

| | England June 2016 | Northern Ireland October 2016 | Scotland March 2017 | Wales March 2017 |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| Volume of data | 21,230,000 | 327,122 | 1,265,501 | 1,034,907 |
| Year begun | 1998 | 2006 | 2007 | 2003 |
| Pupil level | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| Named | yes | yes | no | yes |
| Sensitive data | yes, incl. indicators for children of parents in services, ethnicity, nationality, and looked after children. Not religion. | yes, incl. religion, ethnicity and indicators for children of parents in services | yes incl. ethnicity, language, nationality, in care, and indicators for children of parents in services | yes incl. ethnicity, language, nationality, in care, and indicators for children of parents in services |
| Subject Access permitted to your own record | no | yes | no | yes |
| Third party access is restricted to those with accredited training or access only with oversight in safe setting. | no. "Applicants must complete license agreement, terms and conditions." | unknown | no | No. "Applicants must complete a Data Access Agreement (DAA) and a Security Aspects Letter (SAL)" |
| Distributed to third parties | yes | yes. | yes — in most cases, researchers make use of the eDRIS facilities which have been security accredited by the Scottish Government. (Trusted third party model) | yes |
| Identifying data distributed to commercial third parties for re-use | yes, including journalists, data analytics companies, charities, for turning into print and online school comparison tools, think tanks. | If pupil level information is to be shared with another department or public body a Data Sharing Agreement is produced detailing why the data is being shared, what data is to be shared, how it is to be securely shared and stored and how the data are to be treated once the project has been completed. | no | yes but limited to FFT for analytics and resale to schools and local authorities, see 'Third party distribution' below. |
| Small number suppression | "There is no suppression applied to data extracts from the NPD before release. Instead, Requesters are required to sign up to strict terms & conditions covering the confidentiality and handling of data, security arrangements, retention and use of the data. These include that no individual will be identified in published data. The Daily Telegraph requested pupil-level data and so suppression was not applicable." [source] | Typically the Department suppresses information of fewer than five pupils for any data that is deemed as potentially identifiable. Any figures greater than five can also be "counter-suppressed" to avoid working out a suppressed figure by subtracting it from a total. | Our general policy is that numbers under five are suppressed however other numbers may also be suppressed where it is felt necessary to do so to reduce risk of identification of individuals. Where applicants require access to disclosive data for research, different processes apply which restrict the use and sharing of the data. | Individual level data is fully anonymised in most cases. Disclosure control is applied to all aggregate data, most commonly by not publishing any actual counts less than 5 or any counts that can be derived to be less than 5 from other data in the dataset to be released. |
| Audit of recipients | no | no | We have not conducted any audits. We work with partners to encourage the use of recognised safe havens, and this is reflected in our application processes. | no |
| Typical release length | between 6 months to 3 years depending on the aims of the project, is often extended | not known | not known | Most cases when one calendar year has passed |
| Indefinite retention | yes | yes | yes | yes |
| Data collection sources | School Census is every third Thursday in each term (three times a year) and added to around 20 other data sources to create the National Pupil Database | Information is collected by the Department on the Friday of the first full week in October every year | <i>School/Pupil Census from 2007 onwards, internally known as "SCH". Attendance, Absence and Exclusions from 2006 onwards, internally known as "AAE". Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence from 2016 onwards, internally known as "TJ" (Teacher Judgements)</i> | <i>School/Pupil Census from 2007</i> |
| Public transparency of third party data distribution in any online register that children and parents can view | yes, since 2013. Includes publication of volume of police and Home Office use for immigration enforcement, since Dec.2017. | no. We do not currently publish a list of those third parties where data has been shared. | no | no |
| Third party distribution | https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dfe-external-data-shares | Unknown. "Analytical Services Unit within the Department of Education (NI) does not keep a record of every single request for data, although it is known that no data has been supplied to the Home Office or Police in this time period." [source: FOI WDTK] | http://defenddigitalme.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Scotland_datasharing.pdf | http://defenddigitalme.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Wales_Datasharing.pdf |
| General school census information | https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/England_school_census | http://defenddigitalme.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Schools-Census-information.pdf | http://defenddigitalme.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Scotland_pupil_data.pdf | http://defenddigitalme.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/171204-technical-completion-notes-for-local-authorities-and-schools-plasc-en.pdf |
| FOI reference or other sources of fact | | https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/pupil_data_n_ireland_the_national_2 | https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/pupil_data_scotland_national_pup_2 | |