

Gloucestershire Children in Care achieving their full potential conference

12th November 2025

School Attendance in Gloucestershire

Andrea Jordan – Education Inclusion Lead with strategic oversight for attendance

Living our values every day




Accountability



Integrity



Empowerment



Respect



Excellence



Gloucestershire
COUNTY COUNCIL

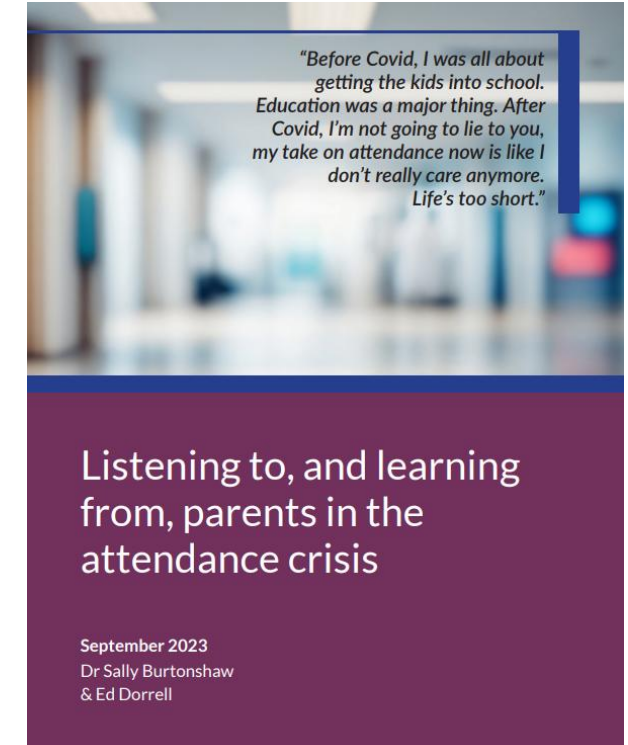
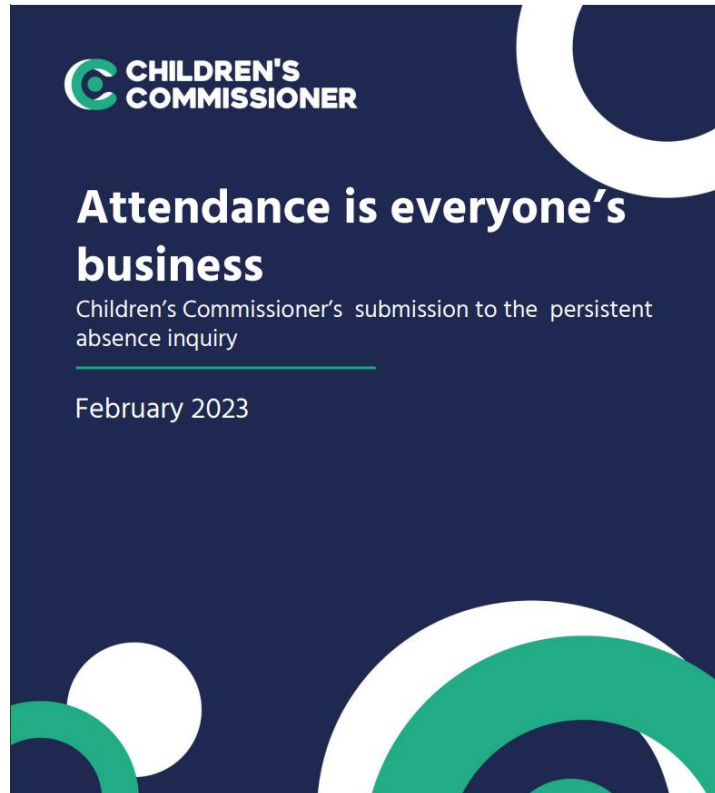
Introduction



Working together to improve school attendance

Statutory guidance for maintained schools, academies, independent schools and local authorities

August 2024



PUBLICFIRST
in partnership with:



Accountability



Integrity



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Respect



Excellence



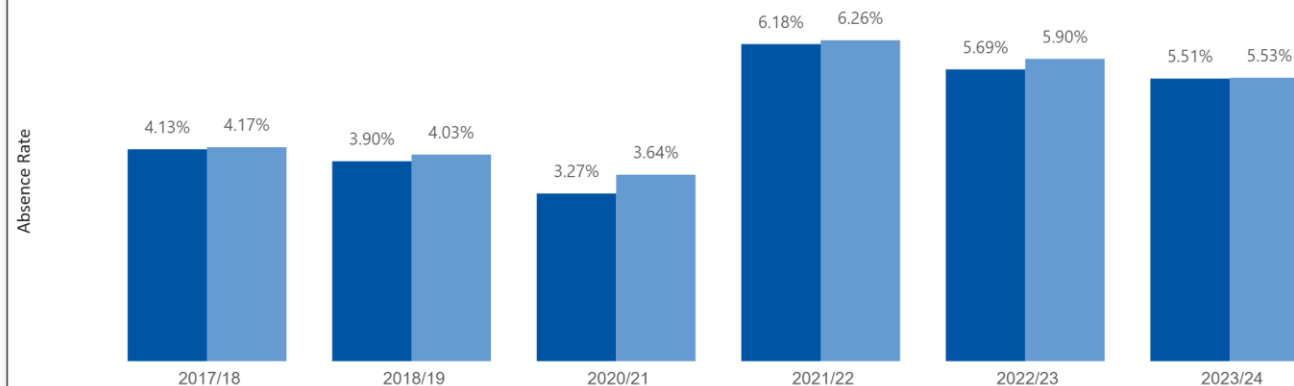
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Gloucestershire Primary school absence compared to National

