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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

**PUPIL ABSENCE IN SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND
2002/03 (PROVISIONAL)****INTRODUCTION**

This SFR provides the earliest information about absence from schools in England for 2002/03. The information is based on that collected from the absence in schools' returns and the data is currently in the process of being checked by schools as part of the performance tables exercise. These tables show the following information for day pupils of compulsory school age: levels of total absence, authorised and unauthorised absence from maintained primary schools (including middle schools deemed primary) in each Local Education Authority area; levels of authorised and unauthorised absence from maintained secondary schools (including middle schools deemed secondary) in each Local Education Authority area; and the national picture, broken down by different types of school. Analyses by Government Office Regions are also shown.

KEY POINTS**ALL SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND**

These provisional figures show that the percentages of half days missed due to absence in schools in England for 2002/03 are as follows:

- Authorised absences 6.13 per cent
- Unauthorised absences 0.71 per cent
- Total absences 6.84 per cent

Compared to the 2001/02 figures this represents a decrease of 0.18 percentage points in total absences. The figures for unauthorised absence and authorised absence have decreased by 0.01 percentage points and 0.17 percentage points respectively.

MAINTAINED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

These 2002/03 provisional figures show that the percentage of half days missed due to absence in maintained primary schools in England were:

- Authorised absences 5.39 per cent compared to 5.40 per cent in 2001/02
- Unauthorised absences 0.43 per cent compared to 0.45 in 2001/02
- Total absences 5.82 per cent compared to 5.85 in 2001/02

MAINTAINED SECONDARY SCHOOLS

These statistics for 2002/03 show that the percentages of half days missed due to absence in maintained secondary schools in England were:

- Authorised absences 7.21 per cent compared to 7.63 in 2001/02
- Unauthorised absences 1.08 per cent compared to 1.09 in 2001/02
- Total absences 8.29 per cent compared to 8.72 in 2001/02

Provisional statistics for maintained secondary schools indicate that although the unauthorised absences have only decreased by 0.01 percentage points, there has been a decrease of 0.43 percentage points in total absences.

TABLES

Table 1 shows England figures for total absences broken down by authorised and unauthorised absence and analysed by type of school. This also shows data for earlier years.

Table 2 shows total absences for maintained primary schools by LEA for the last 3 years.

Table 3 shows total absences for maintained secondary schools by LEA for the last 3 years.

Table 4 shows authorised and unauthorised absences separately for maintained primary and secondary schools analysed by LEA for the last 2 years.

Table 5 shows the number of pupils that are absent for at least one half day and the average number of half days missed per absent pupil, analysed by maintained primary and secondary schools for each LEA.

Table 6 shows total absences in maintained primary schools for each Government Office Region for the last 3 years.

Table 7 shows total absences in maintained secondary schools for each Government Office Region for the last 3 years.

Table 8 shows authorised and unauthorised absences separately for maintained primary and secondary schools for each Government Office Region for the last 2 years.

NOTES TO EDITORS

In law, parents of children of compulsory school age (5-16) are required to ensure that they receive a suitable education by regular attendance at school or otherwise. Failure to comply with this statutory duty can lead to prosecution. Local Education Authorities (LEAs) are responsible in law for making sure that pupils attend school.

Schools are required to take attendance registers twice a day: once at the beginning of the morning session and once during the afternoon session. In their register schools are required to distinguish whether pupils are present, engaged in an approved educational activity, or are absent.

Where a day pupil of compulsory school age is absent, schools have to indicate in their register whether the absence is authorised by the school or unauthorised.

Authorised absence is absence with permission from a teacher or other authorised representative of the school. This includes instances of absences for which a satisfactory explanation has been provided (for example illness).

Unauthorised absence is absence without permission from a teacher or other authorised representative of the school. This includes all unexplained or unjustified absences.

The tables show the percentage of half days missed due to authorised and unauthorised absence in the 2002/2003 school year up to and including 23 May 2003. To put these figures in context, the tables also include the average number of half days missed per absent pupil.

Number of day pupils of compulsory school age means day pupils of compulsory school age (5-16) in responding schools. For the purposes of this return, pupils are deemed to be of compulsory school age if they were 5 years old before 1 September 2002 and aged 15 or younger on 31 August 2002.

LEAs are listed alphabetically. The LEA and Government Office Region tables relate to maintained primary or maintained secondary schools and exclude maintained special schools and City Technology Colleges. The figures are therefore comparable to those that were published in the National Pupil Absence Tables in earlier years.

For purposes of comparison, average figures for different types of school are also given in the National Summary.

Guidance on the types of absence in relation to pupils of compulsory school age is contained in Annex A of DfES Circular No. 10/99 "Social Inclusion: Pupil Support", issued to all schools in July 1999. This circular is available on the web-site <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/circulars/10-99>.

TABLE 1: PUPIL ABSENCE BY TYPE OF SCHOOL IN ENGLAND : 1996/97 - 2002/03
PROVISIONAL

	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
ALL SCHOOLS							
Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	7,011,816	6,977,346	7,071,573	7,102,287	7,176,173	7,188,176	7,118,701
Percentage of half days missed:							
authorised absence	6.53	6.54	6.34	6.14	6.54	6.30	6.13
unauthorised absence	0.70	0.74	0.73	0.71	0.73	0.72	0.71
total absences	7.23	7.28	7.07	6.85	7.27	7.02	6.84
Maintained Primary Schools¹							
Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	3,770,801	3,730,357	3,734,768	3,719,189	3,741,370	3,704,091	3,637,158
Percentage of half days missed:							
authorised absence	5.58	5.71	5.39	5.19	5.59	5.40	5.39
unauthorised absence	0.48	0.50	0.49	0.47	0.49	0.45	0.43
total absences	6.06	6.21	5.89	5.66	6.08	5.85	5.82
Maintained Secondary Schools^{1,2}							
Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	2,790,039	2,786,943	2,872,670	2,917,639	2,956,915	3,003,651	3,003,590
Percentage of half days missed:							
authorised absence	8.06	7.91	7.81	7.58	7.98	7.63	7.21
unauthorised absence	1.01	1.10	1.07	1.04	1.07	1.09	1.08
total absences	9.07	9.01	8.88	8.62	9.04	8.72	8.29
Special Schools							
Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	82,040	82,425	82,728	81,544	81,867	81,376	79,884
Percentage of half days missed:							
authorised absence	8.62	8.50	8.51	8.27	9.06	8.78	8.79
unauthorised absence	2.45	2.60	2.45	2.16	2.21	2.00	1.89
total absences	11.07	11.10	10.96	10.43	11.27	10.78	10.68
City Technology Colleges							
Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	12,308	12,650	12,745	12,898	13,060	13,211	13,641
Percentage of half days missed:							
authorised absence	6.13	6.10	5.79	5.93	6.16	6.19	5.49
unauthorised absence	0.20	0.10	0.13	0.20	0.21	0.21	0.24
total absences	6.33	6.20	5.92	6.13	6.37	6.40	5.73
Independent Schools							
Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	356,628	364,971	368,662	371,017	382,961	385,847	384,428
Percentage of half days missed:							
authorised absence	3.64	3.70	3.77	3.66	4.00	3.88	4.02
unauthorised absence	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.11
total absences	3.72	3.78	3.85	3.75	4.10	3.97	4.13

¹ Includes middle schools as deemed

² Includes Academies for 2002/03

TABLE 2 : PUPIL ABSENCE IN MAINTAINED PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND IN 2002/03

