facts and figures

Overall absence rate 9.01% during week commencing 13 July 2026	Authorised absence rate 4.48% during week commencing 13 July 2026	Unauthorised absence rate 4.53% during week commencing 13 July 2026
Overall absence rate 6.93% academic year 2025/26	Authorised absence rate 4.52% academic year 2025/26	Unauthorised absence rate 2.41% academic year 2025/26
Persistent absence rate 19.05% academic year 2025/26		

This release presents the statistics for the full 2025/26 academic year, including breakdowns by pupil characteristics.

*Across 2025/26, absence was **10.87% for pupils eligible for FSM compared with 5.26% for pupils not eligible for FSM**. It was **13.64% for pupils with an EHCP, 10.07% for SEN Support**, and **5.80% for pupils with no identified SEN***

Gloucestershire Picture

Whole AY 2025/26 data from VYED

Headlines from the end-of-year daily attendance data:

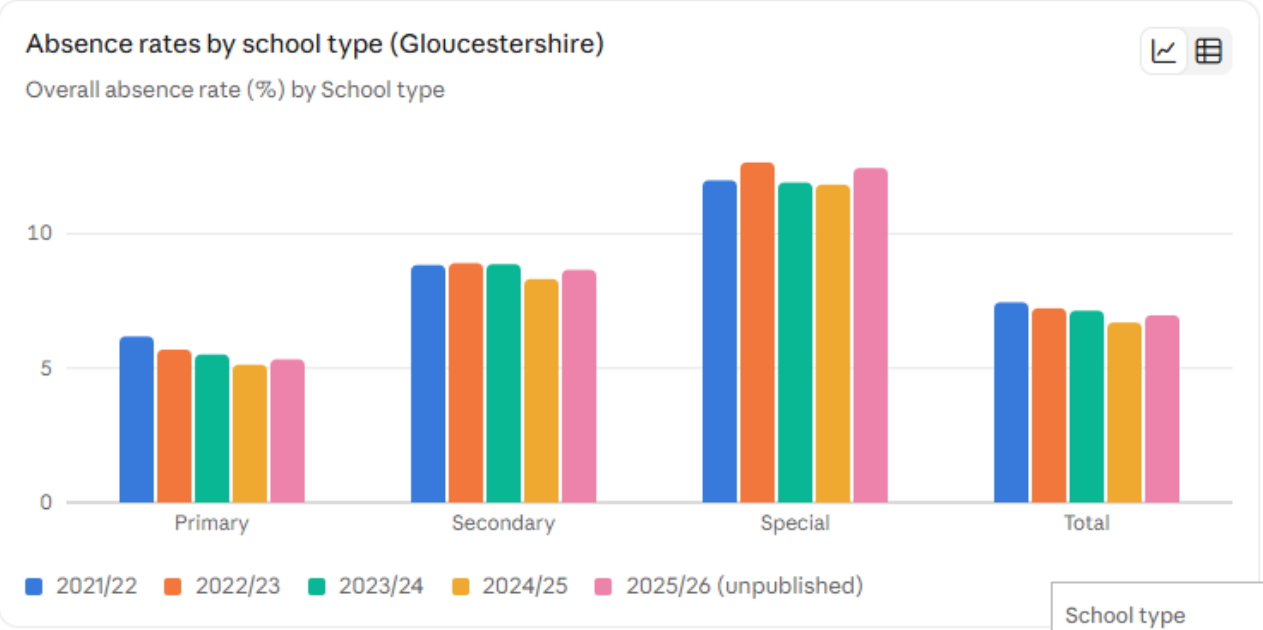
- Overall absence across 2025/26 was **6.97%**, equivalent to 93.03% attendance.
- Primary absence was **5.33%**.
- Secondary absence was **8.66%**.
- Special school absence was **12.45%**.
- Persistent absence was **18.45%**.

'Pupil attendance since week commencing 08 September 2025 - Academic year 2025 - 2026' for Primary, Secondary and Special in Gloucestershire for 2025/26

Move and reorder table headers

		2025/26
Total	Authorised absence rate	5.26%
	Overall absence rate	6.97%
	Persistent absence rate	18.45%
	Unauthorised absence rate	1.71%
Primary	Authorised absence rate	4.10%
	Overall absence rate	5.33%
	Persistent absence rate	12.98%
	Unauthorised absence rate	1.23%
Secondary	Authorised absence rate	6.42%
	Overall absence rate	8.66%
	Persistent absence rate	23.95%
	Unauthorised absence rate	2.24%
Special	Authorised absence rate	10.10%
	Overall absence rate	12.45%
	Persistent absence rate	34.65%
	Unauthorised absence rate	2.35%

Gloucestershire Picture



School type	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26 (unpublished)
Primary	6.18	5.69	5.51	5.13	5.33
Secondary	8.84	8.91	8.87	8.32	8.66
Special	11.99	12.66	11.91	11.83	12.45
Total	7.45	7.23	7.14	6.7	6.97

What the data tells us

Attendance data

Who is absent?