Overall Absence Rates: Primary Schools

% possible sessions missed

● Gloucestershire ● National

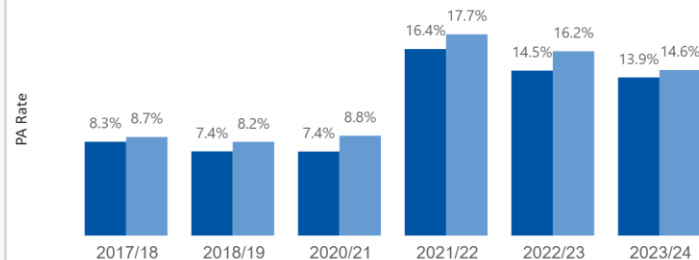


Absent Rates, and the percentage of pupils who are classified as Persistent or Severe Absentees in Primary schools in Gloucestershire, are lower than the national equivalents

Persistent Absence Rates: Primary Schools

% pupils missing 10% or more of possible sessions

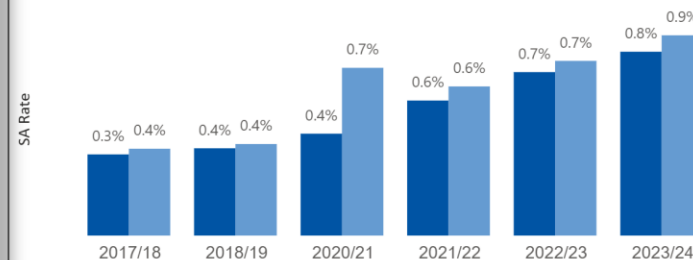
● Gloucestershire ● National



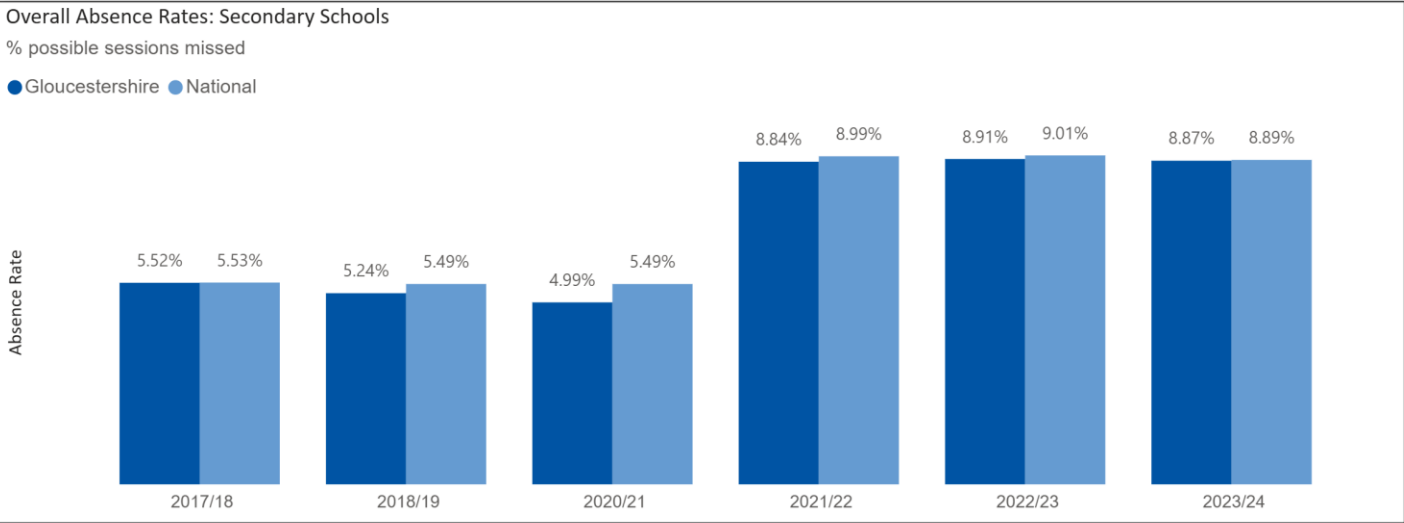
Severe Absence Rates: Primary Schools

% pupils missing 50% or more of possible sessions

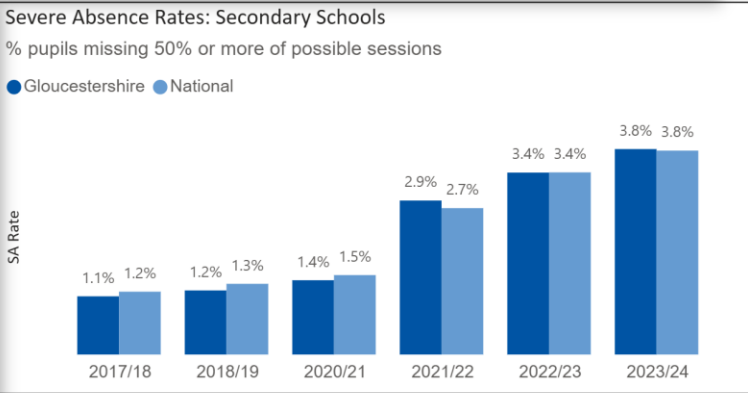
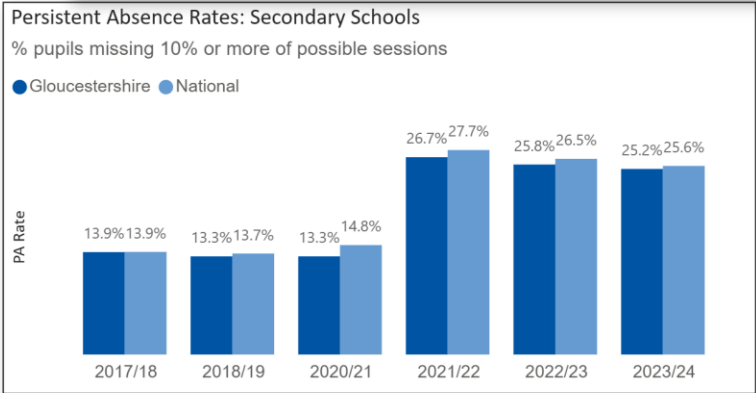
● Gloucestershire ● National



Gloucestershire Secondary school absence compared to National



Secondary schools in Gloucestershire perform better than nationally for overall absence rates and persistent absence rates.



