Annual Education Workforce Statistics for Wales 2026

Cyngor y Gweithlu Addysg
Education Workforce Council

Section 6: Independent sector

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

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Section 6: Independent sector

Independent school teacher

If a teacher in an independent school is undertaking one or more of the following activities, then they must be registered in the independent school teacher category:

- planning and preparing lessons and courses for pupils
- delivering lessons to pupils (including distance learning, or computer aided techniques)
- assessing or reporting on the development, progress, and attainment of pupils
- In a senior leadership role in managing teaching and learning at the school

These requirements also apply to other workers who may undertake one of the above activities within the school such as:

- supply teachers
- peripatetic school teachers
- hourly paid staff
- visiting workers like music tutors and sports coaches where they are delivering lessons as part of curriculum delivery. (This does not apply if they are voluntary after school sessions).

Please note, holding QTS is not a mandatory requirement to teach within independent schools.

Independent school learning support worker

If a learning support worker in an independent school is supporting the provision of one or more of the following activities, then they must be registered in the independent school learning support worker category:

- planning and preparing lessons and courses for pupils
- delivering lessons to pupils (including distance learning, or computer aided techniques)
- assessing or reporting on the development, progress and attainment of pupils

These requirements also apply to other workers who may undertake the support role such, as a supply learning support worker.

Registration does not apply to staff who carry out a purely administrative role within the school, or where their interaction with pupils is not in a teaching or learning capacity.

Independent special post-16 institution teacher

If a teacher in an independent special post-16 institution is undertaking one or more of the following activities, then they must be registered in the independent special post-16 institution teacher category:

- planning and preparing education and training for learners
- delivering education and training to learners (including distance learning, or computer aided techniques)
- assessing or reporting the development and progress of learners
- undertaking a senior leadership role in managing teaching and learning independent special post-16 institution

These requirements also apply to other workers who may undertake one of the above activities within the institution such as:

- supply teachers
- peripatetic school teachers
- hourly paid staff
- visiting workers like music tutors and sports coaches where they are delivering lessons as part of curriculum delivery. (This does not apply if they are after voluntary school sessions).

Independent special post-16 institution learning support worker

If a learning support worker in an independent special post-16 institution is supporting the provision of one or more of the following activities then they must be registered in the independent special post-16 institution learning support worker category:

- planning and preparing education and training for learners
- delivering education and training to learners (including via distance learning, or computer aided techniques)
- assessing the development and progress of learners
- reporting on the development and progress of learners

These requirements also applies to other workers who may undertake the support role such as a supply learning support worker.

Registration does not apply to staff who carry out a purely administrative role within the special post-16 institution or where their interaction with pupils is not in a teaching or learning capacity.

1.1 Number registered

Table 1.1: Annual registered total of independent school teachers.

	2024	2025	2026
Number of independent school teachers	1,817	1,988	2,113

March 2026 figures – 1,707 are registered as a independent school teacher only, 406 in multiple categories. Of the multiples, 263 registrants are registered in 2 categories, 84 are registered in 3 categories, 39 are registered in 4 categories, 8 are registered in 5 categories, 4 are registered in 6 categories, 2 are registered in 7 categories, 4 are registered in 8 categories, and 2 are registered in 9 categories.

1.2 Gender

Table 1.2: Number of registered independent school teachers by gender.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Female	1,180	64.9	1,286	64.7	1,351	63.9
Male	637	35.1	702	35.3	762	36.1
Not specified	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	**1,817**	**100**	**1,988**	**100**	**2,113**	**100**

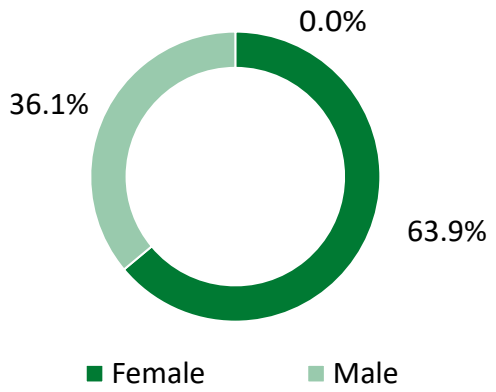

Chart 1: Gender of independent school teachers in 2026.

1.3 Age

Table 1.3: Number of registered independent school teachers by age.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Under 25	34	1.9	21	1.1	29	1.4
25 to 29	99	5.4	132	6.6	142	6.7
30 to 34	199	11.0	207	10.4	202	9.6
35 to 39	255	14.0	279	14.0	309	14.6
40 to 44	292	16.1	309	15.5	322	15.2
45 to 49	273	15.0	301	15.1	343	16.2
50 to 54	276	15.2	300	15.1	319	15.1
55 to 59	212	11.7	243	12.2	248	11.7
60 to 64	96	5.3	116	5.8	127	6.0
65+	81	4.5	80	4.0	72	3.4
Total	**1,817**	**100**	**1,988**	**100**	**2,113**	**100**

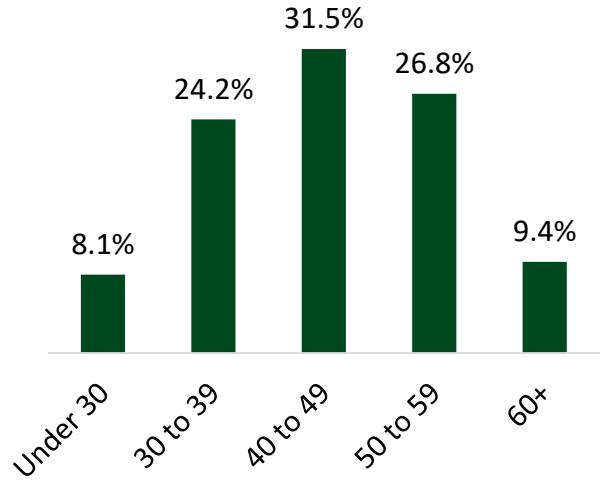

Chart 2: Age of independent school teachers in 2026.

1.4 Ethnic group

Table 1.4: Number of registered independent school teachers by ethnic group.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
White	1,543	84.9	1,704	85.7	1,803	85.3
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	24	1.3	26	1.3	36	1.7
Asian or Asian British	30	1.7	35	1.8	50	2.4
Black, African, Caribbean, or Black British	10	0.6	15	0.8	22	1.0
Other ethnic group	10	0.6	15	0.8	25	1.2
Does not wish to record ethnic group	52	2.9	65	3.3	65	3.1
Unknown	148	8.1	128	6.4	112	5.3
Total	**1,817**	**100**	**1,988**	**100**	**2,113**	**100**

The above data is provided in an aggregate format to prevent the disclosure of registrants. The ethnic group options as detailed on the Register of Education Practitioners can be found on the Government Analysis function website. The ethnic groups that make up the aggregate format above can also be found there.

1.5 National identity

Table 1.5: Number of registered independent school teachers by national identity.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Welsh	683	37.6	742	37.3	785	37.2
British	616	33.9	718	36.1	821	38.9
English	242	13.3	248	12.5	230	10.9
Scottish, Irish or Northern Irish	28	1.5	34	1.7	34	1.6
Other	78	4.3	92	4.6	104	4.9
Does not wish to record national identity	23	1.3	28	1.4	30	1.4
Unknown	147	8.1	126	6.3	109	5.2
Total	**1,817**	**100**	**1,988**	**100**	**2,113**	**100**

1.6 Disability

Table 1.6: Number of registered independent school teachers who have made a declaration regarding their disability.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	56	3.1	63	3.2	68	3.2
No	1,761	96.9	1,925	96.8	2,045	96.8
Total	**1,817**	**100**	**1,988**	**100**	**2,113**	**100**

For the purposes of this release, a person is considered to have a disability if they have a self-reported long-standing illness, condition, or impairment that causes difficulty with day-to-day activities. This definition is consistent with the Equality Act 2010 and the Government Statistical Service's (GSS's) harmonised definition.

