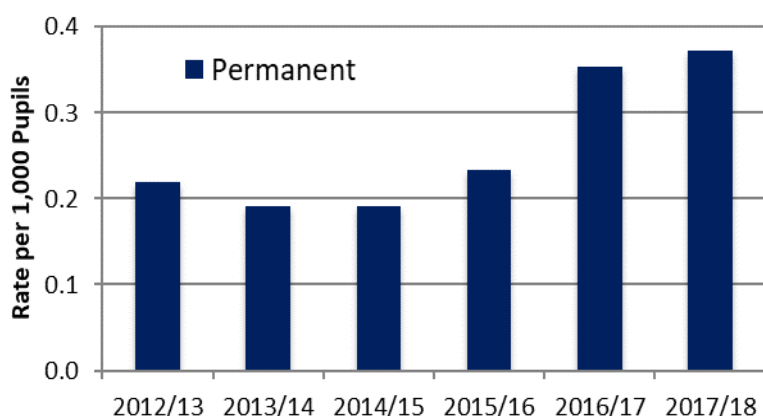
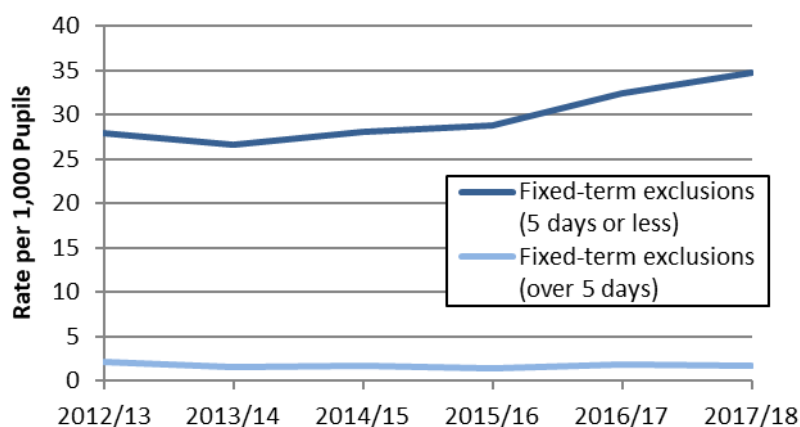




Permanent and fixed-term exclusions from schools in Wales, 2017/18

1 October 2019
SFR 92/2019

Rate of exclusions from maintained schools and PRUs in Wales



➔ The rate of permanent exclusions from maintained schools and PRUs has remained the same (0.4 per 1,000 pupils), having nearly doubled between 2014/15 and 2017/18.

⬆️ The rates of fixed term exclusions (5 days or less) have increased over the last four years. There were 34.7 exclusions per 1,000 pupils in 2017/18.

⬇️ In 2017/18 there were 1.7 fixed-term exclusions (over 5 days) per 1,000 pupils, down from 1.9 per 1,000 pupils in 2016/17.

About this release

This release reports on all pupils in maintained primary, middle, secondary and special schools and pupil referral units (PRUs) in Wales. School exclusions can either be permanent or for a fixed term. See definitions for more detail.

We welcome [feedback](#) on the new format of this Statistical First Release.

Accompanying this release:

[Detailed tables](#)

[Technical notes and Key quality information](#)

Types of School, 2017/18

- Special schools had the highest rate of fixed-term exclusions of 5 days or less, and also the highest rate of fixed-term exclusions over 5 days, whereas primary schools had the lowest.
- Secondary schools had the highest rate of permanent exclusions.

Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility

- The rate of exclusions is consistently (at least 3 times) higher for those entitled to FSM than not entitled to FSM for fixed exclusions (5 days or less), fixed exclusions (over 5 days) and permanent exclusions in the period 2012/13 to 2017/18.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision

- School Action Plus had the highest rate of exclusions out of those pupils with SEN for every year and every type of exclusion.
- Pupils with special educational needs have higher rates of exclusions than those without.

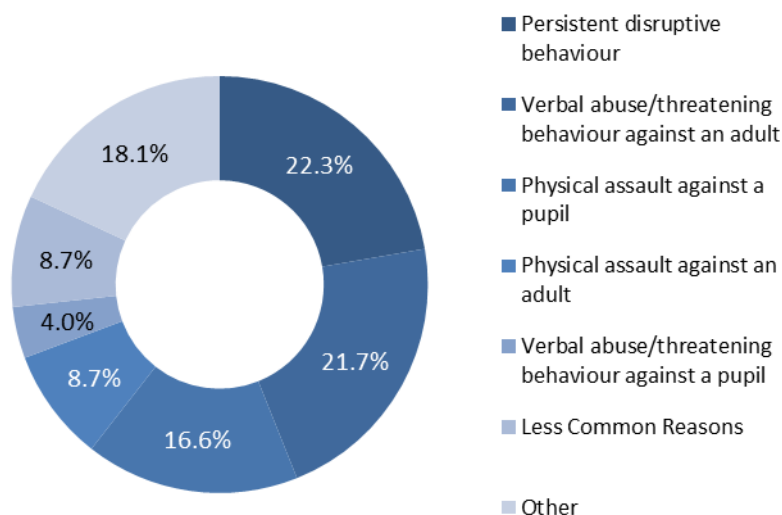
Ethnic Background

- For pupils with a stated ethnic background, those with a “White” ethnic background have the highest rate of fixed exclusions (5 days or less), fixed exclusions (over 5 days) and permanent exclusions between 2012/13 and 2017/18.
- Pupils with a Chinese or Chinese British background have the lowest rates of exclusion.

Most common reasons for exclusions, 2017/18

The chart includes all permanent and fixed-term exclusions.

- The most common reason given for all exclusions in 2017/18 was ‘persistent disruptive behaviour’.
- ‘Persistent disruptive behaviour’ was the most common reason given for fixed-term exclusions (5 days or less) at 22.7% of all fixed term exclusions (5 days or less).
- ‘Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult’ was the most common reason for fixed term exclusions of 5 days or more.
- The most common reasons for permanent exclusions were ‘physical assault against a pupil’ and ‘physical assault against an adult’ (20.7% and 20.1% respectively).



Definitions

Permanent exclusion: refers to a pupil who is excluded and their name removed from the school register. This pupil would then be educated at another school or via some other form of provision.

Fixed-term exclusion: refers to a pupil who is excluded from a school but remains on the register of that school because they are expected to return when the exclusion period is completed.

Managed move: is an arrangement whereby parents of pupils in danger of exclusion agree with schools and local authorities that it is in the best interests of their child that they be removed from the roll of the current school and placed in another educational establishment. Data for managed moves are not currently available.

Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) data

This is the fourth year that pupil-level exclusions data have been collected from PRUs, and the third year that pupil referral units have been included. For this reason, caution should be used when comparing the rate of exclusions for all maintained schools and PRUs with previous years.

Further details

This release is available at: <https://gov.wales/permanent-and-fixed-term-exclusions-schools>

England publish exclusions data for state-funded primary, secondary and special schools in the statistical release entitled '[Permanent and fixed-period exclusions in England: 2017 to 2018](#)'.

Scotland publish exclusions data for maintained primary, secondary and special schools biennially in the statistical bulletin '[Summary statistics for schools in Scotland](#)'.

Northern Ireland publish the [number of pupils expelled or suspended from primary, post-primary and special schools](#).

Next update

September 2020 (provisional)

The next update will include a report covering the 2018/19 academic year.

We want your feedback

We welcome any feedback on any aspect of these statistics which can be provided by email to school.stats@gov.wales

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