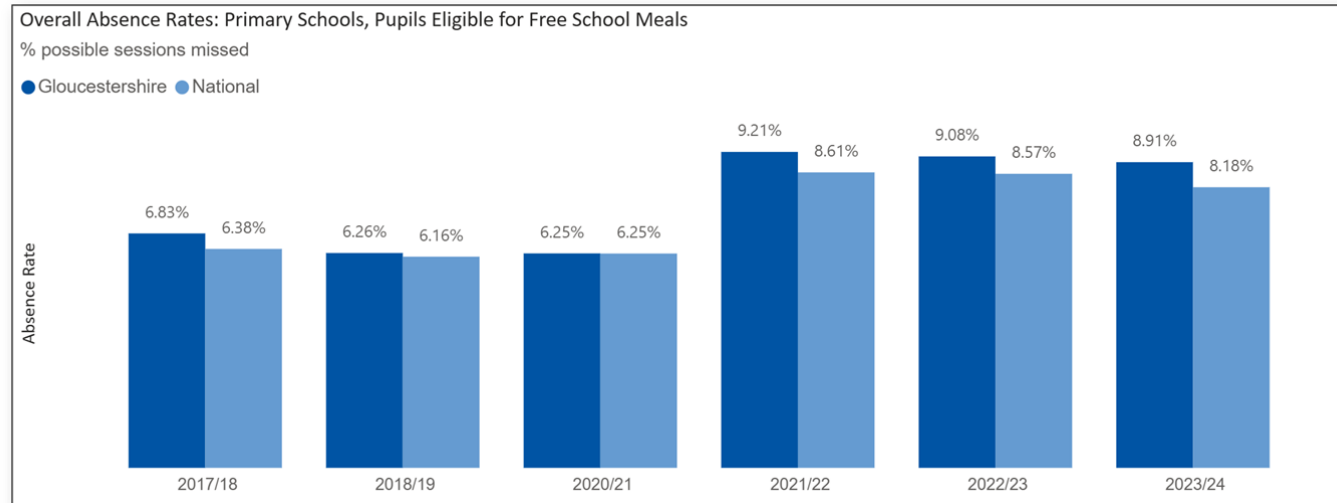
Gloucestershire Primary FSM gaps compared to National

Absence for FSM Not eligible and FSM eligible pupils in Primary schools in England and Gloucestershire between 2017/18 and 2023/24

Overall absence rate		2017/18	2018/19	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Gloucestershire	FSM Not eligible	3.8%	3.6%	2.7%	5.5%	4.9%	4.7%
	FSM eligible	6.7%	6.2%	6.1%	9.1%	9.0%	8.8%
	<i>Difference</i>	<i>-2.9%</i>	<i>-2.6%</i>	<i>-3.4%</i>	<i>-3.6%</i>	<i>-4.1%</i>	<i>-4.1%</i>
National	FSM Not eligible	3.8%	3.6%	2.9%	5.5%	5.0%	4.6%
	FSM eligible	6.3%	6.0%	6.1%	8.5%	8.5%	8.1%
	<i>Difference</i>	<i>-2.5%</i>	<i>-2.4%</i>	<i>-3.2%</i>	<i>-3.0%</i>	<i>-3.5%</i>	<i>-3.5%</i>

Pupils who are eligible for Free School Meals miss more school than their non-FSM eligible peers.

The gap in Gloucestershire Primary School Absence and PA rates, whilst showing no increase from 2022/23 to 2023/24, is wider than national

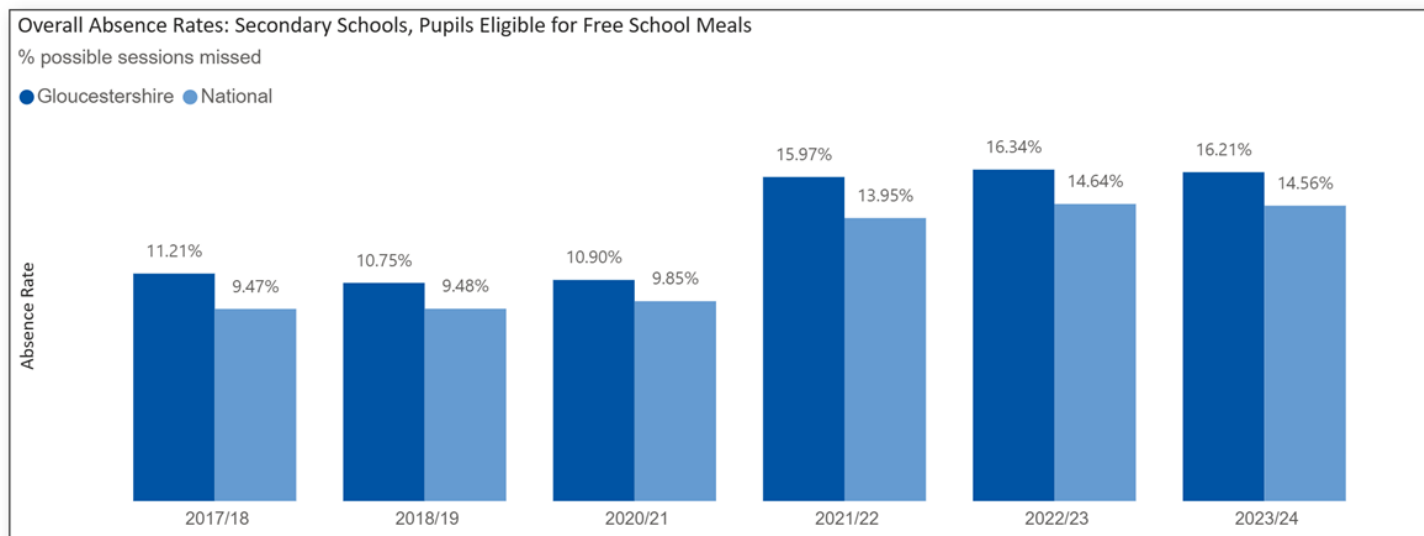


Gloucestershire Secondary FSM gaps compared to National

Absence for FSM Not eligible and FSM eligible pupils in Secondary schools in England and Gloucestershire between 2017/18 and 2023/24

