



Consortium for Research in Deaf Education

2021 UK-wide summary

Education provision for deaf children in 2020/21

Introduction

In 2021, we carried out the 11th Consortium for Research in Deaf Education (CRIDE) annual survey on educational staffing and service provision for deaf children.¹ Separate reports have already been published for England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales which set out the results for each respective nation in detail.

This report provides a high-level summary of the results across the four countries we surveyed. All reports can be downloaded from www.ndcs.org.uk/CRIDE or www.batod.org.uk/information/cride-reports/.

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Interpreting the results

Services were asked to give figures for the position as of 31st January 2021.

In the survey, we acknowledge that information about services and children does not always fit into the boxes or options provided. Services were able to leave comments or clarify where needed throughout the survey. The reports for each country note where particular issues emerged in some areas.

It is clear that many services still experience difficulties in extracting data about deaf children in their area and there remain inconsistencies in how different questions are completed throughout the survey. The response rates to individual questions may vary and anomalies sometimes appear. We make every effort to investigate any inconsistencies that appear particularly strange; however, services do not always respond to such queries. **Therefore, the results should continue to be used with caution.** Caution is also

¹ For the purpose of this section of the survey, unless otherwise stated, we use the term 'deaf children' to include children and young people up to the age of 19 years, 11 months with sensori-neural or permanent conductive deafness. See footnote 4 for more detail.

needed due to differences in response rates to individual questions and potential mistakes in data provision between surveys.

In 2020, in light of coronavirus restrictions and lockdowns, we received a much lower response to the survey than in previous years. This means that year-on-year comparisons between 2020 and 2021 are less useful or meaningful than in previous years. In this report, we have removed data about the 2020 responses where this is the case.

Response rates to the surveys in the four countries varied, as follows:

- England: responses received from 132 services, covering 149 out of 151 local authorities, giving a response rate of 99%²
- Northern Ireland: response received from the one service, giving a response rate of 100%
- Scotland: responses received from 25 services, covering 27 out of 32 local authorities, giving a response rate of 84%
- Wales: 15 services covering all 22 local authorities responded, giving a response rate of 100%.

A separate short survey was issued to special schools for deaf children. This received responses from 14 schools in England and Scotland. A separate short survey was also issued to implant centres which received a response from 16 implant centres across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Please note that percentages in this report have been rounded up or down to the nearest whole number unless otherwise stated.

² The remaining two local authorities - the City of London and the Isles of Scilly - were not contacted on the understanding that they do not have any deaf children in their areas – this means that we've effectively achieved a response rate of 100%

Summary of key findings

Numbers of deaf children

- There were 51,612 deaf children reported by services across the UK.
- 22% of children had a unilateral deafness, 26% had a mild level of deafness, 31% had a moderate level of deafness, 9% had a severe level of deafness, and 12% had a profound level of deafness.
- 78% of school aged children were in mainstream schools, 14% in special schools not specifically for deaf children, 6% in resource provisions in mainstream schools, 2% in special schools for deaf children, and 1% were home educated.
- 1% of deaf children reported by services had auditory neuropathy spectrum disorder.
- 23% of deaf children had an additional need.
- 9% of deaf children had at least one cochlear implant, and 6% of deaf children had a bone conduction device.
- When asked about languages used in educational settings, 88% mainly used a spoken language, 7% used spoken language together with signed support, 2% used British or Irish Sign Language, and 3% used another combination.
- 13% of deaf children were known to have English as an additional spoken language at home.
- Services reported that 0.4% of deaf children were known to be newly arrived from outside the UK.

Teachers of the Deaf and other specialist staff

- There were at least 1,410 Teacher of the Deaf posts, of which 4% were vacant.
- Of the Teachers of the Deaf in employment, 86% had the mandatory qualification, 11% were in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within three years, and 3% were teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training.
- 8% of Teachers of the Deaf held an additional qualification in early years support, and 6% held an additional qualification in educational audiology.
- 50% of Teachers of the Deaf were aged 50 or over, and due to retire in the next 10 to 15 years.
- There were at least 877 specialist support staff directly employed by services, 56% of whom were teaching assistants (or similar) and 22% of whom were communication support workers (or similar). In addition, there were at least 51 vacant posts for specialist support staff in services.