How often?

What codes are being used?

Is absence deteriorating or improving?

Wider Intelligence

Are there SEND or vulnerability indicators?

Has an FPN been requested?

Has a PTTT report been submitted?

Is data consistent between systems?

TSM conversation

Which pupils should we focus on?

What are the likely barriers?

What support is already happening?

What needs to happen next?

GCC Developments

Data

VYED / Monitor your school attendance dataset
Pupil-level characteristics, absence and codes

JADU data download
Reduced Hours / Alternative Provider PTTTs reported to GCC

MRI Portal dataset
FPNs requested, issued and outcomes

Intelligence

GCC Attendance Power BI Report

Supporting the LA's preparation for TSMs.

Not intended to replace the detailed attendance analysis schools already have through their MIS or the DfE tools

Action

Targeted Support Meeting

Discussions around individual pupils of interest, informed by wider information and activity

Agree actions and joint approaches

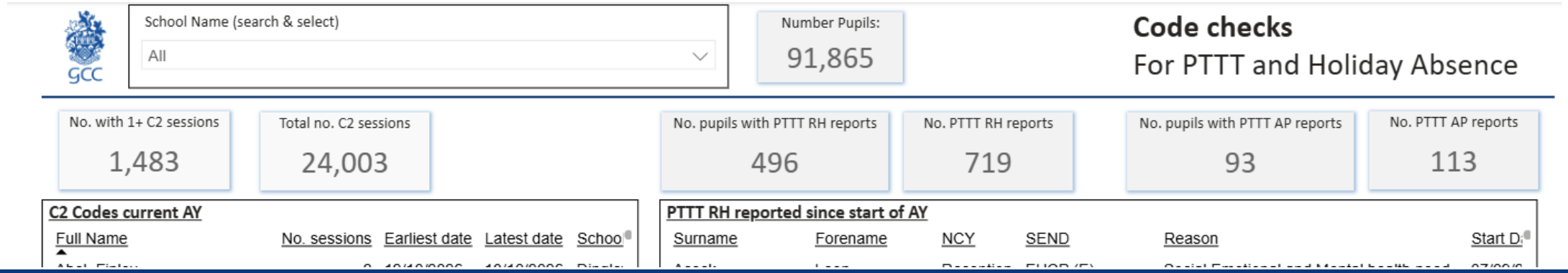
Identify where multi-agency response needed

Use data to identify priorities and focus attendance support where most needed

Does the data join up?

VYED dataset: A pupil has been recorded with a C2 absence code

JADU dataset: A pupil is reported to GCC as being on a part-time timetable



Does the data join up?

VYED dataset: A pupil has been recorded with a G absence code

MRI Portal dataset: A FPN request for unauthorised absence is submitted

No. with 1+ G session	Total no. G sessions	No. with 10+ G sessions	No. FPN requests	No. pupils with requests	No. FPNs issued
1,591	10,255	412	735	447	561

G codes current AY

Full Name	No. sessions	Earliest date	Latest date	Sch

Requested FPNs for Holiday Absence since start of AY

Surname	Forename	NCY	Abs Start Date	No. requests	FPN Status	School_Name

What can schools look at before a TSM?

Use information available before a TSM to identify attendance trends, discrepancies and pupils who may need support.

Monitor Your School Attendance in VYED can help schools identify trends, pupils potentially requiring support and compare attendance with other schools

Look beyond the headline attendance figure and consider:

- Which cohorts are driving the difference?
- Is the issue widespread or concentrated among a small number of pupils?
- Who is most at risk of becoming persistently or severely absent?
- Are part-time timetables appropriate and being used effectively?
- Is action being taken around repeated or consistent unauthorised absence?
- Is there a particular focus needed for year groups, FSM, SEND or other vulnerable cohorts?
- Is attendance improving or deteriorating?
- How do we compare with genuinely similar schools?

2025/26 similar-schools comparison reports are due in VYED in early November 2026

Attendance data and updates

- Contact Inclusion Officers for advice and support on managing absence and promoting attendance
- Get ready for your TSM! Run routines to identify coding discrepancies and pupils who need to be reported for PTTT
- Look beyond the headline; use the data and tools already available to identify trends, cohorts and pupils who may need support

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Thank you!