1.7 Years since qualified teacher status (QTS)

Table 1.7: Number of registered independent school teachers by years since QTS.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
0 to 5	132	7.3	161	8.1	182	8.6
6 to 10	141	7.8	153	7.7	158	7.5
11 to 15	179	9.9	184	9.3	213	10.1
16 to 20	223	12.3	244	12.3	240	11.4
21 to 25	153	8.4	188	9.5	225	10.6
26+	266	14.6	282	14.2	317	15.0
No QTS	723	39.8	776	39.0	778	36.8
Total	**1,817**	**100**	**1,988**	**100**	**2,113**	**100**

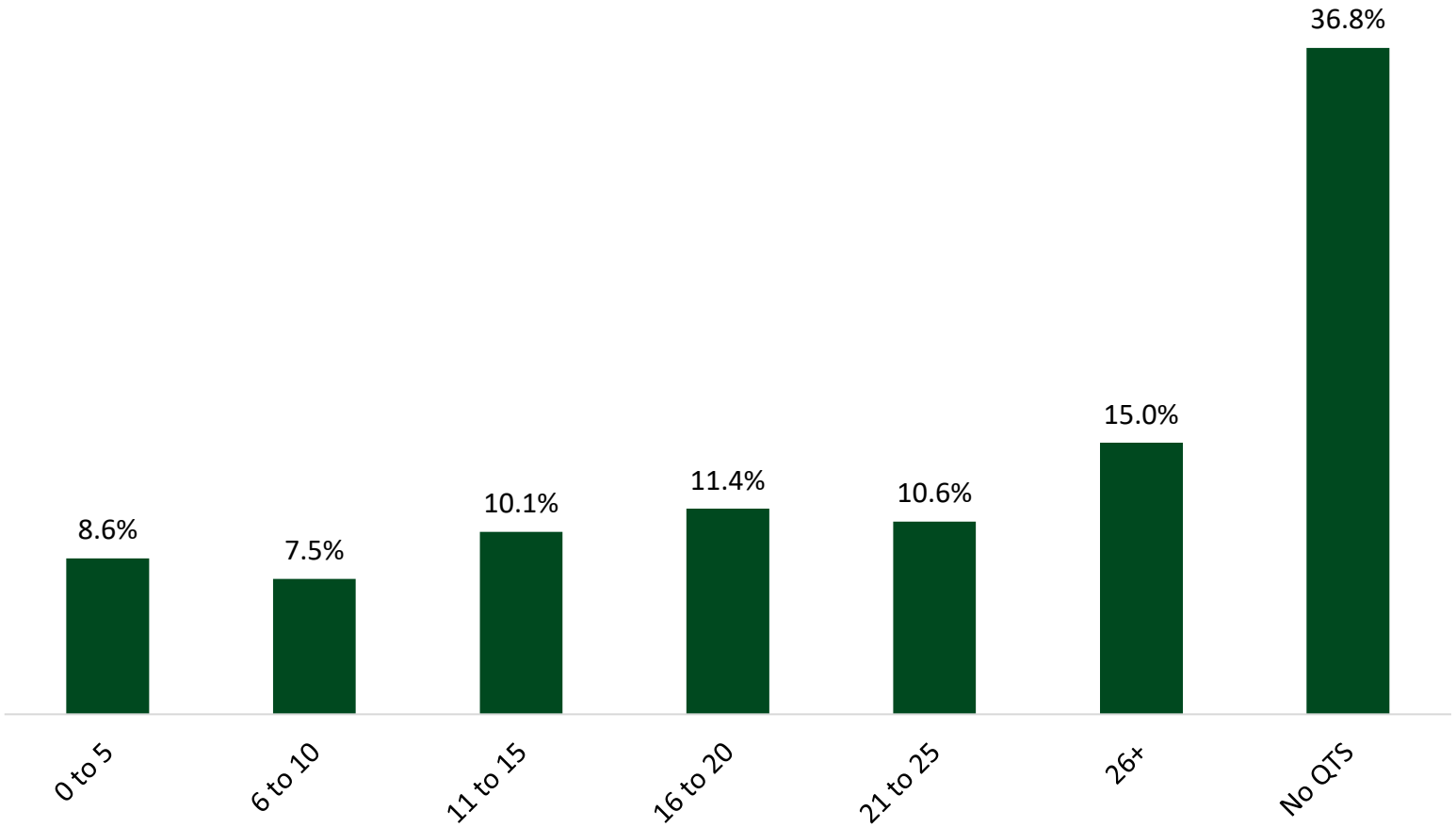

Chart 3: Percentage of independent school teachers by years since QTS in 2026.

1.8 Employment by location

Table 1.8: Number of registered independent school teachers by employer location.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Blaenau Gwent	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Bridgend	48	2.6	35	1.8	2	0.1
Caerphilly	40	2.2	43	2.2	48	2.3
Cardiff	415	22.8	403	20.3	478	22.6
Carmarthenshire	110	6.1	120	6.0	115	5.4
Ceredigion	0	0.0	3	0.2	3	0.1
Conwy	96	5.3	91	4.6	102	4.8
Denbighshire	100	5.5	93	4.7	91	4.3
Flintshire	18	1.0	16	0.8	26	1.2
Gwynedd	31	1.7	31	1.6	34	1.6
Isle of Anglesey	12	0.7	10	0.5	10	0.5
Merthyr Tydfil	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Monmouthshire	225	12.4	208	10.5	202	9.6
Neath Port Talbot	11	0.6	9	0.5	7	0.3
Newport	87	4.8	92	4.6	91	4.3
Pembrokeshire	51	2.8	56	2.8	55	2.6
Powys	138	7.6	142	7.1	141	6.7
Rhondda Cynon Taf	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Swansea	65	3.6	72	3.6	66	3.1
Torfaen	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Vale of Glamorgan	113	6.2	116	5.8	114	5.4
Wrexham	28	1.5	41	2.1	46	2.2
Supply[1]	25	1.4	53	2.7	96	4.5
Others in service[2]	23	1.3	11	0.6	45	2.1
Others out of service[3]	181	10.0	343	17.3	341	16.1
Total	**1,817**	**100**	**1,988**	**100**	**2,113**	**100**

[1] May be in any of the categories a practitioner is registered in.

[2] Includes peripatetic teachers and advisory teachers

[3] Includes retired teachers, registrants employed in support roles, or FE and those with no employment recorded.

1.9 Ability to speak Welsh

Table 1.9: Number of registered independent school teachers by ability to speak Welsh.

The below is based on those registrants who have declared whether they are fluent or fairly fluent, in the Welsh language.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	178	9.8	195	9.8	202	9.6
No	1,567	86.2	1,725	86.8	1,853	87.7
Unknown	72	4.0	68	3.4	58	2.7
Total	**1,817**	**100**	**1,988**	**100**	**2,113**	**100**

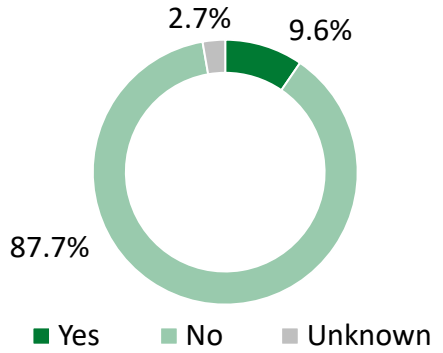

Chart 4: Independent school teachers by ability to speak Welsh in 2026.

1.10 Ability to work through the medium of Welsh

Table 1.10: Number of registered independent school teachers by ability to work through the medium of Welsh.

The below information is based on those registrants who have declared whether they were either trained to work, currently work, or have ever worked through the medium of Welsh or feel confident to do so.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	53	2.9	68	3.4	78	3.7
No	1,691	93.1	1,851	93.1	1,976	93.5
Unknown	73	4.0	69	3.5	59	2.8
Total	**1,817**	**100**	**1,988**	**100**	**2,113**	**100**

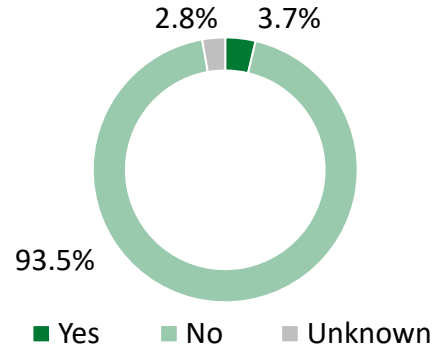

Chart 5: Independent school teachers by ability to work through the medium of Welsh in 2026.