Local Education Authority	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Total possible sessions in thousands	Total sessions missed in thousands	% of half days missed primary 2002/03	% of half days missed primary 2001/02	% of half days missed primary 2000/01	PROVISIONAL
							% point change between 2001/02 and 2002/03
Barking and Dagenham	15,211	4,287	289	6.7	7.0	7.4	-0.3
Barnet	22,079	6,419	372	5.8	5.9	6.2	-0.1
Barnsley	17,524	5,237	350	6.7	6.5	6.7	0.2
Bath & North East Somerset	10,862	3,264	168	5.1	5.4	5.1	-0.3
Bedfordshire	20,975	6,062	335	5.5	5.2	5.5	0.3
Bexley	17,945	5,389	331	6.1	6.0	6.3	0.1
Birmingham	87,514	25,182	1,726	6.9	6.6	7.2	0.3
Blackburn with Darwen	13,110	3,970	257	6.5	6.4	6.4	0.1
Blackpool	10,812	3,191	211	6.6	7.0	6.8	-0.4
Bolton	21,308	6,346	332	5.2	5.5	5.7	-0.3
Bournemouth	9,629	2,809	151	5.4	5.5	5.8	-0.1
Bracknell Forest	7,973	2,346	121	5.1	5.3	5.5	-0.2
Bradford	40,776	11,893	681	5.7	6.2	6.4	-0.5
Brent	18,769	5,331	332	6.2	6.3	6.6	-0.1
Brighton and Hove	14,364	4,237	297	7.0	6.8	7.2	0.2
Bristol, City of	26,122	7,604	542	7.1	7.0	7.3	0.1
Bromley	21,397	6,358	363	5.7	5.7	5.6	0.0
Buckinghamshire	34,533	10,398	513	4.9	4.9	5.0	0.0
Bury	14,462	4,296	216	5.0	5.3	5.4	-0.3
Calderdale	16,544	4,987	255	5.1	5.3	5.6	-0.2
Cambridgeshire	39,058	11,398	646	5.7	5.5	5.9	0.2
Camden	9,316	2,662	201	7.5	8.2	8.3	-0.7
Cheshire	49,371	14,875	718	4.8	4.7	4.9	0.1
Cornwall	35,908	10,564	637	6.0	6.1	6.2	-0.1
Coventry	23,269	6,862	431	6.3	6.5	6.7	-0.2
Croydon	25,201	7,324	484	6.6	6.6	6.8	0.0
Cumbria	36,331	10,872	552	5.1	5.1	5.6	0.0
Darlington	6,879	2,056	132	6.4	6.6	7.4	-0.2
Derby City	18,481	5,504	340	6.2	6.2	6.3	0.0
Derbyshire	55,427	16,784	935	5.6	5.5	5.4	0.1
Devon	49,218	14,529	800	5.5	5.5	5.9	0.0
Doncaster	23,683	6,992	445	6.4	6.7	6.8	-0.3
Dorset	21,770	6,420	346	5.4	5.6	5.6	-0.2
Dudley	24,915	7,422	471	6.3	6.0	6.2	0.3
Durham	36,645	10,934	658	6.0	5.8	6.2	0.2
Ealing	21,479	5,865	356	6.1	6.3	6.7	-0.2
East Riding of Yorkshire	24,196	7,102	381	5.4	5.0	5.3	0.4
East Sussex	32,536	9,618	557	5.8	6.1	6.2	-0.3
Enfield	23,286	6,690	439	6.6	6.5	6.4	0.1
Essex	97,781	28,282	1,670	5.9	5.7	6.0	0.2
Gateshead	13,908	4,177	237	5.7	5.7	6.0	0.0
Gloucestershire	40,359	12,078	626	5.2	5.0	5.3	0.2
Greenwich	17,510	5,116	352	6.9	7.1	7.1	-0.2
Hackney	14,751	4,138	300	7.3	7.9	8.1	-0.6
Halton	9,757	2,953	172	5.8	5.9	6.3	-0.1
Hammersmith and Fulham	7,654	2,191	152	6.9	6.4	7.2	0.5
Hampshire	90,290	26,353	1,337	5.1	5.1	5.3	0.0
Haringey	18,217	5,013	370	7.4	8.0	7.5	-0.6
Harrow	17,263	5,064	308	6.1	6.2	6.4	-0.1
Hartlepool	7,854	2,352	131	5.6	5.7	6.3	-0.1
Havering	17,397	5,015	304	6.1	5.7	6.2	0.4
Herefordshire	12,372	3,743	206	5.5	5.2	6.0	0.3
Hertfordshire	78,117	23,365	1,224	5.2	5.2	5.3	0.0

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Hillingdon	19,434	5,565	369	6.6	6.5	6.9	0.1
Hounslow	14,929	4,369	280	6.4	6.7	7.3	-0.3
Isle of Wight	6,159	1,817	105	5.8	5.7	6.4	0.1
Isles of Scilly	238	63	4	6.5	-	8.1	6.5
Islington	12,938	3,709	273	7.4	7.3	7.1	0.1
Kensington and Chelsea	5,700	1,648	109	6.6	7.1	7.7	-0.5
Kent	100,659	29,952	1,705	5.7	5.6	5.9	0.1
Kingston upon Hull, City of	20,749	5,849	387	6.6	6.2	6.8	0.4
Kingston upon Thames	9,532	2,778	148	5.3	5.5	5.8	-0.2
Kirklees	30,808	9,180	519	5.7	5.4	5.6	0.3
Knowsley	13,399	4,010	259	6.5	6.7	7.2	-0.2
Lambeth	16,234	4,480	293	6.5	6.8	7.0	-0.3
Lancashire	84,691	25,958	1,366	5.3	5.4	5.4	-0.1
Leeds	52,737	15,882	931	5.9	6.0	6.2	-0.1
Leicester City	23,973	7,128	485	6.8	6.9	7.3	-0.1
Leicestershire	44,665	13,850	733	5.3	5.0	5.4	0.3
Lewisham	19,113	5,225	350	6.7	6.8	7.3	-0.1
Lincolnshire	48,064	14,056	763	5.4	5.1	5.3	0.3
Liverpool	33,695	10,016	660	6.6	6.8	7.2	-0.2
London, City of	182	54	3	5.3	4.3	6.5	1.0
Luton	16,406	4,793	323	6.7	6.6	7.2	0.1
Manchester	33,741	9,593	661	6.9	7.4	7.7	-0.5
Medway	21,218	6,227	366	5.9	5.9	6.0	0.0
Merton	10,983	3,139	190	6.1	6.5	7.1	-0.4
Middlesbrough	11,724	3,356	223	6.6	6.3	6.6	0.3
Milton Keynes	20,200	5,998	345	5.8	6.2	6.2	-0.4
Newcastle upon Tyne	15,577	4,566	290	6.3	6.6	6.5	-0.3
Newham	25,812	6,474	387	6.0	6.8	7.2	-0.8
Norfolk	59,592	17,585	1,075	6.1	5.6	6.0	0.5
North East Lincolnshire	13,249	3,855	222	5.8	5.7	6.0	0.1
North Lincolnshire	12,441	3,501	202	5.8	5.8	5.6	0.0
North Somerset	12,504	3,739	208	5.6	5.5	5.7	0.1
North Tyneside	12,800	3,877	213	5.5	5.2	5.4	0.3
North Yorkshire	41,510	12,480	602	4.8	4.7	5.0	0.1
Northamptonshire	45,786	13,814	754	5.5	5.4	5.6	0.1
Northumberland	14,394	4,356	248	5.7	5.5	5.7	0.2
Nottingham City	21,064	6,101	400	6.6	7.0	7.0	-0.4
Nottinghamshire	55,418	16,311	973	6.0	5.8	5.7	0.2
Oldham	19,317	5,874	353	6.0	6.5	6.6	-0.5
Oxfordshire	39,196	11,588	604	5.2	5.2	5.7	0.0
Peterborough City	14,254	4,092	249	6.1	6.1	6.3	0.0
Plymouth	18,035	5,185	310	6.0	5.8	5.9	0.2
Poole	9,791	2,888	159	5.5	5.8	6.1	-0.3
Portsmouth	13,195	3,823	230	6.0	6.2	6.4	-0.2
Reading	9,040	2,576	158	6.1	6.6	6.4	-0.5
Redbridge	19,633	5,571	344	6.2	6.3	6.6	-0.1
Redcar and Cleveland	11,075	3,361	191	5.7	5.7	5.9	0.0
Richmond upon Thames	10,192	2,971	151	5.1	5.4	5.8	-0.3
Rochdale	17,140	5,214	309	5.9	6.2	6.4	-0.3
Rotherham	21,074	6,253	387	6.2	6.6	6.4	-0.4
Rutland	2,208	673	31	4.6	4.8	4.6	-0.2
Salford	16,848	5,060	318	6.3	7.0	6.7	-0.7
Sandwell	24,112	7,011	500	7.1	7.2	7.5	-0.1