Overall absence rate		2017/18	2018/19	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Gloucestershire	FSM Not eligible	5.1%	4.7%	4.1%	7.6%	7.5%	7.3%
	FSM eligible	10.9%	10.3%	10.6%	15.7%	16.0%	15.8%
	<i>Difference</i>	<i>-5.8%</i>	<i>-5.6%</i>	<i>-6.5%</i>	<i>-8.1%</i>	<i>-8.5%</i>	<i>-8.5%</i>
National	FSM Not eligible	5.0%	4.8%	4.5%	7.6%	7.3%	7.1%
	FSM eligible	9.2%	9.2%	9.6%	13.8%	14.4%	14.3%
	<i>Difference</i>	<i>-4.2%</i>	<i>-4.4%</i>	<i>-5.1%</i>	<i>-6.2%</i>	<i>-7.1%</i>	<i>-7.2%</i>

Gaps in Gloucestershire Secondary School absence rates for eligible / non-eligible pupils are wider than national



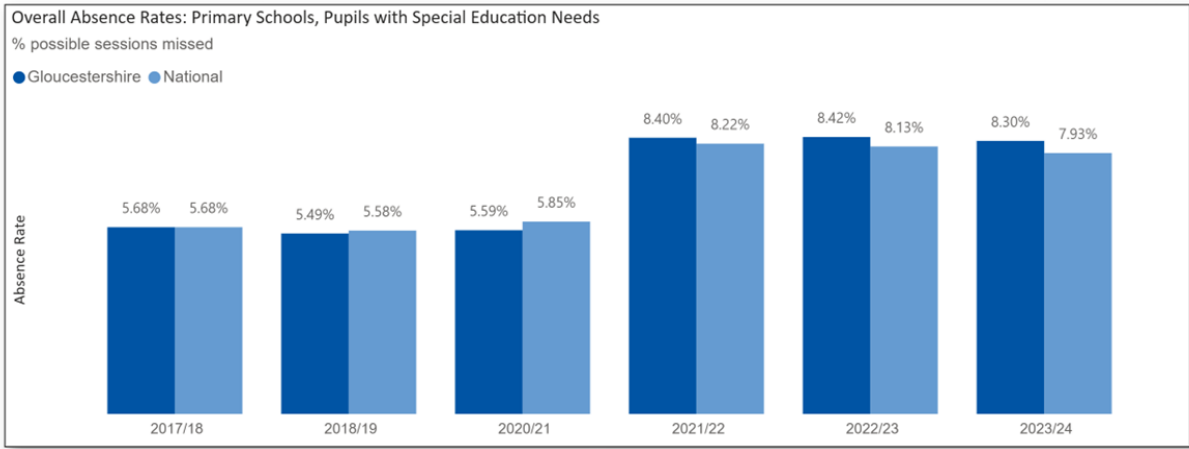
Gloucestershire Primary SEN gaps compared to National

Absence for SEN and Non SEN pupils in Primary schools in England and Gloucestershire between 2017/18 and 2023/24

Overall absence rate		2017/18	2018/19	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Gloucestershire	SEN (EHCP or Support)	5.7%	5.5%	5.6%	8.4%	8.4%	8.3%
	No Identified SEN	3.8%	3.6%	2.7%	5.7%	5.0%	4.8%
	Difference	1.9%	1.9%	2.8%	2.7%	3.4%	3.5%
National	SEN (EHCP or Support)	5.7%	5.6%	5.8%	8.2%	8.1%	7.9%
	No Identified SEN	3.9%	3.7%	3.2%	5.9%	5.4%	5.0%
	Difference	1.8%	1.8%	2.6%	2.3%	2.7%	2.9%

Pupils who have some identified special education need miss more school than pupils with no identified SEN

The gap in Gloucestershire Primary School Absence rates follows the same pattern as national but is wider

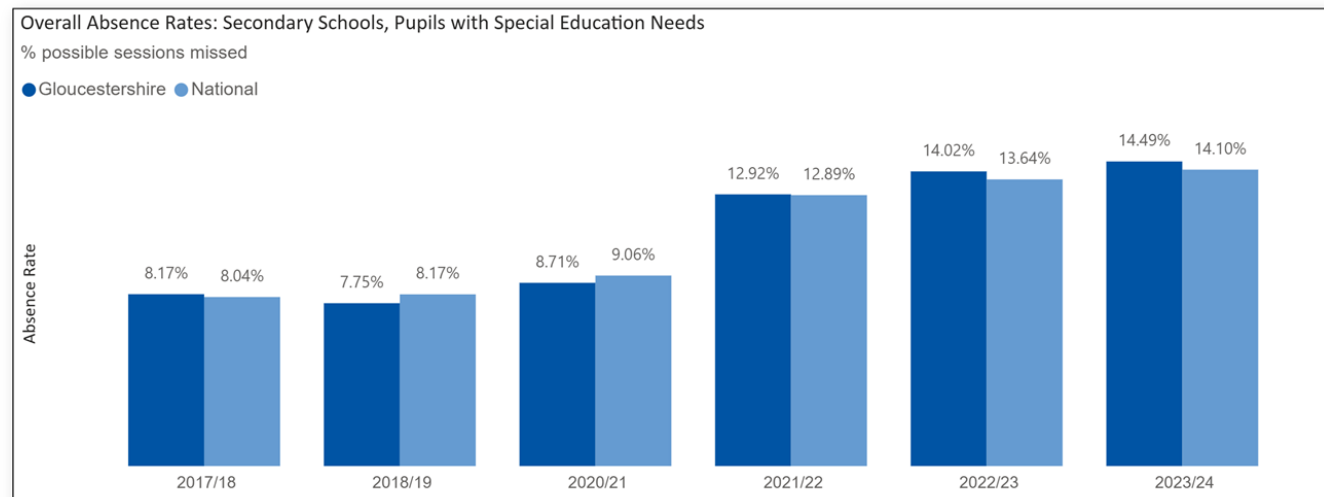


Gloucestershire Secondary SEN gaps compared to National

Absence for SEN and Non SEN pupils in Secondary schools in England and Gloucestershire between 2017/18 and 2023/24