1.11 Initial Teacher Education (ITE) subject trained.

Table 1.11: Number of registered independent school teachers by ITE subject trained.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Core subjects and religious education						
Biology	37	2.0	41	2.1	40	1.9
Chemistry	31	1.7	30	1.5	40	1.9
Combined/general science	78	4.3	88	4.4	92	4.4
English studies	93	5.1	99	5.0	110	5.2
Mathematics	95	5.2	108	5.4	120	5.7
Physical science	4	0.2	5	0.3	5	0.2
Physics	27	1.5	28	1.4	31	1.5
Theology and religious studies	29	1.6	30	1.5	34	1.6
Welsh studies	9	0.5	8	0.4	9	0.4

Table 1.11: Number of registered independent school teachers by ITE subject trained (continued).

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Foundation Subjects						
Art	15	0.8	19	1.0	22	1.0
Art & design	14	0.8	17	0.9	17	0.8
Computer science & information technology	17	0.9	17	0.9	23	1.1
Design & technology	24	1.3	26	1.3	28	1.3
Design studies	11	0.6	10	0.5	8	0.4
Fine art	6	0.3	8	0.4	10	0.5
French studies	28	1.5	27	1.4	31	1.5
Geography	33	1.8	42	2.1	49	2.3
Geography: as physical science	5	0.3	6	0.3	5	0.2
German studies	5	0.3	5	0.3	6	0.3
History	53	2.9	62	3.1	60	2.8
Home economics	3	0.2	3	0.2	3	0.1
Spanish studies	9	0.5	10	0.5	11	0.5
Other or unspecified modern languages	22	1.2	24	1.2	24	1.1
Non-national curriculum subjects and totals						
Academic studies in education	242	13.3	276	13.9	321	15.2
Additional educational needs	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.0
Business and management studies	20	1.1	24	1.2	28	1.3
Citizenship	4	0.2	4	0.2	4	0.2
Drama	23	1.3	28	1.4	31	1.5
Economics	2	0.1	4	0.2	5	0.2
Geology	1	0.1	1	0.1	0	0.0
Humanities	1	0.1	3	0.2	3	0.1
Latin Studies	2	0.1	2	0.1	2	0.1
Music	35	1.9	39	2.0	40	1.9
Physical education	73	4.0	79	4.0	91	4.3
Sociology	4	0.2	6	0.3	7	0.3
Unknown	762	41.9	808	40.6	803	38.0
Total (for all categories)	**1,817**	**100**	**1,988**	**100**	**2,113**	**100**

ITE training may have been completed in Wales or England or elsewhere in the UK, either through a course of ITE or through an employment based route. As indicated, only those completing ITE within the secondary age range for example, KS3/age 11 or above have been included.

The subject information is entered by the ITE institution using the Joint Academic Coding System (JACS) codes set by HESA. The first subject is the main subject, institutions are able to enter a second subject if applicable. If more than two subjects are studied, the two considered most important are listed. The subjects are grouped by the EWC in order to produce the above summary table. Please note, QTS is non age range or subject specific however, secondary students do have an ITE subject specialism. Further information on ITE accredited programmes and intake targets by subject is available on the EWC website.

1.12 Number of subjects taught

Table 1.12: Number of subjects taught listed for registered independent school teachers.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
1 subject	402	68.3	379	66.3	456	66.3
2 subjects	118	20.0	116	20.3	139	20.2
3 subjects	47	8.0	53	9.3	55	8.0
4 subjects	12	2.0	12	2.1	22	3.2
5 subjects	3	0.5	5	0.9	8	1.2
6+ subjects	7	1.2	7	1.2	8	1.2
Total	**589**	**100**	**572**	**100**	**688**	**100**

Registered independent school teachers are included more than once if more than one subject taught is recorded on their record.

Registered headteachers are not included in the above figures as subject taught information is not held for independent headteachers.

1.13 Subjects taught

Table 1.13: Number of registered independent school teachers by subject taught.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	Teacher %	Number	Teacher %	Number	Teacher %
Core subjects and religious education						
Biology	48	8.1	53	9.3	53	4.8
Chemistry	46	7.8	45	7.9	52	4.7
English	86	14.6	91	15.9	109	9.9
Mathematics	103	17.5	116	20.3	130	11.9
Physics	39	6.6	42	7.3	50	4.6
Religious education	28	4.8	32	5.6	47	4.3
Science	84	14.3	88	15.4	107	9.8
Welsh	11	1.9	13	2.3	15	1.4
Foundation subjects						
Art	25	4.2	29	5.1	37	3.4
Design & technology	29	4.9	29	5.1	36	3.3
Geography	36	6.1	38	6.6	56	5.1
History	43	7.3	48	8.4	56	5.1
Information technology	23	3.9	25	4.4	34	3.1
Modern foreign languages	46	7.8	44	7.7	49	4.5
Music	23	3.9	29	5.1	33	3.0
Physical education	55	9.3	49	8.6	65	5.9

‘Teacher %’ is based on the number of school teachers where populated.

Table 1.13: Number of registered independent school teachers by subject taught (continued).

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	Teacher %	Number	Teacher %	Number	Teacher %
Non-national curriculum subjects and totals						
Additional educational needs	0	0.0	14	2.4	24	2.2
Business studies	15	2.5	17	3.0	22	2.0
Careers	4	0.7	5	0.9	3	0.3
Child development	2	0.3	2	0.3	3	0.3
Drama	19	3.2	23	4.0	27	2.5
Economics	6	1.0	9	1.6	9	0.8
Electronics	3	0.5	3	0.5	3	0.3
Engineering	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1
General studies	2	0.3	2	0.3	2	0.2
Government & politics	3	0.5	4	0.7	5	0.5
Home economics	1	0.2	1	0.2	1	0.1
Humanities	6	1.0	7	1.2	12	1.1
Law	0	0.0	1	0.2	2	0.2
Media studies	6	1.0	6	1.0	7	0.6
Personal health & social education	22	3.7	23	4.0	22	2.0
Psychology & criminology	6	1.0	7	1.2	11	1.0
Public services	1	0.2	1	0.2	1	0.1
Sociology	6	1.0	6	1.0	8	0.7
Travel & tourism	1	0.2	2	0.3	2	0.2
Welsh Baccalaureate	2	0.3	2	0.3	3	0.3
Total	**830**		**906**		**1,097**	
Total number of teachers where populated		**589**		**572**		**688**

1.14 Highest level of qualification

Table 1.14: Number of registered independent school teachers by highest level of qualification held.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Level 7	893	49.1	1,003	50.5	994	47.0
Level 6	198	10.9	218	11.0	365	17.3
Level 5	5	0.3	10	0.5	11	0.5
Unknown level*	721	39.7	757	38.1	743	35.2
Total	**1,817**	**100**	**1,988**	**100**	**2,113**	**100**

Includes subject specific qualifications, qualifications in another subject, teaching/assessing qualification for example, and all qualifications listed on a registrant's record. Levels based on the Credit and Qualifications Framework for Wales (CQFW).

* Unknown level includes those who have no qualifications recorded, no relevant qualification, or if the level of qualification cannot be determined from the information provided by either the registrant or employer.

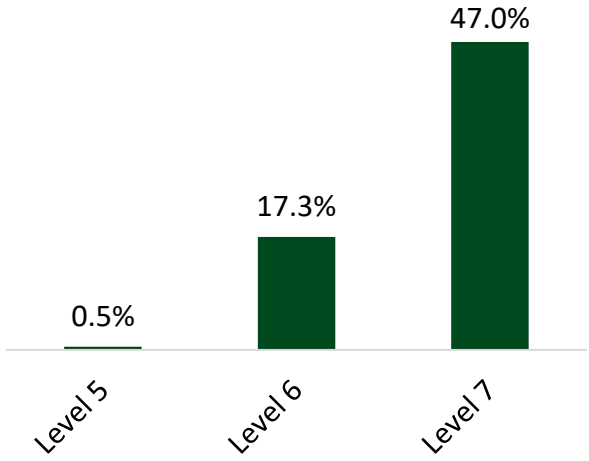

Chart 6: Percentage of independent school teachers highest qualification held in 2026.