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PROVISIONAL

Local Education Authority	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Total possible sessions in thousands	Total sessions missed in thousands	% of half days missed primary 2002/03	% of half days missed primary 2001/02	% of half days missed primary 2000/01	% point change between 2001/02 and 2002/03
Sefton	19,839	5,978	341	5.7	6.1	6.0	-0.4
Sheffield	36,199	10,795	664	6.2	6.8	6.8	-0.6
Shropshire	19,832	5,916	318	5.4	5.3	5.7	0.1
Slough	9,546	2,774	190	6.8	6.8	7.0	0.0
Solihull	16,840	4,974	256	5.2	5.0	5.3	0.2
Somerset	33,250	9,816	541	5.5	5.5	5.9	0.0
South Gloucestershire	20,231	6,027	325	5.4	5.6	5.7	-0.2
South Tyneside	10,877	3,300	193	5.8	5.9	6.1	-0.1
Southampton	15,391	4,357	294	6.8	7.1	7.4	-0.3
Southend-on-Sea	12,456	3,683	216	5.9	6.1	6.5	-0.2
Southwark	20,483	5,809	386	6.6	6.8	6.8	-0.2
St Helens	13,854	4,225	242	5.7	6.2	6.4	-0.5
Staffordshire	56,856	17,117	922	5.4	5.3	5.5	0.1
Stockport	20,641	6,241	328	5.3	5.6	5.5	-0.3
Stockton on Tees	14,775	4,419	250	5.7	5.6	6.1	0.1
Stoke on Trent	17,560	5,135	327	6.4	6.2	6.3	0.2
Suffolk	40,340	11,704	594	5.1	4.9	5.3	0.2
Sunderland	22,138	6,756	407	6.0	6.1	6.3	-0.1
Surrey	68,087	20,152	1,078	5.3	5.3	5.6	0.0
Sutton	12,582	3,748	209	5.6	5.6	5.8	0.0
Swindon	15,062	4,452	232	5.2	5.7	5.6	-0.5
Tameside	16,912	5,015	298	5.9	6.2	6.0	-0.3
Telford & The Wrekin	13,418	3,959	235	5.9	5.9	6.0	0.0
Thurrock	12,136	3,390	232	6.8	6.5	6.9	0.3
Torbay	8,958	2,644	154	5.8	6.1	6.3	-0.3
Tower Hamlets	17,376	5,023	334	6.7	7.3	7.7	-0.6
Trafford	15,826	4,773	227	4.8	5.3	5.3	-0.5
Wakefield	24,691	7,457	441	5.9	6.0	6.1	-0.1
Walsall	21,568	6,402	435	6.8	6.9	7.2	-0.1
Waltham Forest	17,832	5,039	320	6.4	6.3	6.8	0.1
Wandsworth	14,242	4,006	257	6.4	6.7	7.0	-0.3
Warrington	15,173	4,680	225	4.8	4.9	5.0	-0.1
Warwickshire	36,069	10,819	576	5.3	5.1	5.4	0.2
West Berkshire	10,726	3,104	160	5.1	5.2	5.2	-0.1
West Sussex	53,770	15,875	866	5.5	5.7	6.1	-0.2
Westminster, City of	8,923	2,415	150	6.2	6.6	7.4	-0.4
Wigan	23,594	7,221	400	5.5	5.8	5.9	-0.3
Wiltshire	32,228	9,340	479	5.1	5.0	5.1	0.1
Windsor & Maidenhead	7,742	2,222	108	4.8	4.9	5.3	-0.1
Wirral	24,141	7,267	399	5.5	5.6	6.2	-0.1
Wokingham	11,129	3,203	152	4.8	4.9	4.8	-0.1
Wolverhampton	19,873	5,788	394	6.8	7.0	7.0	-0.2
Worcestershire	33,029	9,731	529	5.4	5.5	5.7	-0.1
York, City of	11,427	3,411	177	5.2	5.1	5.0	0.1
ENGLAND	3,637,158	1,071,576	62,339	5.8	5.9	6.1	-0.1

TABLE 3 : PUPIL ABSENCE IN MAINTAINED SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND IN 2002/03

PROVISIONAL							
Local Education Authority	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Total possible sessions of pupil in thousands	Total sessions missed in thousands	% of half days missed secondary 2002/03	% of half days missed secondary 2001/02	% of half days missed secondary 2000/01	% point change between 2001/02 and 2002/03
Barking and Dagenham	10,887	3,172	300	9.4	10.4	10.7	-1.0
Barnet	17,926	5,293	390	7.4	8.0	8.8	-0.6
Barnsley	13,489	4,108	390	9.5	10.3	10.8	-0.8
Bath & North East Somerset	10,961	3,287	264	8.0	8.0	8.2	0.0
Bedfordshire	33,994	10,085	704	7.0	6.7	7.5	0.3
Bexley	14,970	4,505	357	7.9	9.1	9.9	-1.2
Birmingham	62,851	18,718	1,637	8.7	9.3	9.8	-0.6
Blackburn with Darwen	9,597	2,886	254	8.8	9.3	9.4	-0.5
Blackpool	7,880	2,374	235	9.9	10.8	11.1	-0.9
Bolton	18,493	5,628	461	8.2	8.8	8.8	-0.6
Bournemouth	9,074	2,723	215	7.9	8.4	8.9	-0.5
Bracknell Forest	5,410	1,575	122	7.7	8.4	9.0	-0.7
Bradford	30,407	8,788	844	9.6	10.4	10.8	-0.8
Brent	12,723	3,729	307	8.2	7.8	7.8	0.4
Brighton and Hove	11,854	3,522	314	8.9	9.3	9.7	-0.4
Bristol, City of	17,033	4,970	551	11.1	12.4	12.0	-1.3
Bromley	18,111	5,450	454	8.3	9.1	9.1	-0.8
Buckinghamshire	28,237	8,554	575	6.7	6.5	7.0	0.2
Bury	10,767	3,269	257	7.9	7.6	8.0	0.3
Calderdale	13,419	4,122	325	7.9	8.4	8.9	-0.5
Cambridgeshire	29,533	8,669	695	8.0	8.1	8.6	-0.1
Camden	7,557	2,223	213	9.6	10.1	9.8	-0.5
Cheshire	41,280	12,551	942	7.5	7.8	7.9	-0.3
Cornwall	30,844	9,148	787	8.6	9.0	9.3	-0.4
Coventry	18,985	5,667	529	9.3	9.5	10.0	-0.2
Croydon	17,601	5,247	469	8.9	9.2	9.4	-0.3
Cumbria	30,692	9,386	714	7.6	7.8	8.5	-0.2
Darlington	6,205	1,882	171	9.1	9.7	10.0	-0.6
Derby City	14,215	4,272	376	8.8	9.4	9.3	-0.6
Derbyshire	42,883	13,125	1,031	7.9	8.3	8.6	-0.4
Devon	38,479	11,468	985	8.6	9.0	9.3	-0.4
Doncaster	19,558	5,891	551	9.4	10.1	10.8	-0.7
Dorset	26,776	7,957	585	7.4	7.7	8.2	-0.3
Dudley	20,363	6,194	511	8.2	8.0	8.4	0.2
Durham	29,327	8,865	766	8.6	8.8	9.4	-0.2
Ealing	13,946	4,084	328	8.0	8.7	9.0	-0.7
East Riding of Yorkshire	20,959	6,390	494	7.7	8.1	8.4	-0.4
East Sussex	26,459	7,713	650	8.4	9.4	9.3	-1.0
Enfield	18,322	5,347	479	9.0	9.6	9.2	-0.6
Essex	80,556	23,625	1,917	8.1	8.4	8.7	-0.3
Gateshead	10,852	3,210	276	8.6	9.1	10.0	-0.5
Gloucestershire	35,185	10,632	796	7.5	7.6	8.0	-0.1
Greenwich	13,214	3,884	392	10.1	10.9	11.9	-0.8
Hackney	8,054	2,391	215	9.0	10.0	10.9	-1.0
Halton	8,195	2,485	250	10.0	10.8	11.0	-0.8
Hammersmith and Fulham	6,290	1,862	173	9.3	9.1	10.2	0.2
Hampshire	72,311	21,343	1,640	7.7	8.1	8.0	-0.4
Haringey	10,305	2,908	279	9.6	10.0	9.9	-0.4
Harrow	9,272	2,718	209	7.7	8.1	8.5	-0.4
Hartlepool	6,471	1,948	163	8.4	8.7	9.6	-0.3
Havering	15,602	4,533	361	8.0	8.2	8.8	-0.2
Herefordshire	10,098	3,066	227	7.4	7.7	8.3	-0.3
Hertfordshire	65,152	19,643	1,472	7.5	7.9	8.0	-0.4

TABLE 3 : PUPIL ABSENCE IN MAINTAINED SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND IN 2002/03