Overall absence rate		2017/18	2018/19	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Gloucestershire	SEN (EHCP or Support)	5.1%	4.8%	4.3%	8.1%	8.0%	7.8%
	No Identified SEN	8.2%	7.7%	8.7%	12.9%	14.0%	14.5%
	<i>Difference</i>	<i>-3.1%</i>	<i>-2.9%</i>	<i>-4.4%</i>	<i>-4.8%</i>	<i>-6.0%</i>	<i>-6.7%</i>
National	SEN (EHCP or Support)	5.1%	5.1%	4.9%	8.3%	8.1%	7.9%
	No Identified SEN	8.0%	8.2%	9.1%	12.9%	13.6%	14.1%
	<i>Difference</i>	<i>-2.9%</i>	<i>-3.1%</i>	<i>-4.2%</i>	<i>-4.6%</i>	<i>-5.5%</i>	<i>-6.2%</i>

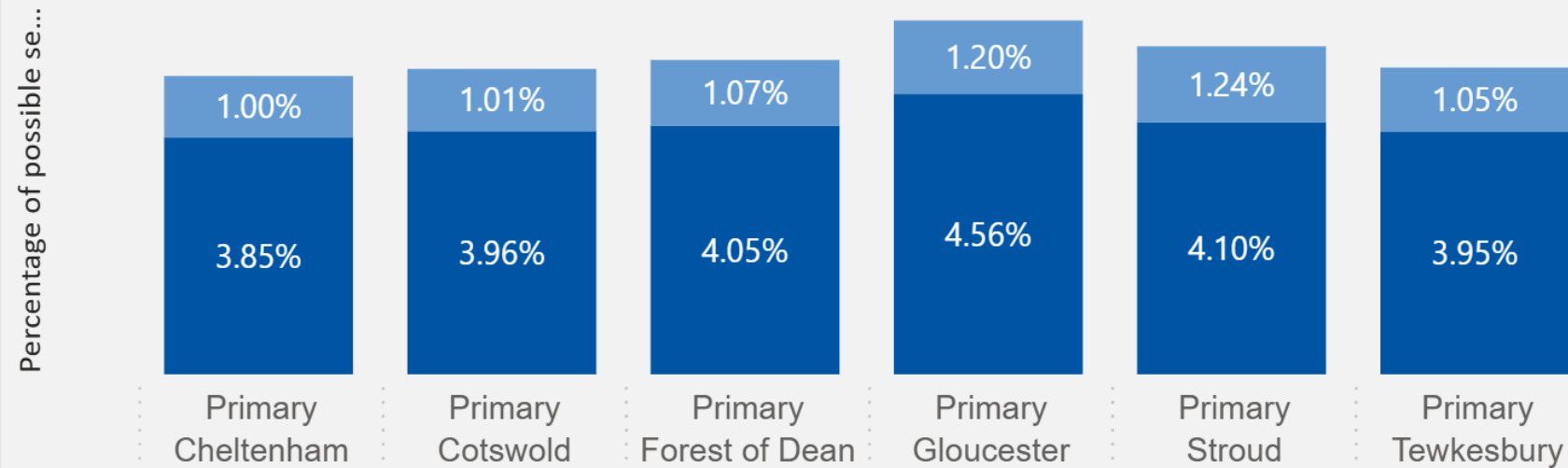
For Special Education Need (SEN) pupils, the gap between those with SEN, and those without, is widening in Secondary Schools and is larger than the national difference



Provisional Primary Data 2024/25

Absent Rates (% possible sessions missed) by Base Type and District

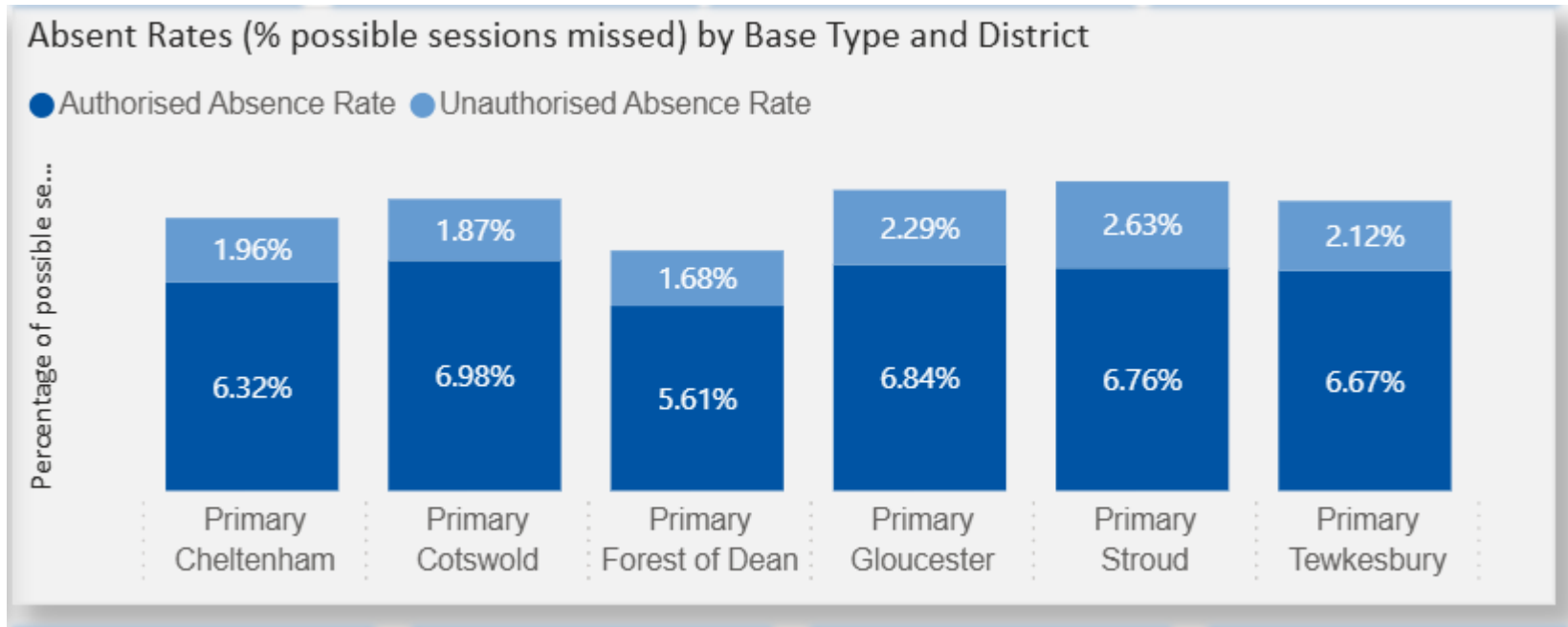
● Authorised Absence Rate ● Unauthorised Absence Rate