Resource provisions

- There were 274 resource provisions across the UK, down from 295 in 2019.
- The population of deaf children covered by each resource provision across the UK was 188:1.³

Outcomes

- Across the UK, 14% of services collected data on educational outcomes for all deaf children living in the area, 41% collected educational outcomes data only for children who receive support from the service, and 45% did not collect data on educational outcomes.

³ This is intended to indicate the spread of resource provisions across each nation, relative to the overall population of deaf children. It shows that, on average, there is one resource provision for every 188 deaf children across the whole of the UK. This is **not** a measure of the number of places available in or individual deaf children enrolled at each resource provision; figures for places or deaf children enrolled will vary from provision to provision. It should also be noted that this figure may be influenced by a range of different factors, including, for example, the number (if any) of special schools for deaf children in each nation.

Referrals

- Services reported 5,040 referrals were received over the calendar year of 2020. 25% of these were for children identified as deaf through the newborn hearing screening programme.
- 77% of families referred were contacted by a Teacher of the Deaf within two working days if identified as deaf through the newborn hearing screening programme.
- 61% of families referred were contacted by a Teacher of the Deaf within five working days if identified as deaf outside of the newborn hearing screening programme.
- 52% of families were offered a visit (either face-to-face or virtually) from a Teacher of the Deaf within 10 working days of any referral.

PART 1: Deaf children in the UK

Services were asked to give details of deaf children⁴ living in the geographical area which they cover.

According to the surveys, the adjusted total number of deaf children aged 0 to 19 across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales is 51,612. This figure is an apparent reported reduction from 53,954 in 2019.

Table 1: Number of deaf children living in the geographical area, by nation and region

Country	Region	Number of deaf children reported (adjusted totals)	Percentage as UK total
England		45,060	87%
	East England	4,363	10%
	East Midlands	3,473	8%
	London	7,408	16%
	North East	2,409	5%
	North West	6,260	14%
	South East	5,759	13%
	South West	4,510	10%
	West Midlands	5,557	12%
	Yorkshire and the Humber	5,321	12%
Northern Ireland		1,387	3%
Scotland		2,841	6%
Wales		2,324	5%
UK		51,612	100%

⁴ Services were asked to include all children with permanent deafness who live in the geographical area covered by their service, including all children up to the age of 19 years, 11 months who have a unilateral or bilateral sensori-neural or permanent conductive deafness, at all levels from mild to profound, using BSA/BATOD descriptors, regardless of whether they receive support from the service. Services were also asked to include children who attended education provision outside of your area but who normally lived in their area. Under the definition of permanent deafness used in the survey, children with a syndrome known to include permanent conductive deafness, microtia/atresia, middle ear malformation, or those who have had middle ear surgery such as mastoidectomy were to be included. Our definition also included those children with glue ear who are not expected to 'grow out' of the condition before the age of 10 years, such as those born with a cleft palate, Down's syndrome, cystic fibrosis, or primary ciliary dyskinesia. Otherwise, services were asked not to include children with temporary deafness, including those children with glue ear who may have been fitted with hearing aids as an alternative to grommet surgery but who are expected to 'grow out' of the condition before the age of 10 years.

Table 2: Number of deaf children living in the geographical area, by nation and region, over successive years

Nation	Region	2011	2018	2019	2021
England		34,927	43,467	46,404	45,060
	East England	2,572	4,471	4,666	4,363
	East Midlands	2,334	3,536	3,503	3,473
	London	5,271	7,309	7,554	7,408
	North East	1,949	2,393	2,457	2,409
	North West	5,037	4,768	6,219	6,260
	South East	5,624	6,279	6,490	5,759
	South West	3,348	3,951	4,303	4,510
	West Midlands	4,290	5,397	5,532	5,557
	Yorkshire and the Humber	4,502	5,363	5,680	5,321
Northern Ireland		1,239	1,687	1,417	1,387
Scotland		2,526	3,363	3,647	2,841
Wales		2,775	2,625	2,486	2,324
UK		41,467	51,142	53,954	51,612

The following table illustrates differences in the numbers of deaf children covered by each service, depending on geographical factors and whether the service covers more than one local authority. Please note that, as there is just one service in Northern Ireland, they do not appear in the following table.