PROVISIONAL

Local Education Authority	Number of compulsory school age day pupils	Total possible sessions of pupil in thousands	Total sessions missed in thousands	% of half days missed secondary 2002/03	% of half days missed secondary 2001/02	% of half days missed secondary 2000/01	% point change between 2001/02 and 2002/03
Hillingdon	15,081	4,523	399	8.8	9.3	9.4	-0.5
Hounslow	14,046	4,076	317	7.8	8.0	8.5	-0.2
Isle of Wight	11,097	3,294	283	8.6	8.5	8.7	0.1
Isles of Scilly	-	-	-	-	-	7.9	-
Islington	7,996	2,275	206	9.1	10.7	10.9	-1.6
Kensington and Chelsea	3,086	913	68	7.4	8.3	8.8	-0.9
Kent	83,851	25,094	2,012	8.0	8.3	8.6	-0.3
Kingston upon Hull, City of	16,475	4,839	552	11.4	12.0	12.5	-0.6
Kingston upon Thames	7,597	2,265	167	7.4	7.8	8.1	-0.4
Kirklees	25,802	7,722	604	7.8	7.9	8.2	-0.1
Knowsley	10,128	3,052	344	11.3	12.0	12.9	-0.7
Lambeth	7,248	2,114	165	7.8	8.9	9.9	-1.1
Lancashire	72,921	22,323	1,767	7.9	8.6	8.7	-0.7
Leeds	43,219	13,071	1,229	9.4	9.9	10.2	-0.5
Leicester City	18,254	5,566	534	9.6	9.5	9.9	0.1
Leicestershire	40,480	12,683	965	7.6	7.9	8.4	-0.3
Lewisham	10,910	3,206	264	8.2	9.7	11.5	-1.5
Lincolnshire	40,568	11,876	918	7.7	8.0	8.2	-0.3
Liverpool	29,745	8,842	914	10.3	10.8	11.6	-0.5
London, City of	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0
Luton	12,631	3,715	316	8.5	8.3	8.8	0.2
Manchester	24,199	7,176	792	11.0	12.2	13.3	-1.2
Medway	18,068	5,415	447	8.3	8.8	8.7	-0.5
Merton	8,253	2,336	201	8.6	9.4	10.7	-0.8
Middlesbrough	7,231	2,165	221	10.2	11.0	11.5	-0.8
Milton Keynes	10,890	3,311	284	8.6	9.1	10.2	-0.5
Newcastle upon Tyne	16,032	4,765	471	9.9	10.4	10.7	-0.5
Newham	18,174	5,207	358	6.9	7.7	8.5	-0.8
Norfolk	41,628	12,530	1,137	9.1	9.1	9.4	0.0
North East Lincolnshire	11,689	3,449	345	10.0	10.5	10.3	-0.5
North Lincolnshire	10,879	3,178	260	8.2	8.6	8.5	-0.4
North Somerset	11,431	3,514	287	8.2	8.4	8.6	-0.2
North Tyneside	11,598	3,504	260	7.4	7.7	8.1	-0.3
North Yorkshire	37,081	11,253	824	7.3	7.3	7.8	0.0
Northamptonshire	45,314	13,536	1,172	8.7	8.7	9.3	0.0
Northumberland	27,151	8,229	611	7.4	7.7	8.2	-0.3
Nottingham City	13,106	3,800	408	10.7	12.4	13.3	-1.7
Nottinghamshire	45,272	13,496	1,164	8.6	9.0	8.8	-0.4
Oldham	16,331	4,919	444	9.0	9.9	9.4	-0.9
Oxfordshire	33,510	10,036	770	7.7	8.1	8.4	-0.4
Peterborough City	11,337	3,420	279	8.2	8.7	9.8	-0.5
Plymouth	15,517	4,375	362	8.3	8.6	8.8	-0.3
Poole	7,158	2,165	169	7.8	8.3	8.3	-0.5
Portsmouth	10,535	3,064	295	9.6	11.0	11.0	-1.4
Reading	5,278	1,560	144	9.2	9.4	9.3	-0.2
Redbridge	15,867	4,724	311	6.6	6.8	7.3	-0.2
Redcar and Cleveland	10,510	3,169	265	8.4	8.9	9.9	-0.5
Richmond upon Thames	7,596	2,249	195	8.7	10.0	10.8	-1.3
Rochdale	14,027	4,267	384	9.0	9.6	10.4	-0.6
Rotherham	18,612	5,618	488	8.7	9.5	9.2	-0.8
Rutland	2,346	713	47	6.6	6.7	7.1	-0.1
Salford	13,046	3,841	415	10.8	12.2	11.8	-1.4
Sandwell	17,729	5,254	553	10.5	11.4	11.3	-0.9

TABLE 3 : PUPIL ABSENCE IN MAINTAINED SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND IN 2002/03

PROVISIONAL							
Local Education Authority	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Total possible sessions of pupil in thousands	Total sessions missed in thousands	% of half days missed secondary 2002/03	% of half days missed secondary 2001/02	% of half days missed secondary 2000/01	% point change between 2001/02 and 2002/03
Sefton	18,593	5,640	441	7.8	8.5	8.6	-0.7
Sheffield	28,532	8,584	822	9.6	10.9	10.9	-1.3
Shropshire	17,369	5,244	377	7.2	7.6	8.1	-0.4
Slough	7,241	2,147	160	7.4	7.6	8.1	-0.2
Solihull	15,256	4,574	339	7.4	7.6	7.6	-0.2
Somerset	30,150	8,970	712	7.9	8.1	8.3	-0.2
South Gloucestershire	14,961	4,559	382	8.4	8.3	8.3	0.1
South Tyneside	9,787	2,862	255	8.9	9.6	10.0	-0.7
Southampton	12,358	3,617	337	9.3	10.1	9.7	-0.8
Southend-on-Sea	10,517	3,074	260	8.5	8.9	9.3	-0.4
Southwark	10,949	3,150	265	8.4	9.1	9.7	-0.7
St Helens	11,391	3,462	296	8.6	8.9	9.3	-0.3
Staffordshire	56,344	17,115	1,273	7.4	7.8	7.9	-0.4
Stockport	17,184	5,237	395	7.5	8.2	8.3	-0.7
Stockton on Tees	12,520	3,837	307	8.0	8.1	8.4	-0.1
Stoke on Trent	15,108	4,575	381	8.3	9.3	9.4	-1.0
Suffolk	49,324	14,519	1,122	7.7	7.8	8.0	-0.1
Sunderland	19,192	5,852	523	8.9	9.5	9.6	-0.6
Surrey	50,920	14,921	1,160	7.8	7.9	8.2	-0.1
Sutton	12,833	3,841	258	6.7	7.4	7.4	-0.7
Swindon	11,457	3,445	254	7.4	8.2	9.9	-0.8
Tameside	15,808	4,811	386	8.0	9.0	9.1	-1.0
Telford & The Wrekin	10,321	3,089	251	8.1	8.6	9.3	-0.5
Thurrock	8,673	2,500	220	8.8	8.8	9.5	0.0
Torbay	7,803	2,316	200	8.7	8.8	9.2	-0.1
Tower Hamlets	13,487	3,852	317	8.2	8.9	9.5	-0.7
Trafford	14,689	4,480	300	6.7	7.2	7.4	-0.5
Wakefield	21,311	6,414	544	8.5	8.7	9.2	-0.2
Walsall	19,180	5,839	527	9.0	9.5	9.8	-0.5
Waltham Forest	13,297	3,945	313	7.9	8.5	9.0	-0.6
Wandsworth	8,506	2,523	209	8.3	10.3	9.2	-2.0
Warrington	12,881	3,907	283	7.2	7.9	8.5	-0.7
Warwickshire	28,484	8,598	652	7.6	7.7	8.2	-0.1
West Berkshire	10,023	3,118	232	7.4	8.0	7.9	-0.6
West Sussex	41,194	12,138	984	8.1	8.7	9.0	-0.6
Westminster, City of	7,222	2,099	170	8.1	9.4	10.7	-1.3
Wigan	20,888	6,457	511	7.9	8.2	8.7	-0.3
Wiltshire	26,217	7,715	609	7.9	8.0	8.0	-0.1
Windsor & Maidenhead	9,078	2,688	193	7.2	7.6	7.9	-0.4
Wirral	21,922	6,634	515	7.8	8.5	8.9	-0.7
Wokingham	9,553	2,876	210	7.3	7.6	7.5	-0.3
Wolverhampton	14,943	4,474	395	8.8	9.5	10.0	-0.7
Worcestershire	36,533	10,908	842	7.7	8.2	8.5	-0.5
York, City of	7,437	2,288	167	7.3	7.9	7.9	-0.6
ENGLAND	3,003,590	897,666	74,344	8.3	8.7	9.0	-0.4

**TABLE 4 : AUTHORISED AND UNAUTHORISED PUPIL ABSENCE
IN MAINTAINED PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND 2002/03**