All Gloucestershire
Primary School rates:

Overall = 5.2%
Unauthorised = 1.1%
Authorised = 4.1%

Provisional Primary FSM data 2024/25

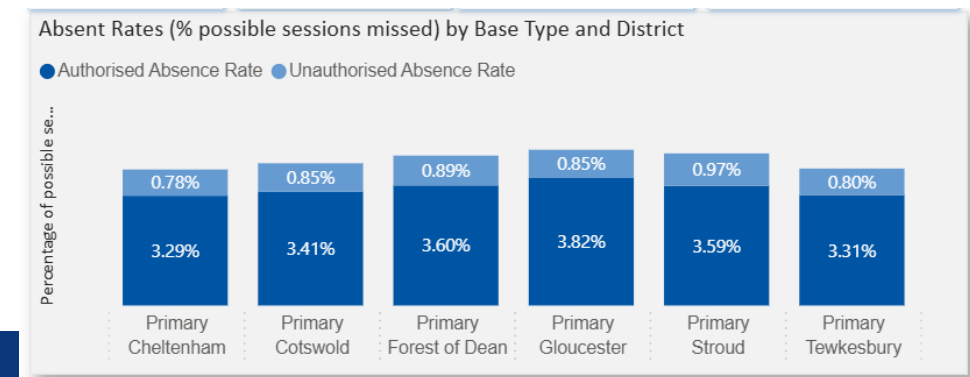


All Gloucestershire
Primary School **FSM-
eligible** rates:

Overall = 8.7%
Unauthorised = 2.1%
Authorised = 6.6%

All Gloucestershire Primary School **Non
FSM-eligible** rates:

Overall = 4.4%
Unauthorised = 0.9%
Authorised = 3.5%



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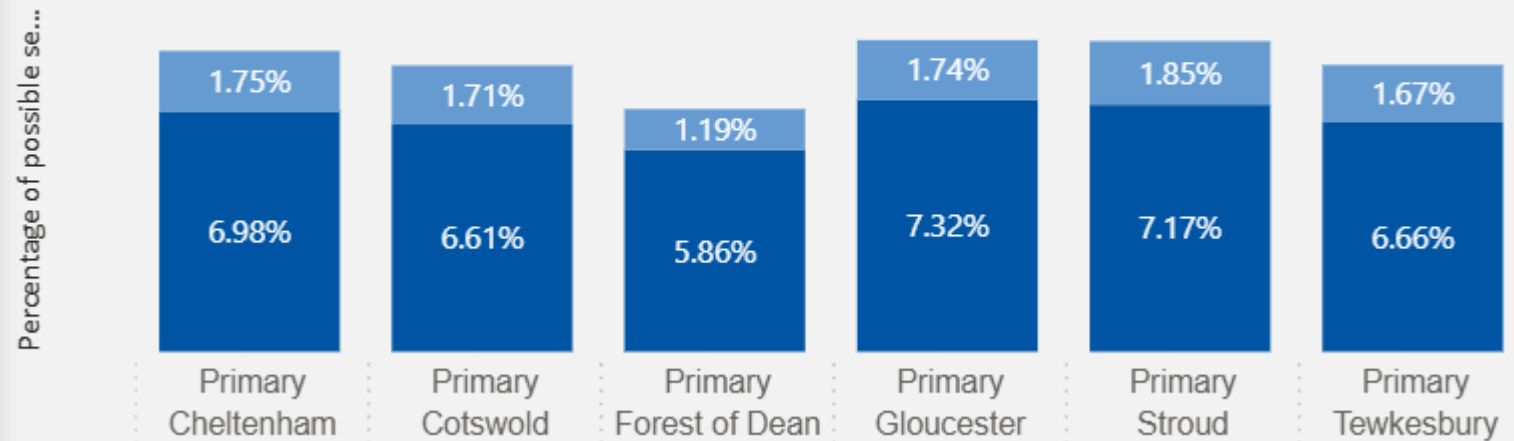


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Provisional Primary SEN data 2024/25

Absent Rates (% possible sessions missed) by Base Type and District

● Authorised Absence Rate ● Unauthorised Absence Rate



All Gloucestershire
Primary School **SEN**
rates:

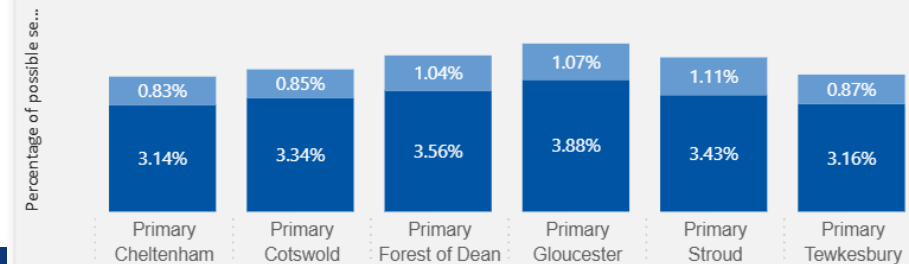
Overall = 8.5%
Unauthorised = 1.7%
Authorised = 6.9%

All Gloucestershire Primary School **No**
SEN rates:

Overall = 4.4%
Unauthorised = 1.0%
Authorised = 3.5%

Absent Rates (% possible sessions missed) by Base Type and District

● Authorised Absence Rate ● Unauthorised Absence Rate



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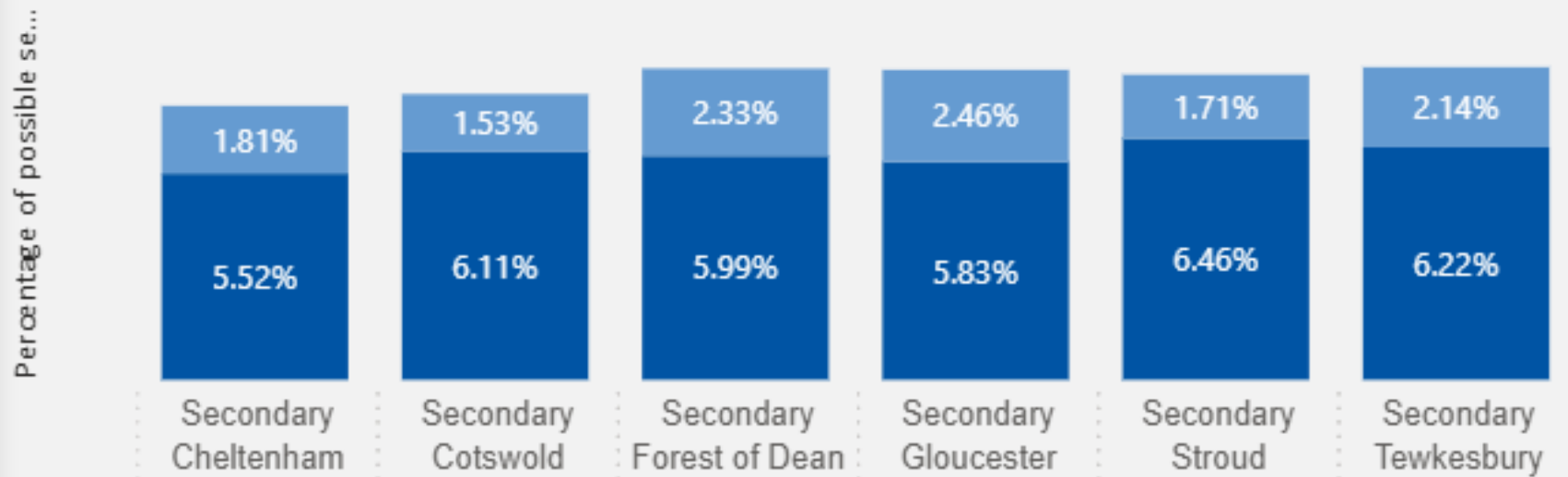


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Provisional Secondary data 2024/25

Absent Rates (% possible sessions missed) by Base Type and District

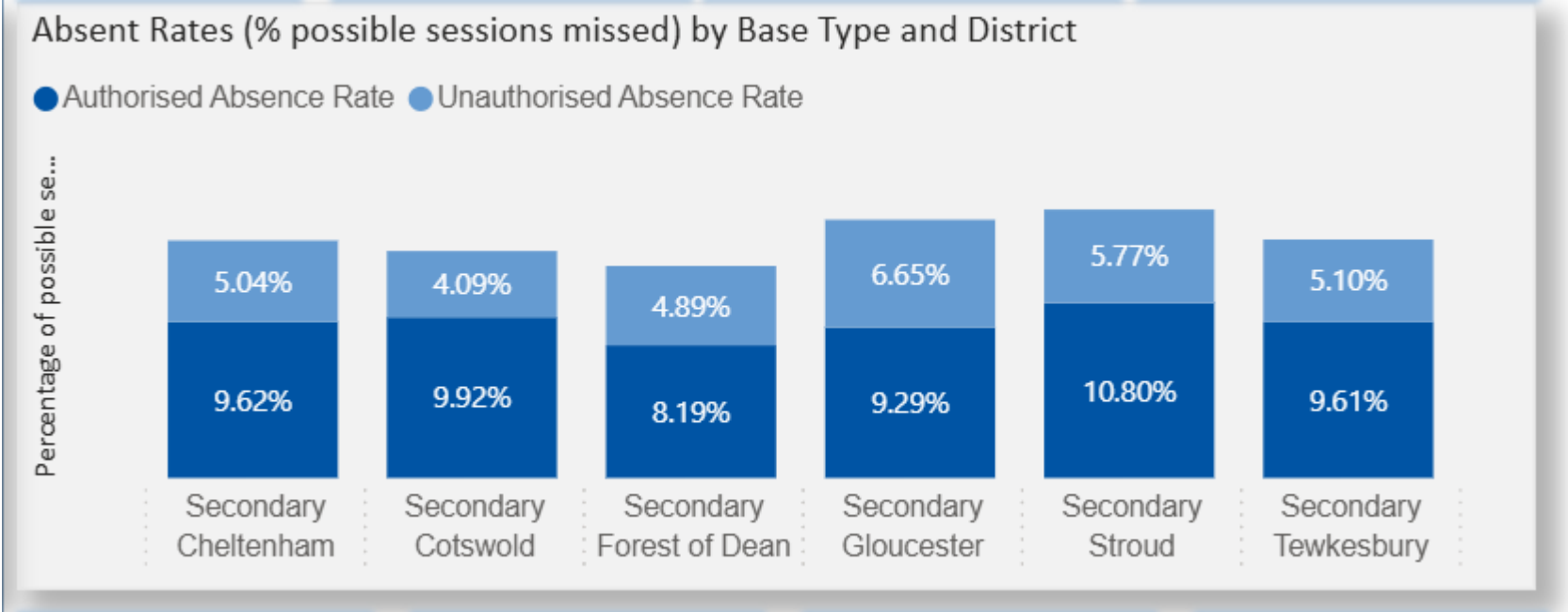
● Authorised Absence Rate ● Unauthorised Absence Rate