1.15 Retention

1.15 Year-on-year change in registered independent school teachers numbers.

	March 2024		March 2025		March 2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total registered[1]	1,817	100	1,988	100	2,113	100
Registrants de-registered since previous year[2]	0	0	207	11.4	312	14.8
New registrants since previous year[3]	0	0	378	20.8	437	20.7
Increase or decrease on previous year[4]	0	0	171	9.4	125	5.9

[1] Total number of registrants in the independent school teachers category on 1 March in each given year.

[2] Number of independent school teachers who were registered in the previous year but did not maintain their registration the following year.

[3] Number of new registrants who were admitted to the Register of Education Practitioners in each year.

[4] Number reflects either a net increase or decrease in registrant numbers on the 1 March in each year compared to the previous year, taking into account the number of registrants who did not retain their registration (footnote 2) and those admitted to the Register (footnote 3).

2.1 Number registered

Table 2.1: Annual registered total of independent school learning support workers.

	2024	2025	2026
Number of independent school learning support workers	1,117	1,378	1,612

March 2026 figures – 1,247 registered as independent school learning support workers only, 365 in multiple categories. Of the multiples, 254 registrants are registered in 2 categories, 50 are registered in 3 categories, 44 are registered in 4 categories, 7 are registered in 5 categories, 2 are registered in 6 categories, 2 is registered in 7 categories, 4 are registered in 8 categories, and 2 are registered in 9 categories.

2.2 Gender

Table 2.2: Number of registered independent school learning support workers by gender.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Female	814	72.9	979	71.0	1,166	72.3
Male	302	27.0	396	28.7	444	27.5
Not specified	1	0.1	3	0.2	2	0.1
Total	**1,117**	**100**	**1,378**	**100**	**1,612**	**100**

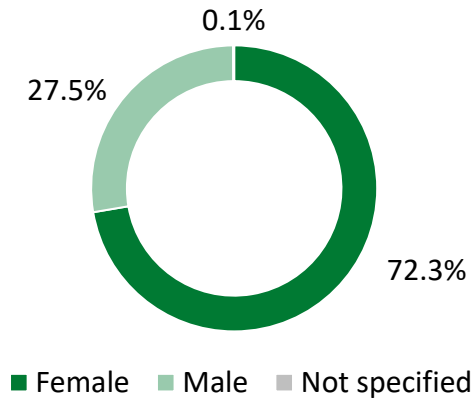

Chart 7: Gender of independent school learning support workers in 2026.

2.3 Age

Table 2.3: Number of registered independent school learning support workers by age.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Under 25	150	13.4	186	13.5	230	14.3
25 to 29	167	15.0	209	15.2	258	16.0
30 to 34	148	13.2	182	13.2	204	12.7
35 to 39	128	11.5	153	11.1	185	11.5
40 to 44	131	11.7	158	11.5	174	10.8
45 to 49	94	8.4	122	8.9	140	8.7
50 to 54	100	9.0	110	8.0	129	8.0
55 to 59	99	8.9	112	8.1	131	8.1
60 to 64	58	5.2	88	6.4	95	5.9
65+	42	3.8	58	4.2	66	4.1
Total	**1,117**	**100**	**1,378**	**100**	**1,612**	**100**

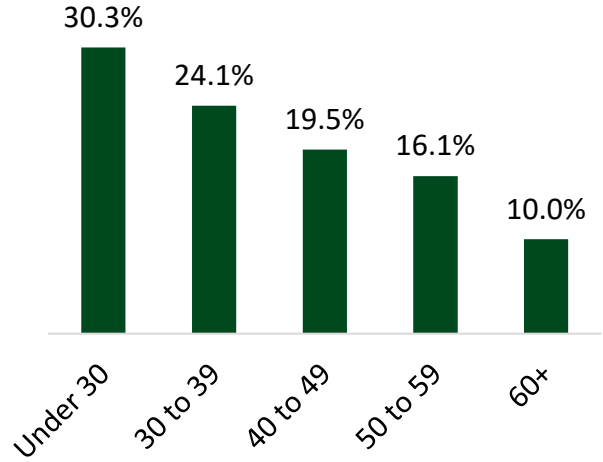

Chart 8: Age of independent school learning support workers in 2026.

2.4 Ethnic group

Table 2.4: Number of registered independent school learning support workers by ethnic group.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
White	884	79.1	1,145	83.1	1,379	85.5
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	18	1.6	20	1.5	36	2.2
Asian or Asian British	42	3.8	43	3.1	49	3.0
Black, African, Caribbean, or Black British	27	2.4	40	2.9	41	2.5
Other ethnic group	8	0.7	9	0.7	12	0.7
Does not wish to record ethnic group	14	1.3	22	1.6	33	2.0
Unknown	124	11.1	99	7.2	62	3.8
Total	**1,117**	**100**	**1,378**	**100**	**1,612**	**100**

The above data is provided in an aggregate format to prevent the disclosure of registrants. The ethnic group options as detailed on the Register of Education Practitioners can be found on the Government Analysis function website. The ethnic groups that make up the aggregate format above can also be found there.

2.5 National identity

Table 2.5: Number of registered independent school leaning support workers by national identity.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Welsh	424	38.0	537	39.0	582	36.1
British	352	31.5	425	30.8	605	37.5
English	128	11.5	181	13.1	201	12.5
Scottish, Irish or Northern Irish	10	0.9	16	1.2	19	1.2
Other	73	6.5	106	7.7	121	7.5
Does not wish to record national identity	7	0.6	14	1.0	22	1.4
Unknown	123	11.0	99	7.2	62	3.8
Total	**1,117**	**100**	**1,378**	**100**	**1,612**	**100**

2.6 Disability

Table 2.6: Number of registered independent school learning support workers who have made a declaration regarding their disability.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	55	4.9	77	5.6	98	6.1
No	1,062	95.1	1,301	94.4	1,514	93.9
Total	**1,117**	**100**	**1,378**	**100**	**1,612**	**100**

For the purposes of this release, a person is considered to have a disability if they have a self-reported long-standing illness, condition, or impairment that causes difficulty with day-to-day activities. This definition is consistent with the Equality Act 2010 and the Government Statistical Service's (GSS's) harmonised definition.

2.7 Employment by location

Table 2.7: Number of registered independent school learning support workers by employer location.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Blaenau Gwent	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Bridgend	9	0.8	8	0.6	0	0.0
Caerphilly	14	1.3	16	1.2	22	1.4
Cardiff	252	22.6	262	19.0	325	20.2
Carmarthenshire	48	4.3	34	2.5	38	2.4
Ceredigion	0	0.0	4	0.3	7	0.4
Conwy	58	5.2	50	3.6	70	4.3
Denbighshire	53	4.7	53	3.8	33	2.0
Flintshire	30	2.7	78	5.7	94	5.8
Gwynedd	5	0.4	7	0.5	8	0.5
Isle of Anglesey	2	0.2	3	0.2	5	0.3
Merthyr Tydfil	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Monmouthshire	64	5.7	65	4.7	66	4.1
Neath Port Talbot	23	2.1	18	1.3	21	1.3
Newport	31	2.8	33	2.4	38	2.4
Pembrokeshire	15	1.3	18	1.3	18	1.1
Powys	51	4.6	65	4.7	91	5.6
Rhondda Cynon Taf	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Swansea	93	8.3	97	7.0	83	5.1
Torfaen	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Vale of Glamorgan	33	3.0	24	1.7	27	1.7
Wrexham	42	3.8	43	3.1	43	2.7
Employed in a maintained school	10	0.9	27	2.0	22	1.4
Supply[1]	67	6.0	113	8.2	147	9.1
Others in service[2]	12	1.1	10	0.7	15	0.9
Others out of service[3]	205	18.4	350	25.4	439	27.2
Total	**1,117**	**100**	**1,378**	**100**	**1,612**	**100**

[1] May be in any of the categories a practitioner is registered in.