PROVISIONAL

Local Education Authority	PRIMARY SCHOOLS		SECONDARY SCHOOLS		PRIMARY SCHOOLS		SECONDARY SCHOOLS	
	Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised
	2002/03	2002/03	2002/03	2002/03	2001/02	2001/02	2001/02	2001/02
Barking and Dagenham	5.4	1.4	7.5	1.9	5.5	1.5	8.4	2.0
Barnet	5.2	0.6	6.4	1.0	5.2	0.6	7.0	0.9
Barnsley	5.9	0.7	8.1	1.4	5.8	0.8	8.7	1.6
Bath & North East Somerset	4.8	0.3	7.2	0.8	5.1	0.3	7.0	1.1
Bedfordshire	5.3	0.2	6.6	0.4	5.0	0.2	6.3	0.4
Bexley	5.8	0.3	7.2	0.7	5.7	0.4	8.0	1.2
Birmingham	6.2	0.6	7.2	1.5	6.0	0.7	7.7	1.6
Blackburn with Darwen	6.0	0.5	7.5	1.3	6.0	0.5	8.0	1.3
Blackpool	5.9	0.7	8.5	1.4	6.1	0.9	9.5	1.3
Bolton	4.9	0.3	7.0	1.1	5.1	0.4	7.6	1.2
Bournemouth	5.2	0.2	7.3	0.6	5.3	0.2	7.8	0.6
Bracknell Forest	5.0	0.1	6.8	0.9	5.1	0.2	7.5	0.9
Bradford	5.0	0.7	6.9	2.7	5.5	0.8	7.9	2.4
Brent	5.8	0.4	7.4	0.8	5.8	0.5	7.1	0.7
Brighton and Hove	6.4	0.6	7.4	1.5	6.2	0.5	8.1	1.2
Bristol, City of	6.2	0.9	9.0	2.0	6.1	0.9	10.1	2.3
Bromley	5.3	0.4	7.2	1.1	5.3	0.4	8.0	1.1
Buckinghamshire	4.7	0.3	6.1	0.7	4.7	0.2	5.9	0.5
Bury	4.8	0.3	7.1	0.8	4.9	0.4	7.0	0.7
Calderdale	4.8	0.3	7.1	0.8	5.0	0.3	7.7	0.8
Cambridgeshire	5.3	0.3	7.2	0.8	5.1	0.3	7.3	0.8
Camden	6.8	0.8	7.9	1.6	7.1	1.1	8.7	1.4
Cheshire	4.4	0.4	6.6	0.9	4.4	0.3	7.0	0.9
Cornwall	5.7	0.3	8.0	0.6	5.8	0.4	8.6	0.4
Coventry	6.1	0.2	8.3	1.0	6.2	0.3	8.6	1.0
Croydon	5.9	0.7	7.8	1.1	6.0	0.6	8.5	0.7
Cumbria	4.9	0.2	6.8	0.8	4.9	0.2	7.1	0.8
Darlington	6.2	0.2	8.0	1.1	6.3	0.3	8.6	1.1
Derby City	5.6	0.6	7.6	1.3	5.5	0.8	8.0	1.5
Derbyshire	5.2	0.4	6.9	0.9	5.1	0.4	7.4	1.0
Devon	5.3	0.3	7.6	1.0	5.3	0.3	7.9	1.1
Doncaster	6.0	0.4	7.8	1.6	6.2	0.5	8.5	1.5
Dorset	5.1	0.3	6.9	0.5	5.2	0.3	7.1	0.6
Dudley	6.0	0.4	7.4	0.9	5.6	0.3	7.3	0.7
Durham	5.9	0.1	7.9	0.7	5.6	0.1	8.1	0.7
Ealing	5.9	0.2	7.2	0.9	6.1	0.2	7.7	1.0
East Riding of Yorkshire	5.2	0.2	7.0	0.7	4.8	0.2	7.2	0.9
East Sussex	5.4	0.4	7.1	1.4	5.7	0.4	8.0	1.4
Enfield	5.5	1.1	7.1	1.9	5.4	1.1	7.7	1.9
Essex	5.5	0.4	7.3	0.9	5.3	0.4	7.5	0.9
Gateshead	5.4	0.3	7.6	1.0	5.3	0.4	8.1	1.0
Gloucestershire	5.0	0.2	7.0	0.5	4.8	0.2	7.1	0.5
Greenwich	5.4	1.4	7.7	2.4	5.7	1.4	8.4	2.5
Hackney	5.9	1.4	6.9	2.1	6.6	1.4	7.5	2.6
Halton	5.4	0.5	7.8	2.2	5.3	0.6	8.3	2.5
Hammersmith and Fulham	6.2	0.8	7.6	1.8	5.8	0.6	7.4	1.8
Hampshire	4.7	0.3	6.6	1.1	4.7	0.4	7.0	1.1
Haringey	5.9	1.4	7.4	2.2	6.4	1.6	7.6	2.4
Harrow	5.9	0.2	7.2	0.5	5.9	0.3	7.4	0.7
Hartlepool	4.8	0.8	6.7	1.7	4.9	0.8	7.0	1.6
Havering	5.8	0.2	7.4	0.6	5.5	0.2	7.6	0.6
Herefordshire	5.3	0.2	6.6	0.8	5.1	0.2	6.9	0.8

**TABLE 4 : AUTHORISED AND UNAUTHORISED PUPIL ABSENCE
IN MAINTAINED PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND 2002/03**

PROVISIONAL

Local Education Authority	PRIMARY SCHOOLS		SECONDARY SCHOOLS		PRIMARY SCHOOLS		SECONDARY SCHOOLS	
	Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised
	2002/03	2002/03	2002/03	2002/03	2001/02	2001/02	2001/02	2001/02
Hertfordshire	4.9	0.3	6.7	0.8	4.8	0.4	7.0	0.9
Hillingdon	6.0	0.7	7.2	1.6	5.7	0.7	7.9	1.5
Hounslow	5.2	1.2	6.7	1.0	5.6	1.0	6.9	1.1
Isle of Wight	5.7	0.1	7.7	0.9	5.5	0.2	7.8	0.7
Isles of Scilly	5.8	0.7	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	-
Islington	6.1	1.3	7.6	1.5	6.1	1.2	9.0	1.7
Kensington and Chelsea	6.1	0.6	5.8	1.7	6.2	0.9	6.4	1.9
Kent	5.3	0.4	7.4	0.7	5.2	0.4	7.6	0.7
Kingston upon Hull, City of	5.9	0.7	9.0	2.5	5.5	0.7	9.3	2.7
Kingston upon Thames	5.1	0.2	6.9	0.5	5.2	0.3	7.2	0.6
Kirklees	5.2	0.4	6.6	1.2	4.9	0.5	6.8	1.1
Knowsley	5.8	0.6	8.4	2.8	6.0	0.7	8.9	3.1
Lambeth	5.5	1.1	7.2	0.6	5.7	1.1	7.9	1.0
Lancashire	5.0	0.3	7.1	0.8	5.0	0.3	7.8	0.8
Leeds	5.4	0.4	7.5	1.9	5.5	0.5	8.0	1.9
Leicester City	6.1	0.7	7.0	2.6	6.3	0.6	7.2	2.3
Leicestershire	5.1	0.2	6.4	1.2	4.9	0.2	6.6	1.3
Lewisham	5.6	1.1	6.0	2.2	5.5	1.4	7.0	2.7
Lincolnshire	5.2	0.3	6.9	0.8	4.8	0.3	7.3	0.7
Liverpool	6.1	0.5	8.6	1.7	6.3	0.5	9.0	1.8
London, City of	5.3	0.0	-	-	4.0	0.3	-	-
Luton	6.2	0.5	7.7	0.8	6.0	0.6	7.7	0.6
Manchester	6.0	0.8	9.3	1.7	6.5	0.9	10.5	1.7
Medway	5.6	0.3	7.5	0.7	5.6	0.4	8.2	0.6
Merton	5.7	0.3	7.3	1.3	6.2	0.4	8.2	1.2
Middlesbrough	6.3	0.4	9.2	1.0	5.9	0.4	10.0	1.0
Milton Keynes	5.5	0.3	7.9	0.7	5.9	0.4	8.6	0.5
Newcastle upon Tyne	5.9	0.5	8.6	1.3	6.1	0.5	8.8	1.7
Newham	4.9	1.0	5.2	1.6	5.3	1.5	5.6	2.1
Norfolk	5.7	0.4	8.0	1.0	5.2	0.5	8.0	1.1
North East Lincolnshire	5.5	0.2	8.3	1.7	5.5	0.2	9.0	1.5
North Lincolnshire	5.5	0.2	7.3	0.9	5.5	0.3	7.3	1.3
North Somerset	5.2	0.3	7.0	1.1	5.2	0.2	7.4	1.1
North Tyneside	5.4	0.2	6.7	0.8	5.1	0.1	7.0	0.7
North Yorkshire	4.7	0.2	6.8	0.6	4.6	0.2	6.8	0.5
Northamptonshire	5.1	0.4	7.6	1.1	4.9	0.4	7.7	1.0
Northumberland	5.5	0.2	7.1	0.3	5.3	0.2	7.4	0.4
Nottingham City	5.9	0.7	8.4	2.4	6.3	0.8	9.3	3.1
Nottinghamshire	5.6	0.4	7.1	1.6	5.4	0.4	7.7	1.3
Oldham	5.5	0.5	7.5	1.6	6.0	0.4	8.5	1.4
Oxfordshire	4.9	0.3	6.6	1.1	4.9	0.3	6.8	1.3
Peterborough City	5.5	0.5	7.3	0.9	5.6	0.5	7.5	1.2
Plymouth	5.7	0.3	7.6	0.6	5.5	0.3	8.0	0.6
Poole	5.1	0.5	6.9	0.9	5.3	0.5	7.4	0.8
Portsmouth	5.2	0.8	8.1	1.5	5.4	0.7	9.4	1.6
Reading	5.7	0.4	7.2	2.0	6.0	0.6	8.2	1.2
Redbridge	5.4	0.8	5.9	0.7	5.5	0.8	6.1	0.7
Redcar and Cleveland	5.4	0.2	7.4	1.0	5.4	0.2	7.8	1.1
Richmond upon Thames	4.8	0.3	6.6	2.1	5.2	0.3	7.5	2.5
Rochdale	5.4	0.6	7.6	1.4	5.7	0.5	8.0	1.6
Rotherham	5.7	0.5	7.3	1.4	6.1	0.5	7.9	1.6
Rutland	4.5	0.1	6.1	0.5	4.7	0.2	6.3	0.5