All Gloucestershire
Secondary School
rates:

Overall = 8.5%
Unauthorised = 2.2%
Authorised = 6.4%

Provisional Secondary FSM data 2024/25

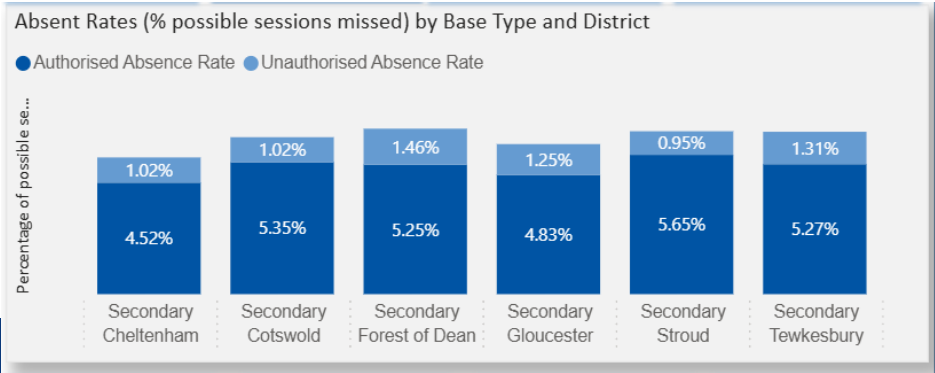


All Gloucestershire
Secondary School
FSM-eligible rates:

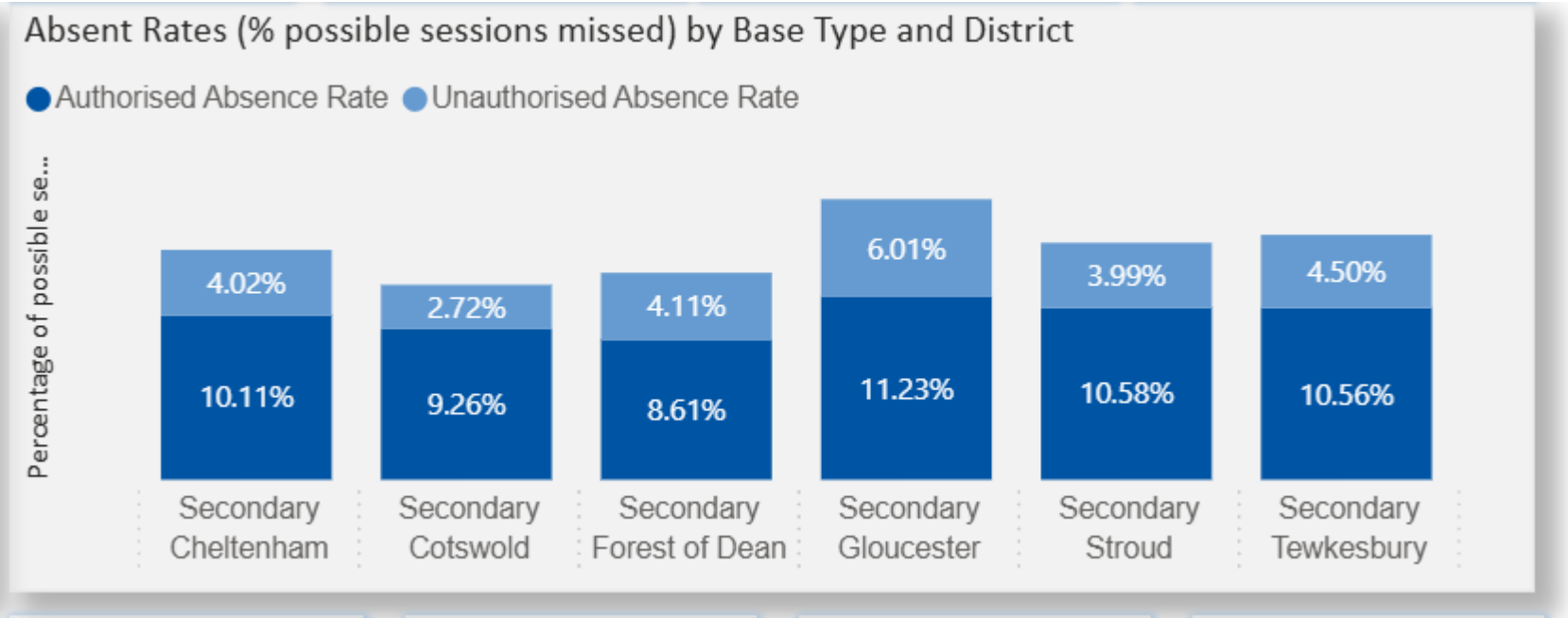
Overall = 15.0%
Unauthorised = 5.5%
Authorised = 9.5%

All Gloucestershire Secondary School
Non FSM-eligible rates:

Overall = 6.3%
Unauthorised = 1.2%
Authorised = 5.1%



Provisional Secondary SEN data 2024/25



All Gloucestershire
Secondary School **SEN**
rates:

Overall = 14.5%
Unauthorised = 4.3%
Authorised = 10.1%

All Gloucestershire Secondary School
No SEN rates:

Overall = 6.6%
Unauthorised = 1.5%
Authorised = 5.1%