[2] Includes peripatetic teachers and advisory teachers

[3] Includes retired teachers, registrants employed in support roles, or FE and those with no employment recorded.

2.8 Ability to speak Welsh

Table 2.8: Number of registered independent school learning support workers by ability to speak Welsh.

The below is based on those registrants who have declared whether they are fluent or fairly fluent, in the Welsh language.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	92	8.2	131	9.5	143	8.9
No	969	86.8	1,199	87.0	1,433	88.9
Unknown	56	5.0	48	3.5	36	2.2
Total	**1,117**	**100**	**1,378**	**100**	**1,612**	**100**

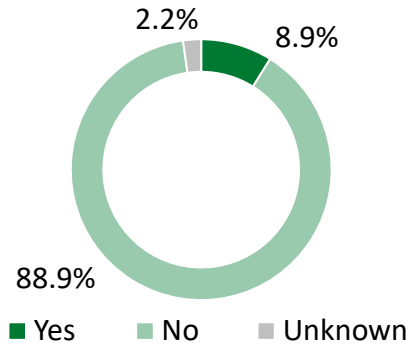

Chart 9: Independent school learning support workers by ability to speak Welsh in 2026.

2.9 Ability to work through the medium of Welsh

Table 2.9: Number of registered independent school learning support workers by ability to work through the medium of Welsh.

The below information is based on those registrants who have declared whether they were either trained to work, currently work, or have ever worked through the medium of Welsh or feel confident to do so.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	30	2.7	50	3.6	66	4.1
No	1,030	92.2	1,279	92.8	1,509	93.6
Unknown	57	5.1	49	3.6	37	2.3
Total	**1,117**	**100**	**1,378**	**100**	**1,612**	**100**

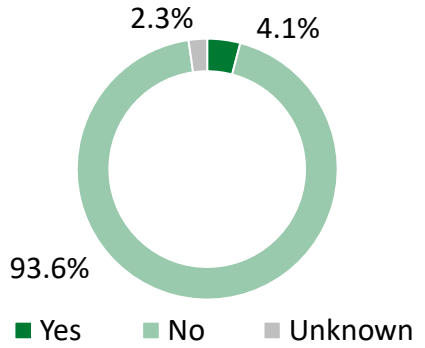

Chart 10: Independent school learning support workers by ability to work through the medium of Welsh in 2026.

2.10 Highest level of qualification

Table 2.10: Number of registered independent school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Level 8	4	0.4	3	0.2	4	0.2
Level 7	103	9.2	135	9.8	106	6.6
Level 6	154	13.8	186	13.5	239	14.8
Level 5	24	2.1	36	2.6	37	2.3
Level 4	19	1.7	25	1.8	30	1.9
Level 3	87	7.8	151	11.0	213	13.2
Level 2	59	5.3	111	8.1	158	9.8
Level 1	3	0.3	7	0.5	3	0.2
Unknown level*	664	59.4	724	52.5	822	51.0
Total	**1,117**	**100**	**1,378**	**100**	**1,612**	**100**

Includes subject specific qualifications, qualifications in another subject, teaching/assessing qualification for example, all qualifications listed on a registrant's record. Levels based on the CQFW.

* Unknown level includes those who have no qualifications recorded, no relevant qualification, or if the level of qualification cannot be determined from the information provided by either the registrant or employer.

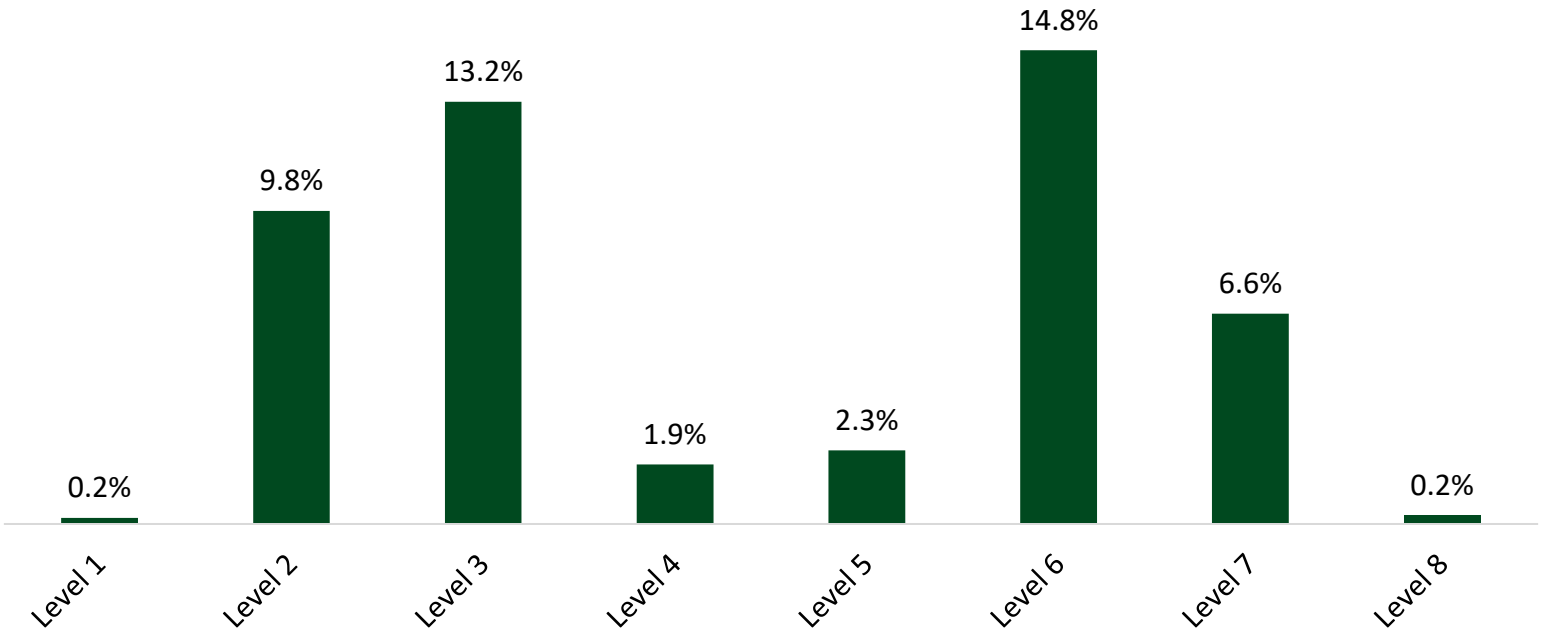

Chart 11: Percentage of independent school learning support workers by highest level of qualification in 2026.

2.11 Retention

2.11 Year-on-year change in registered independent school learning support workers numbers.

	March 2024		March 2025		March 2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total registered[1]	1,117	100	1,378	100	1,612	100
Registrants de-registered since previous year[2]	0	0	269	24.0	410	25.4
New registrants since previous year[3]	0	0	530	47.5	644	40.0
Increase or decrease on previous year[4]	0	0	261	23.5	234	14.5

[1] Total number of registrants in the independent school learning support workers category on 1 March in each given year.

[2] Number of independent school learning support workers who were registered in the previous year but did not maintain their registration the following year.

[3] Number of new registrants who were admitted to the Register of Education Practitioners in each year.

[4] Number reflects either a net increase or decrease in registrant numbers on the 1 March in each year compared to the previous year, taking into account the number of registrants who did not retain their registration (footnote 2) and those admitted to the Register (footnote 3).

3.1 Number registered

Table 3.1: Annual registered total of independent special post-16 institution teachers.

	2024	2025	2026
Number of registered independent special post-16 institution teachers	84	97	90

March 2026 figures – 66 are registered as an independent special post-16 institution teacher only, 24 in multiple categories. Of the multiples, 7 registrants are registered in 2 categories, 6 are registered in 3 categories, 2 are registered in 4 categories, 1 is registered in 5 categories, 1 is registered in 6 categories, 1 is registered in 7 categories, 4 are registered in 8 categories, and 9 are registered in 9 categories.