**TABLE 4 : AUTHORISED AND UNAUTHORISED PUPIL ABSENCE
IN MAINTAINED PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN ENGLAND 2002/03**

PROVISIONAL

Local Education Authority	PRIMARY SCHOOLS		SECONDARY SCHOOLS		PRIMARY SCHOOLS		SECONDARY SCHOOLS	
	Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised	Authorised	Unauthorised
	2002/03	2002/03	2002/03	2002/03	2001/02	2001/02	2001/02	2001/02
Salford	5.8	0.4	8.6	2.2	6.5	0.5	10.7	1.6
Sandwell	6.6	0.5	9.0	1.5	6.8	0.4	9.7	1.7
Sefton	5.5	0.2	7.1	0.7	5.9	0.2	7.8	0.7
Sheffield	5.5	0.7	7.5	2.1	6.0	0.8	8.7	2.2
Shropshire	5.2	0.1	6.7	0.5	5.2	0.1	7.1	0.6
Slough	6.1	0.8	6.0	1.5	6.1	0.7	6.4	1.2
Solihull	4.8	0.3	6.6	0.8	4.7	0.2	6.8	0.9
Somerset	5.2	0.3	7.3	0.7	5.2	0.3	7.5	0.6
South Gloucestershire	5.1	0.3	7.1	1.3	5.3	0.3	7.4	1.0
South Tyneside	5.7	0.2	8.2	0.7	5.8	0.1	9.0	0.6
Southampton	6.2	0.6	8.1	1.2	6.3	0.8	8.7	1.3
Southend-on-Sea	5.3	0.6	7.1	1.4	5.4	0.7	7.5	1.4
Southwark	4.9	1.7	6.6	1.8	5.0	1.8	7.3	1.7
St Helens	5.4	0.4	7.4	1.2	5.9	0.4	8.0	0.9
Staffordshire	5.2	0.2	6.7	0.7	5.1	0.2	7.2	0.6
Stockport	4.9	0.3	6.7	0.8	5.2	0.4	7.3	0.9
Stockton on Tees	5.4	0.2	7.3	0.7	5.5	0.1	7.6	0.5
Stoke on Trent	5.6	0.7	6.8	1.5	5.5	0.7	7.7	1.6
Suffolk	4.8	0.3	6.6	1.1	4.7	0.3	6.9	0.9
Sunderland	5.8	0.2	8.0	0.9	6.0	0.2	8.5	1.0
Surrey	5.1	0.3	6.8	1.0	5.0	0.3	6.9	1.0
Sutton	5.3	0.3	6.1	0.7	5.2	0.4	6.5	0.9
Swindon	5.0	0.2	6.7	0.7	5.5	0.2	7.4	0.8
Tameside	5.6	0.4	7.6	0.4	6.0	0.2	8.0	1.0
Telford & The Wrekin	5.7	0.3	7.6	0.5	5.6	0.3	8.0	0.6
Thurrock	6.3	0.5	7.2	1.6	6.0	0.5	7.9	0.9
Torbay	5.5	0.3	7.2	1.5	5.7	0.4	7.6	1.3
Tower Hamlets	5.5	1.2	6.2	2.0	5.9	1.4	6.5	2.4
Trafford	4.6	0.2	6.1	0.6	5.1	0.2	6.5	0.7
Wakefield	5.4	0.5	7.5	1.0	5.5	0.5	7.9	0.8
Walsall	6.3	0.5	8.2	0.9	6.5	0.5	8.6	0.8
Waltham Forest	5.8	0.5	6.6	1.4	5.8	0.5	6.8	1.7
Wandsworth	5.8	0.6	6.7	1.6	6.1	0.6	8.9	1.3
Warrington	4.5	0.3	6.6	0.7	4.6	0.3	7.3	0.6
Warwickshire	5.1	0.2	6.8	0.8	5.0	0.2	7.1	0.7
West Berkshire	4.8	0.3	6.8	0.6	4.8	0.4	7.4	0.6
West Sussex	5.2	0.2	7.3	0.8	5.5	0.3	7.8	0.9
Westminster, City of	5.6	0.6	6.5	1.6	5.8	0.8	7.6	1.8
Wigan	5.3	0.2	7.3	0.6	5.5	0.2	7.5	0.7
Wiltshire	4.8	0.3	7.3	0.6	4.7	0.3	7.4	0.7
Windsor & Maidenhead	4.5	0.3	6.5	0.7	4.6	0.3	7.0	0.7
Wirral	5.1	0.4	7.2	0.5	5.2	0.4	8.1	0.5
Wokingham	4.6	0.2	6.7	0.6	4.7	0.2	6.7	1.0
Wolverhampton	6.3	0.5	7.6	1.2	6.6	0.4	8.5	1.1
Worcestershire	5.3	0.2	7.0	0.7	5.3	0.2	7.6	0.6
York, City of	4.7	0.4	6.1	1.2	4.7	0.4	6.9	1.0
ENGLAND	5.4	0.4	7.2	1.1	5.4	0.5	7.6	1.1

TABLE 5 : HALF DAYS MISSED PER PUPIL IN ENGLAND : ANALYSED BY LEA 2002/03

PROVISIONAL

Local Education Authority	PRIMARY SCHOOLS					SECONDARY SCHOOLS				
	AUTHORISED ABSENCE			UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE		AUTHORISED ABSENCE			UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE	
	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed
Barking and Dagenham	15,211	13,457	17	6,265	9	10,887	9,704	25	3,908	16
Barnet	22,079	19,732	17	4,313	9	17,926	16,403	21	3,324	15
Barnsley	17,524	16,408	19	4,283	9	13,489	12,859	26	4,285	13
Bath & North East Somerset	10,862	9,844	16	1,414	7	10,961	10,488	23	2,424	11
Bedfordshire	20,975	19,336	17	2,068	6	33,994	32,278	20	4,547	9
Bexley	17,945	16,803	19	1,967	9	14,970	14,003	23	2,577	12
Birmingham	87,514	80,947	19	19,540	9	62,851	57,700	23	19,609	15
Blackburn with Darwen	13,110	12,152	20	1,956	9	9,597	8,999	24	1,996	18
Blackpool	10,812	9,972	19	2,356	9	7,880	7,480	27	1,678	19
Bolton	21,308	18,997	17	2,170	10	18,493	17,115	23	3,694	17
Bournemouth	9,629	8,838	16	1,058	5	9,074	8,642	23	1,870	9
Bracknell Forest	7,973	7,272	16	635	5	5,410	5,117	21	1,470	10
Bradford	40,776	37,033	16	11,013	8	30,407	27,404	22	14,461	16
Brent	18,769	16,707	19	3,036	8	12,723	11,434	24	2,438	13
Brighton and Hove	14,364	13,551	20	3,096	8	11,854	11,226	23	3,084	17
Bristol, City of	26,122	24,437	19	6,608	11	17,033	15,363	29	5,159	20
Bromley	21,397	19,837	17	3,078	9	18,111	17,178	23	4,302	14
Buckinghamshire	34,533	31,616	15	3,324	8	28,237	26,206	20	3,496	16
Bury	14,462	13,217	15	1,871	6	10,767	10,136	23	1,945	13
Calderdale	16,544	14,672	16	2,116	7	13,419	12,604	23	2,891	11
Cambridgeshire	39,058	36,394	17	5,273	7	29,533	28,033	22	6,112	12
Camden	9,316	8,745	21	2,873	7	7,557	6,880	26	1,784	20
Cheshire	49,371	44,871	15	6,478	9	41,280	38,329	22	6,815	16
Cornwall	35,908	33,462	18	4,710	7	30,844	29,431	25	5,333	10
Coventry	23,269	21,692	19	1,805	8	18,985	17,192	27	3,670	15
Croydon	25,201	22,604	19	5,341	10	17,601	16,139	25	4,738	13
Cumbria	36,331	33,247	16	3,141	7	30,692	28,781	22	5,992	13
Darlington	6,879	6,228	21	457	8	6,205	5,730	26	856	23
Derby City	18,481	17,142	18	3,951	9	14,215	13,116	25	2,891	19
Derbyshire	55,427	51,466	17	9,765	7	42,883	40,233	23	8,660	14
Devon	49,218	46,012	17	5,921	6	38,479	36,600	24	9,564	12
Doncaster	23,683	21,810	19	3,523	8	19,558	18,320	25	5,462	17
Dorset	21,770	20,345	16	2,694	6	26,776	25,300	22	3,411	11
Dudley	24,915	23,471	19	3,117	9	20,363	18,843	24	3,741	14
Durham	36,645	34,466	19	1,658	6	29,327	27,418	26	4,790	13
Ealing	21,479	19,590	18	2,166	6	13,946	11,906	22	2,319	16
East Riding of Yorkshire	24,196	22,238	17	1,768	8	20,959	19,616	23	4,025	11
East Sussex	32,536	30,233	17	5,907	7	26,459	24,181	23	8,126	13
Enfield	23,286	21,011	17	7,446	10	18,322	16,957	22	6,443	15
Essex	97,781	91,021	17	13,835	8	80,556	75,604	23	13,898	15
Gateshead	13,908	12,886	18	1,375	8	10,852	9,997	25	1,462	21
Gloucestershire	40,359	37,591	16	3,407	8	35,185	33,378	22	4,113	13
Greenwich	17,510	15,206	18	6,675	11	13,214	11,737	26	4,427	21
Hackney	14,751	13,182	19	4,943	11	8,054	6,228	27	2,112	23
Halton	9,757	8,858	18	1,479	9	8,195	7,770	25	2,239	25
Hammersmith and Fulham	7,654	7,041	19	1,487	11	6,290	5,675	25	1,492	22
Hampshire	90,290	82,618	15	12,378	7	72,311	67,470	21	14,801	15
Haringey	18,217	16,614	19	7,348	10	10,305	9,305	23	4,036	16
Harrow	17,263	16,207	18	1,681	6	9,272	8,808	22	1,125	13
Hartlepool	7,854	6,947	16	1,806	11	6,471	5,714	23	1,393	24
Havering	17,397	16,506	18	1,704	7	15,602	14,974	22	1,993	13
Herefordshire	12,372	11,309	18	1,072	7	10,098	9,460	21	1,910	13

TABLE 5 : HALF DAYS MISSED PER PUPIL IN ENGLAND : ANALYSED BY LEA 2002/03

PROVISIONAL

Local Education Authority	PRIMARY SCHOOLS					SECONDARY SCHOOLS				
	AUTHORISED ABSENCE			UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE		AUTHORISED ABSENCE			UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE	
	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed
Hertfordshire	78,117	71,763	16	9,784	8	65,152	60,873	22	10,496	14
Hillingdon	19,434	17,993	19	4,218	9	15,081	14,182	23	4,729	16
Hounslow	14,929	13,616	17	5,455	10	14,046	12,806	21	2,319	18
Isle of Wight	6,159	5,794	18	375	6	11,097	10,592	24	1,953	15
Isles of Scilly	238	214	17	79	6	-	-	-	-	-
Islington	12,938	11,975	19	4,716	10	7,996	7,075	24	2,847	12
Kensington and Chelsea	5,700	5,397	18	1,505	6	3,086	2,805	19	890	17
Kent	100,659	93,281	17	13,139	9	83,851	78,596	23	10,795	16
Kingston upon Hull, City of	20,749	19,161	18	4,622	9	16,475	15,504	28	4,910	24
Kingston upon Thames	9,532	8,797	16	835	7	7,597	7,109	22	845	14
Kirklees	30,808	28,543	17	5,566	7	25,802	23,691	22	5,205	18
Knowsley	13,399	12,040	19	2,560	10	10,128	9,390	27	3,137	28
Lambeth	16,234	14,556	17	5,220	10	7,248	6,510	23	1,685	7
Lancashire	84,691	76,536	17	8,915	9	72,921	67,714	23	10,542	17
Leeds	52,737	48,898	18	8,850	8	43,219	40,234	24	12,774	20
Leicester City	23,973	22,059	20	4,976	10	18,254	16,686	23	7,210	20
Leicestershire	44,665	41,721	17	2,823	8	40,480	38,463	21	9,785	15
Lewisham	19,113	17,118	18	6,709	8	10,910	8,935	22	3,867	18
Lincolnshire	48,064	43,700	17	5,309	7	40,568	36,835	22	6,763	14
Liverpool	33,695	30,792	20	4,407	12	29,745	26,549	29	7,912	19
London, City of	182	170	17	0	*	0	-	-	-	-
Luton	16,406	15,369	19	3,990	6	12,631	11,735	24	1,826	16
Manchester	33,741	30,270	19	8,412	10	24,199	21,631	31	4,577	26
Medway	21,218	19,699	18	2,742	7	18,068	17,017	24	3,600	11
Merton	10,983	9,885	18	1,640	7	8,253	7,186	24	2,296	13
Middlesbrough	11,724	10,529	20	1,533	8	7,231	6,619	30	1,408	15
Milton Keynes	20,200	18,465	18	2,413	7	10,890	9,974	26	1,983	12
Newcastle upon Tyne	15,577	14,038	19	2,152	10	16,032	14,581	28	2,925	21
Newham	25,812	21,537	16	9,905	7	18,174	14,061	19	7,026	12
Norfolk	59,592	55,700	18	10,236	8	41,628	39,677	25	9,439	14
North East Lincolnshire	13,249	12,172	18	1,118	8	11,689	10,948	26	3,774	16
North Lincolnshire	12,441	11,239	18	1,071	7	10,879	9,648	24	2,744	10
North Somerset	12,504	11,728	17	1,485	8	11,431	10,526	23	2,019	20
North Tyneside	12,800	11,723	18	643	9	11,598	10,519	22	1,474	18
North Yorkshire	41,510	38,123	15	2,834	7	37,081	34,658	22	5,274	12
Northamptonshire	45,786	42,328	17	6,558	8	45,314	43,199	24	11,137	13
Northumberland	14,394	13,315	18	762	11	27,151	25,295	23	2,031	14
Nottingham City	21,064	19,092	19	4,468	10	13,106	12,202	26	4,062	22
Nottinghamshire	55,418	50,841	18	7,172	9	45,272	41,956	23	11,864	18
Oldham	19,317	17,480	19	3,356	8	16,331	15,324	24	4,610	17
Oxfordshire	39,196	36,419	16	5,035	7	33,510	31,804	21	8,778	13
Peterborough City	14,254	13,191	18	3,296	7	11,337	10,259	24	1,705	18
Plymouth	18,035	16,838	18	2,150	6	15,517	14,574	24	2,113	13
Poole	9,791	9,154	16	1,923	7	7,158	6,799	22	1,525	13
Portsmouth	13,195	12,087	16	3,485	9	10,535	9,858	25	2,629	17
Reading	9,040	8,447	17	1,750	6	5,278	4,781	24	1,052	29
Redbridge	19,633	17,699	17	5,224	8	15,867	14,438	19	2,630	12
Redcar and Cleveland	11,075	10,141	18	994	8	10,510	9,634	24	1,998	15
Richmond upon Thames	10,192	9,384	15	1,146	8	7,596	6,995	21	2,419	19
Rochdale	17,140	15,132	18	3,277	9	14,027	13,155	25	3,832	16
Rotherham	21,074	19,406	18	3,338	9	18,612	17,239	24	3,993	20
Rutland	2,208	2,029	15	90	11	2,346	2,182	20	248	14