3.2 Gender

Table 3.2: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution teachers by gender.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Female	62	73.8	73	75.3	67	74.4
Male	22	26.2	23	23.7	23	25.6
Not specified	0	0.0	1	1.0	0	0.0
Total	**84**	**100**	**97**	**100**	**90**	**100**

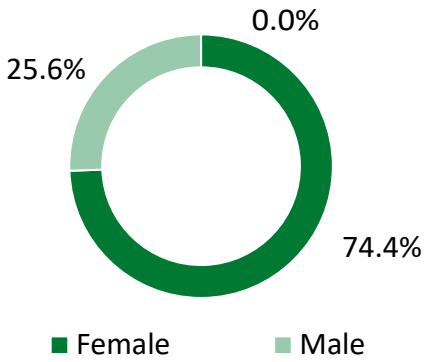

Chart 12: Gender of independent special post-16 institution teachers in 2026.

3.3 Age

Table 3.3: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution teachers by age.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Under 25	0	0.0	1	1.0	1	1.1
25 to 29	3	3.6	6	6.2	3	3.3
30 to 34	13	15.5	15	15.5	5	5.6
35 to 39	18	21.4	15	15.5	21	23.3
40 to 44	13	15.5	18	18.6	13	14.4
45 to 49	10	11.9	12	12.4	14	15.6
50 to 54	12	14.3	13	13.4	15	16.7
55 to 59	7	8.3	6	6.2	6	6.7
60 to 64	7	8.3	9	9.3	8	8.9
65+	1	1.2	2	2.1	4	4.4
Total	**84**	**100**	**97**	**100**	**90**	**100**

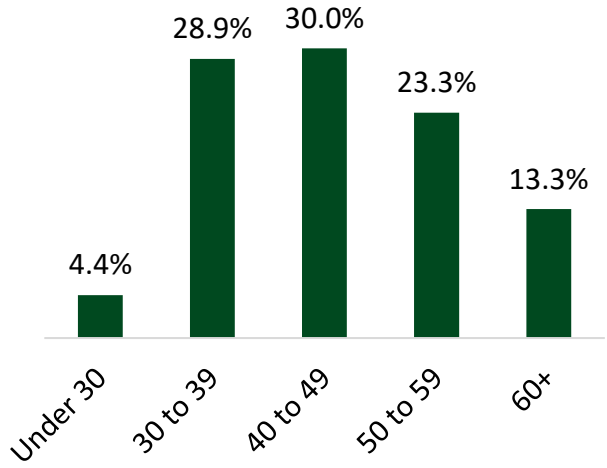

Chart 13: Age of independent special post-16 institution teachers in 2026.

3.4 Ethnic group

Table 3.4: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution teachers by ethnic group.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
White	66	78.6	80	82.5	75	83.3
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	0	0.0	1	1.0	2	2.2
Asian or Asian British	3	3.6	4	4.1	2	2.2
Black, African, Caribbean, or Black British	2	2.4	1	1.0	1	1.1
Other ethnic group	1	1.2	1	1.0	0	0.0
Does not wish to record ethnic group	2	2.4	1	1.0	1	1.1
Unknown	10	11.9	9	9.3	9	10.0
Total	**84**	**100**	**97**	**100**	**90**	**100**

The above data is provided in an aggregate format to prevent the disclosure of registrants. The ethnic group options as detailed on the Register of Education Practitioners can be found on the Government Analysis function website. The ethnic groups that make up the aggregate format above can also be found there.

3.5 National identity

Table 3.5: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution teachers by national identity.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Welsh	34	40.5	43	44.3	38	42.2
British	29	34.5	28	28.9	29	32.2
English	5	6.0	9	9.3	7	7.8
Scottish, Irish or Northern Irish	2	2.4	2	2.1	2	2.2
Other	4	4.8	6	6.2	5	5.6
Does not wish to record national identity	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Unknown	10	11.9	9	9.3	9	10.0
Total	**84**	**100**	**97**	**100**	**90**	**100**

3.6 Disability

Table 3.6: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution teachers who have made a declaration regarding their disability.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	5	6.0	9	9.3	6	6.7
No	79	94.0	88	90.7	84	93.3
Total	**84**	**100**	**97**	**100**	**90**	**100**

For the purposes of this release, a person is considered to have a disability if they have a self-reported long-standing illness, condition, or impairment that causes difficulty with day-to-day activities. This definition is consistent with the Equality Act 2010 and the Government Statistical Service's (GSS's) harmonised definition.

3.7 Ability to speak Welsh

Table 3.7: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution teachers by ability to speak Welsh.

The below is based on those registrants who have declared whether they are fluent or fairly fluent, in the Welsh language.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	16	19.0	17	17.5	14	15.6
No	65	77.4	76	78.4	72	80.0
Unknown	3	3.6	4	4.1	4	4.4
Total	**84**	**100**	**97**	**100**	**90**	**100**

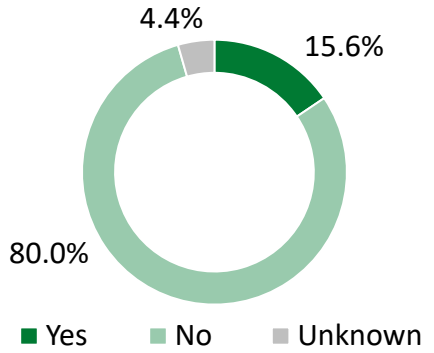

Chart 14: Independent special post-16 institution teachers by ability to speak Welsh in 2026.

3.8 Ability to work through the medium of Welsh

Table 3.8: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution teachers by ability to work through the medium of Welsh.

The below information is based on those registrants who have declared whether they were either trained to work, currently work, or have ever worked through the medium of Welsh or feel confident to do so.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	9	10.7	10	10.3	9	10.0
No	72	85.7	83	85.6	77	85.6
Unknown	3	3.6	4	4.1	4	4.4
Total	**84**	**100**	**97**	**100**	**90**	**100**

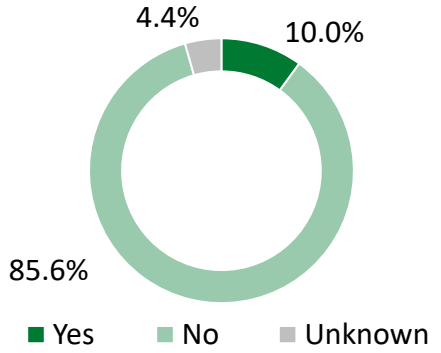

Chart 15: Independent special post-16 institution teachers by ability to work through the medium of Welsh in 2026.

3.9 Highest level of qualification

Table 3.9: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution teachers by highest level of qualification held.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Level 8	1	1.2	0	0.0	1	1.1
Level 7	32	38.1	40	41.2	40	44.4
Level 6	7	8.3	9	9.3	10	11.1
Level 5	5	6.0	3	3.1	3	3.3
Level 4	1	1.2	2	2.1	2	2.2
Level 3	2	2.4	4	4.1	4	4.4
Level 2	1	1.2	0	0.0	1	1.1
Level 1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Unknown level*	35	41.7	39	40.2	29	32.2
Total	**84**	**100**	**97**	**100**	**90**	**100**

Includes subject specific qualifications, qualifications in another subject, teaching/assessing qualification for example. all qualifications listed on a registrant's record. Levels based on the CQFW.

* Unknown level includes those who have no qualifications recorded, no relevant qualification, or if the level of qualification cannot be determined from the information provided by either the registrant or employer.