TABLE 5 : HALF DAYS MISSED PER PUPIL IN ENGLAND : ANALYSED BY LEA 2002/03

PROVISIONAL

Local Education Authority	PRIMARY SCHOOLS					SECONDARY SCHOOLS				
	AUTHORISED ABSENCE			UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE		AUTHORISED ABSENCE			UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE	
	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed	Number of pupils absent	Average number of half days missed
Salford	16,848	15,638	19	2,978	7	13,046	12,194	27	4,343	19
Sandwell	24,112	22,182	21	3,733	9	17,729	16,509	29	3,930	20
Sefton	19,839	18,361	18	1,409	9	18,593	17,406	23	2,815	13
Sheffield	36,199	33,277	18	8,561	8	28,532	26,537	24	7,864	22
Shropshire	19,832	18,160	17	1,474	5	17,369	16,489	21	2,774	9
Slough	9,546	8,955	19	2,277	9	7,241	6,729	19	1,722	18
Solihull	16,840	15,442	16	1,938	8	15,256	14,292	21	2,285	16
Somerset	33,250	31,167	17	3,774	7	30,150	28,830	23	4,095	14
South Gloucestershire	20,231	18,972	16	2,733	6	14,961	14,320	23	5,305	11
South Tyneside	10,877	9,959	19	699	8	9,787	9,185	26	1,710	12
Southampton	15,391	14,104	19	3,169	9	12,358	11,467	26	1,861	23
Southend-on-Sea	12,456	11,383	17	2,478	8	10,517	9,769	22	1,846	23
Southwark	20,483	17,467	16	9,460	11	10,949	9,465	22	3,897	14
St Helens	13,854	12,616	18	1,285	12	11,391	9,801	26	1,941	21
Staffordshire	56,856	52,548	17	5,478	7	56,344	52,279	22	10,376	11
Stockport	20,641	19,191	16	2,894	7	17,184	16,063	22	3,104	14
Stockton on Tees	14,775	13,562	18	1,197	8	12,520	11,632	24	1,271	22
Stoke on Trent	17,560	16,121	18	3,835	10	15,108	13,799	23	3,561	19
Suffolk	40,340	36,636	15	3,789	8	49,324	45,244	21	10,393	15
Sunderland	22,138	20,121	20	1,196	10	19,192	18,078	26	3,251	16
Surrey	68,087	63,543	16	7,772	7	50,920	47,277	21	11,028	14
Sutton	12,582	11,719	17	1,594	6	12,833	11,963	19	2,077	12
Swindon	15,062	13,735	16	1,198	7	11,457	10,681	22	1,894	12
Tameside	16,912	15,721	18	2,051	9	15,808	14,347	25	2,493	8
Telford & The Wrekin	13,418	12,576	18	1,618	7	10,321	9,713	24	1,449	11
Thurrock	12,136	11,365	19	2,401	8	8,673	8,197	22	2,137	19
Torbay	8,958	8,329	17	1,437	6	7,803	7,418	22	2,773	12
Tower Hamlets	17,376	16,065	17	8,148	7	13,487	12,199	20	6,501	12
Trafford	15,826	14,254	15	1,107	7	14,689	13,515	20	1,929	14
Wakefield	24,691	22,299	18	3,990	9	21,311	19,833	24	5,085	13
Walsall	21,568	20,135	20	3,961	8	19,180	18,033	26	3,669	14
Waltham Forest	17,832	15,779	19	3,553	8	13,297	11,908	22	3,357	16
Wandsworth	14,242	12,804	18	2,773	9	8,506	6,430	26	2,534	16
Warrington	15,173	13,528	15	1,871	8	12,881	12,021	21	2,331	11
Warwickshire	36,069	33,510	17	2,775	8	28,484	26,842	22	4,624	14
West Berkshire	10,726	9,832	15	1,378	7	10,023	9,467	22	1,659	12
West Sussex	53,770	50,237	16	6,029	7	41,194	38,853	23	6,714	14
Westminster, City of	8,923	8,126	17	2,361	7	7,222	6,574	21	3,026	11
Wigan	23,594	21,911	17	1,981	9	20,888	19,628	24	2,502	16
Wiltshire	32,228	29,474	15	4,118	7	26,217	24,789	23	4,011	11
Windsor & Maidenhead	7,742	6,760	15	1,172	6	9,078	8,427	21	2,275	9
Wirral	24,141	22,303	17	2,936	10	21,922	20,008	24	1,675	21
Wokingham	11,129	10,292	14	1,131	6	9,553	8,890	22	1,314	14
Wolverhampton	19,873	18,296	20	3,026	10	14,943	13,378	26	2,941	18
Worcestershire	33,029	30,588	17	2,606	7	36,533	33,094	23	5,497	15
York, City of	11,427	10,498	15	1,918	8	7,437	6,784	21	1,673	16
ENGLAND	3,637,158	3,342,966	17	562,874	8	3,003,590	2,784,844	23	630,058	15

TABLE 6 : PUPIL ABSENCE IN MAINTAINED PRIMARY SCHOOLS FOR EACH GOVERNMENT OFFICE REGION IN ENGLAND

PROVISIONAL

Government Office Regions	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Total possible pupil sessions in thousands	Total sessions missed in thousands	% of half days missed primary 2002/03	% of half days missed primary 2001/02	% of half days missed primary 2000/01
ENGLAND	3,637,158	1,071,576	62,339	5.8	5.9	6.1
North East	178,646	53,510	3,172	5.9	5.9	6.2
North West	523,962	157,628	8,843	5.6	5.8	6.0
Yorkshire & the Humber	387,608	114,874	6,646	5.8	5.9	6.1
East Midlands	315,086	94,222	5,414	5.7	5.7	5.8
West Midlands	407,227	120,060	7,327	6.1	6.0	6.3
East of England	391,115	114,354	6,565	5.7	5.5	5.8
London	523,595	148,886	9,506	6.4	6.5	6.8
Inner London	190,941	52,848	3,565	6.7	7.1	7.4
Outer London	332,654	96,038	5,940	6.2	6.2	6.5
South East	565,754	166,619	9,184	5.5	5.6	5.8
South West	344,165	101,423	5,682	5.6	5.6	5.8

TABLE 7 : PUPIL ABSENCE IN MAINTAINED SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR EACH GOVERNMENT OFFICE REGION IN ENGLAND

	PROVISIONAL					
Government Office Regions	Number of day pupils of compulsory school age	Total possible pupil sessions in thousands	Total sessions missed in thousands	% of half days missed secondary 2002/03	% of half days missed secondary 2001/02	% of half days missed secondary 2000/01
ENGLAND	3,003,590	897,666	74,344	8.3	8.7	9.0
North East	166,876	50,288	4,288	8.5	8.9	9.4
North West	440,657	133,626	11,300	8.5	9.1	9.4
Yorkshire & the Humber	318,869	95,716	8,440	8.8	9.3	9.6
East Midlands	262,438	79,067	6,615	8.4	8.7	9.0
West Midlands	343,564	103,314	8,493	8.2	8.7	9.0
East of England	343,345	101,780	8,123	8.0	8.1	8.5
London	376,928	110,646	9,113	8.2	8.9	9.3
Inner London	119,784	34,722	2,904	8.4	9.3	9.9
Outer London	257,144	75,924	6,209	8.2	8.7	9.1
South East	457,867	135,986	10,811	8.0	8.3	8.5
South West	293,046	87,243	7,160	8.2	8.5	8.8

TABLE 8 : AUTHORISED AND UNAUTHORISED PUPIL ABSENCE IN MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR EACH GOVERNMENT OFFICE REGION IN ENGLAND

Government Office Regions	PROVISIONAL							
	PRIMARY		SECONDARY		PRIMARY		SECONDARY	
	Authorised 2002/03	Unauthorised 2002/03	Authorised 2002/03	Unauthorised 2002/03	Authorised 2001/02	Unauthorised 2001/02	Authorised 2001/02	Unauthorised 2001/02
ENGLAND	5.4	0.4	7.2	1.1	5.4	0.5	7.6	1.1
North East	5.7	0.2	7.7	0.8	5.6	0.2	8.1	0.9
North West	5.2	0.4	7.4	1.1	5.4	0.4	8.0	1.1
Yorkshire & the Humber	5.3	0.4	7.3	1.5	5.4	0.5	7.9	1.5
East Midlands	5.3	0.4	7.1	1.3	5.2	0.4	7.5	1.3
West Midlands	5.7	0.4	7.2	1.0	5.7	0.4	7.7	1.0
East of England	5.4	0.4	7.1	0.9	5.2	0.4	7.2	0.9
London	5.6	0.8	6.9	1.3	5.7	0.8	7.5	1.5
Inner London	5.6	1.1	6.6	1.8	5.8	1.3	7.3	2.0
Outer London	5.6	0.6	7.0	1.2	5.6	0.6	7.5	1.2
South East	5.2	0.3	7.0	0.9	5.2	0.4	7.4	1.0
South West	5.3	0.3	7.4	0.8	5.3	0.3	7.7	0.8