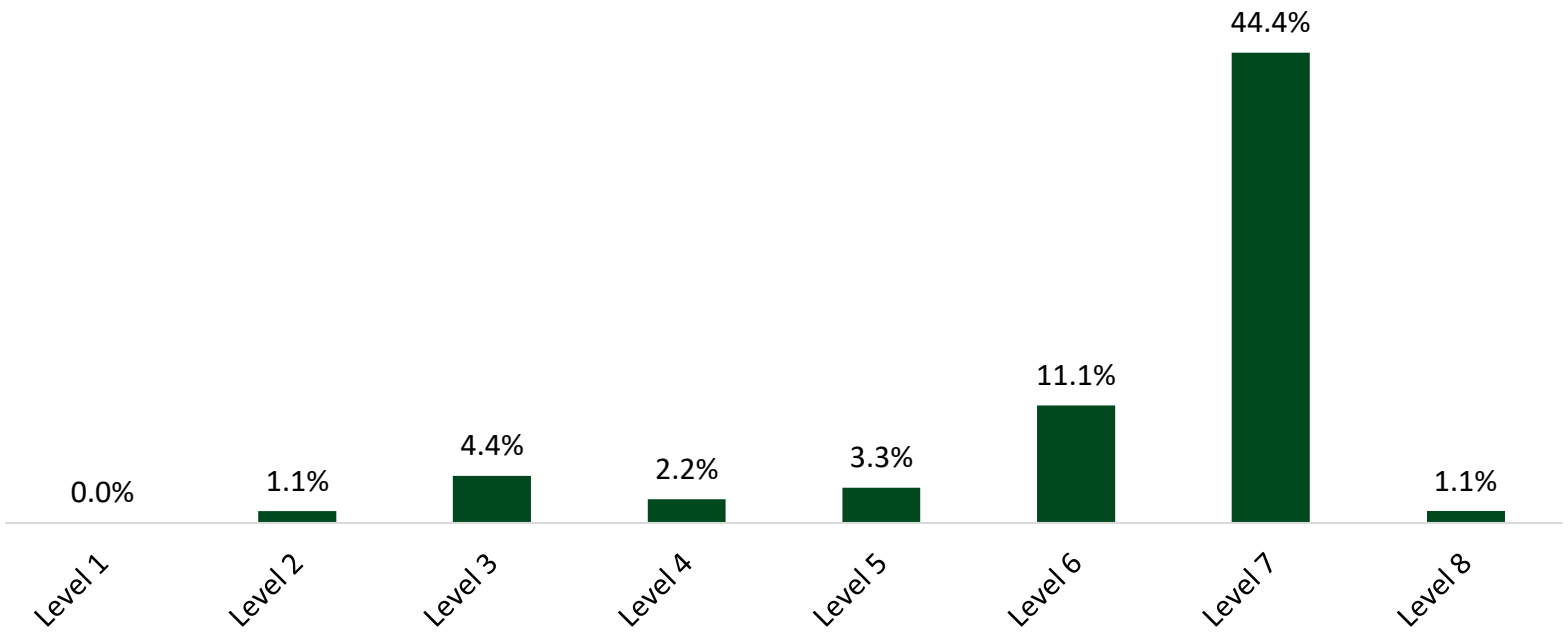

Chart 16: Percentage of independent special post-16 institution teachers by highest level of qualification in 2026.

3.10 Retention

3.10 Year-on-year change in registered independent special post-16 institution teachers numbers.

	March 2024		March 2025		March 2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total registered[1]	84	100	97	100	90	100
Registrants de-registered since previous year[2]	0	0	18	21.4	31	32.0
New registrants since previous year[3]	0	0	31	36.9	24	24.7
Increase or decrease on previous year[4]	0	0	13	15.5	-7	-7.2

[1] Total number of registrants in the independent special post-16 institution teachers category on 1 March in each given year.

[2] Number of independent special post-16 institution teachers who were registered in the previous year but did not maintain their registration the following year.

[3] Number of new registrants who were admitted to the Register of Education Practitioners in each year.

[4] Number reflects either a net increase or decrease in registrant numbers on the 1 March in each year compared to the previous year, taking into account the number of registrants who did not retain their registration (footnote 2) and those admitted to the Register (footnote 3).

4.1 Number registered

Table 4.1: Annual registered total of independent special post-16 institution learning support workers

	2024	2025	2026
Number of registered independent special post-16 institution learning support workers	292	285	337

March 2026 figures – 289 are registered as a independent special post-16 institution learning support workers only, 48 in multiple categories. Of the multiples, 26 registrants are registered in 2 categories, 2 are registered in 3 categories, 12 are registered in 4 categories, 1 registrants are registered in 6 categories, 1 is registered in 7 categories, 4 registrants are registered in 8 categories, and 2 are registered in 9 categories.

4.2 Gender

Table 4.2: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution learning support workers by gender.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Female	198	67.8	214	75.1	250	74.2
Male	93	31.8	69	24.2	86	25.5
Not specified	1	0.3	2	0.7	1	0.3
Total	**292**	**100**	**285**	**100**	**337**	**100**

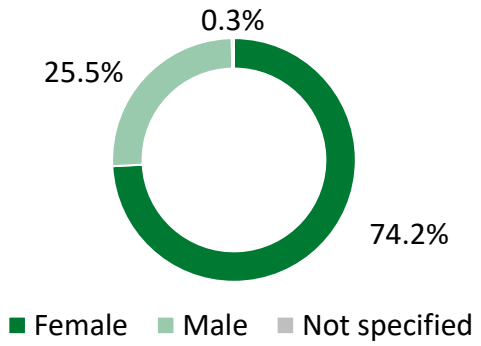

Chart 17: Gender of independent special post-16 learning support workers in 2026.

4.3 Age

Table 4.3: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution learning support workers by age.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Under 25	21	7.2	17	6.0	25	7.4
25 to 29	46	15.8	44	15.4	44	13.1
30 to 34	49	16.8	43	15.1	56	16.6
35 to 39	58	19.9	47	16.5	58	17.2
40 to 44	27	9.2	40	14.0	44	13.1
45 to 49	29	9.9	23	8.1	26	7.7
50 to 54	23	7.9	27	9.5	36	10.7
55 to 59	18	6.2	21	7.4	23	6.8
60 to 64	17	5.8	16	5.6	16	4.7
65+	4	1.4	7	2.5	9	2.7
Total	**292**	**100**	**285**	**100**	**337**	**100**

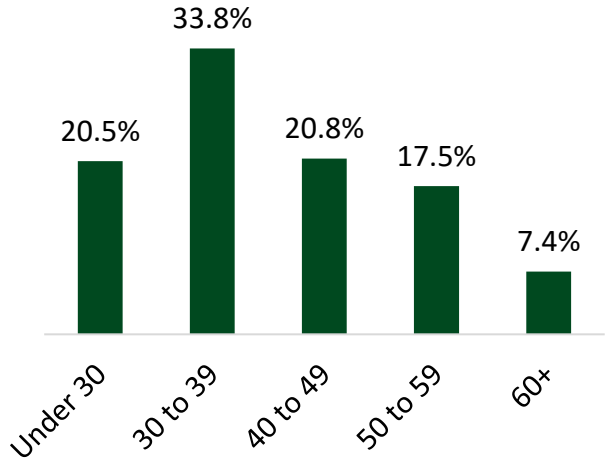

Chart 18: Age of independent special post-16 support workers in 2026.

4.4 Ethnic group

Table 4.4: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution learning support workers by ethnic group.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
White	174	59.6	202	70.9	233	69.1
Mixed or multiple ethnic groups	2	0.7	3	1.1	4	1.2
Asian or Asian British	7	2.4	12	4.2	16	4.7
Black, African, Caribbean, or Black British	42	14.4	20	7.0	35	10.4
Other ethnic group	3	1.0	1	0.4	3	0.9
Does not wish to record ethnic group	4	1.4	1	0.4	12	3.6
Unknown	60	20.5	46	16.1	34	10.1
Total	**292**	**100**	**285**	**100**	**337**	**100**

The above data is provided in an aggregate format to prevent the disclosure of registrants. The ethnic group options as detailed on the Register of Education Practitioners can be found on the Government Analysis function website. The ethnic groups that make up the aggregate format above can also be found there.

4.5 National identity

Table 4.5: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution learning support workers by national identity.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Welsh	85	29.1	100	35.1	117	34.7
British	64	21.9	75	26.3	82	24.3
English	30	10.3	26	9.1	39	11.6
Scottish, Irish or Northern Irish	0	0.0	3	1.1	1	0.3
Other	53	18.2	35	12.3	52	15.4
Does not wish to record national identity	0	0.0	0	0.0	12	3.6
Unknown	60	20.5	46	16.1	34	10.1
Total	**292**	**100**	**285**	**100**	**337**	**100**

4.6 Disability

Table 4.6: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution learning support workers who have made a declaration regarding their disability.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	17	5.8	22	7.7	24	7.1
No	275	94.2	263	92.3	313	92.9
Total	**292**	**100**	**285**	**100**	**337**	**100**

For the purposes of this release, a person is considered to have a disability if they have a self-reported long-standing illness, condition, or impairment that causes difficulty with day-to-day activities. This definition is consistent with the Equality Act 2010 and the Government Statistical Service's (GSS's) harmonised definition.

4.7 Ability to speak Welsh

Table 4.7: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution learning support workers by ability to speak Welsh.

The below is based on those registrants who have declared whether they are fluent or fairly fluent, in the Welsh language.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	19	6.5	22	7.7	31	9.2
No	257	88.0	250	87.7	297	88.1
Unknown	16	5.5	13	4.6	9	2.7
Total	**292**	**100**	**285**	**100**	**337**	**100**

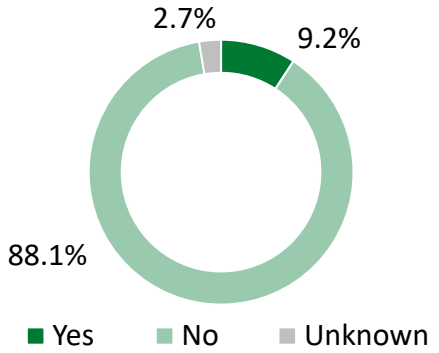

Chart 19: Independent special post-16 learning support workers by ability to speak Welsh in 2026.

4.8 Ability to work through the medium of Welsh

Table 4.8: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution learning support workers by ability to work through the medium of Welsh.

The below information is based on those registrants who have declared whether they were either trained to work, currently work, or have ever worked through the medium of Welsh or feel confident to do so.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Yes	9	3.1	7	2.5	15	4.5
No	267	91.4	264	92.6	312	92.6
Unknown	16	5.5	14	4.9	10	3.0
Total	**292**	**100**	**285**	**100**	**337**	**100**

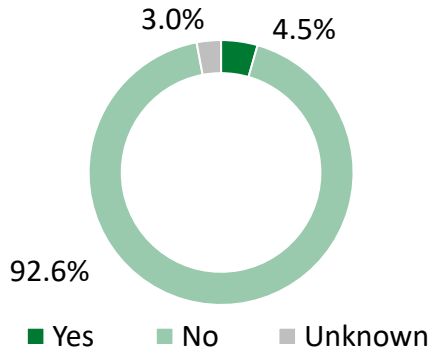

Chart 20: Independent special post-16 learning support workers by ability to work through the medium of Welsh in 2026.

4.9 Highest level of qualification

Table 4.9: Number of registered independent special post-16 institution learning support workers by highest level of qualification held.

	2024		2025		2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Level 8	1	0.3	0	0.0	0	0.0
Level 7	17	5.8	21	7.4	32	9.5
Level 6	25	8.6	30	10.5	41	12.2
Level 5	13	4.5	7	2.5	11	3.3
Level 4	0	0.0	3	1.1	6	1.8
Level 3	10	3.4	17	6.0	24	7.1
Level 2	26	8.9	23	8.1	33	9.8
Level 1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Unknown level*	200	68.5	184	64.6	190	56.4
Total	**292**	**100**	**285**	**100**	**337**	**100**

Includes subject specific qualifications, qualifications in another subject, teaching/assessing qualification for example, all qualifications listed on a registrant's record. Levels based on the CQFW.

* Unknown level includes those who have no qualifications recorded, no relevant qualification, or if the level of qualification cannot be determined from the information provided by either the registrant or employer.

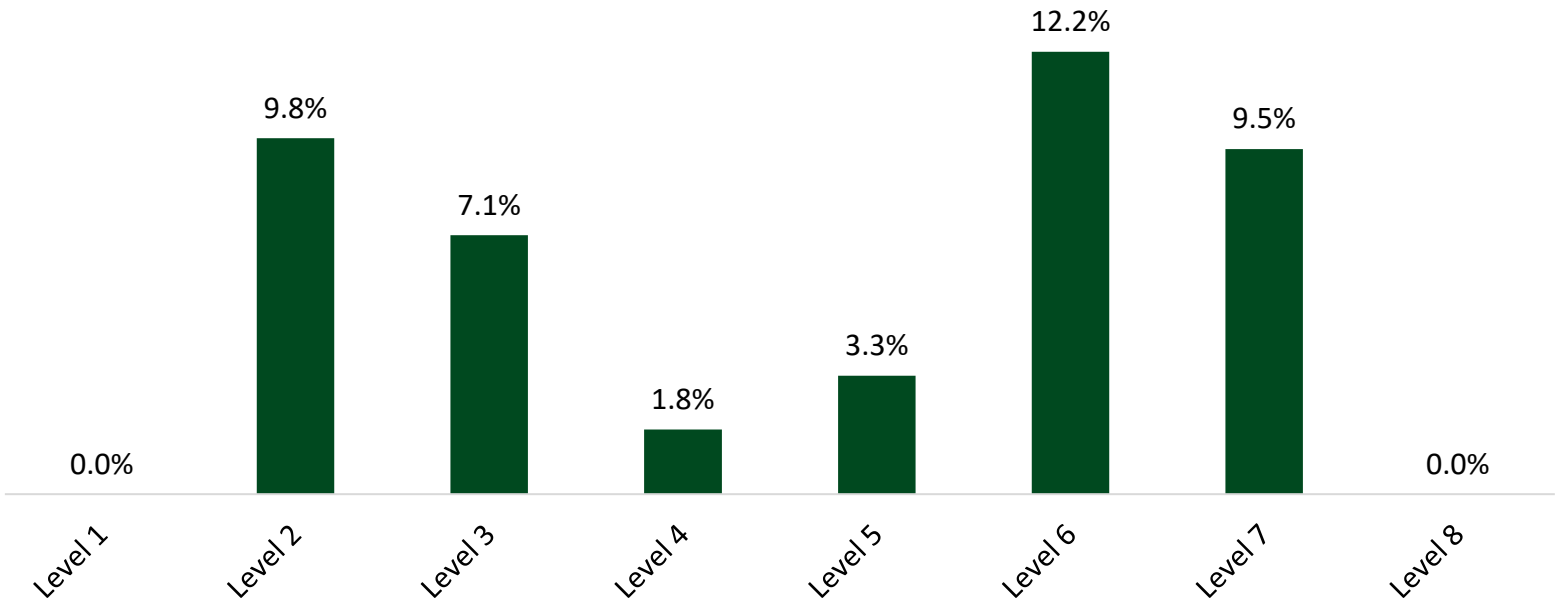

Chart 21: Percentage of special post-16 institution learning support workers by highest level of qualification in 2026.

4.10 Retention

4.10 Year-on-year change in registered independent special post-16 institution learning support workers numbers.

	March 2024		March 2025		March 2026	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total registered[1]	292	100	285	100	337	100
Registrants de-registered since previous year[2]	0	0	103	35.3	63	22.1
New registrants since previous year[3]	0	0	96	32.9	115	40.4
Increase or decrease on previous year[4]	0	0	-7	-2.4	52	18.2

[1] Total number of registrants in the independent special post-16 institution learning support workers category on 1 March in each given year.

[2] Number of independent special post-16 institution learning support workers who were registered in the previous year but did not maintain their registration the following year.

[3] Number of new registrants who were admitted to the Register of Education Practitioners in each year.

[4] Number reflects either a net increase or decrease in registrant numbers on the 1 March in each year compared to the previous year, taking into account the number of registrants who did not retain their registration (footnote 2) and those admitted to the Register (footnote 3).