Table 3: Minimum, maximum and average number of deaf children living in each service

	Minimum	Maximum	Average
England	69	1,426	341
Scotland	12	335	114
Wales	38	432	155

What the survey tells us about the population of deaf children

The following tables provide breakdowns by age, level of deafness, education setting.

Table 4: Number and proportion of children living in the geographical area, by age⁵

	Early years/ pre-school	Primary-aged	Secondary- aged	Post-16 up to the age of 19 years, 11 months	Total
England	5,719 (13%)	17,855 (40%)	15,203 (34%)	5,376 (12%)	44,153 ⁶ (100%)
Northern Ireland	189 (14%)	532 (39%)	497 (37%)	138 (10%)	1,356 (100%)
Scotland	344 (13%)	1,104 (41%)	1,088 (41%)	147 (5%)	2,683 ⁷ (100%)
Wales	160 (7%)	977 (42%)	959 (41%)	220 (9%)	2,316 ⁸ (100%)
Total	6,412 (13%)	20,468 (41%)	17,747 (35%)	5,881 (12%)	50,508 (100%)

Table 5: Changes in the number and proportion of children living in the UK, by age since 2011

	Early years/ pre-school	Primary-aged	Secondary- aged	Post-16 up to the age of 19 years, 11 months	Total
2011	5,469 (14%)	17,191 (44%)	13,846 (35%)	2,665 (7%)	39,171 (100%)
2013	6,615 (15%)	19,561 (45%)	14,795 (34%)	2,921 (7%)	43,892 (100%)
2015	6,789 (14%)	21,293 (45%)	15,236 (32%)	3,852 (8%)	47,170 (100%)
2017	7,260 (14%)	22,729 (44%)	17,196 (33%)	4,484 (9%)	51,669 (100%)
2019 (excluding Scotland) ⁹	7,101 (14%)	21,215 (42%)	17,078 (34%)	4,589 (9%)	49,983 (100%)
2021	6,412 (13%)	20,468 (41%)	17,747 (35%)	5,881 (12%)	50,508 (100%)

⁵ It should be noted that the age ranges for each education stage vary slightly in the different countries in the UK.

⁶ 44,153 is the sum of the broken-down figures given by services, not the reported totals given by services when asked for a total for this question. The reported total was 44,233.

⁷ 2,683 was the sum of the broken-down figures given by services. The sum of the totals given by services was 2,698.

⁸ The sum of the figures given amounts to 2,316. However, the given totals provided by services amounted to 2,315. We have used the former figure in this table.

⁹In 2019 this question was not included in the Scotland survey.

Table 6: Number and proportion of children living in the UK, by level of deafness

	Unilateral	Mild	Moderate	Severe	Profound	Total¹⁰
England	9,365 (22%)	10,917 (26%)	13,265 (31%)	3,546 (8%)	5,064 (12%)	42,157 (100%)
Northern Ireland	348 (26%)	317 (23%)	399 (29%)	131 (10%)	161 (12%)	1,356 (100%)
Scotland	593 (21%)	668 (24%)	827 (30%)	292 (10%)	413 (15%)	2,793 (100%)
Wales	384 (18%)	517 (24%)	753 (35%)	272 (13%)	239 (11%)	2,165 (100%)
UK	10,690 (22%)	12,419 (26%)	15,244 (31%)	4,241 (9%)	5,877 (12%)	48,471 (100%)

Table 7: Changes in the number and proportion of children living in the UK, by level of deafness since 2011

	Unilateral	Mild	Moderate	Severe	Profound	Total
2011	5,685 (15%)	11,524 (31%)	12,063 (32%)	3,956 (10%)	4,546 (12%)	37,774 (100%)
2013	7,038 (16%)	11,688 (28%)	13,523 (32%)	4,607 (11%)	5,365 (13%)	42,221 (100%)
2015	8,307 (19%)	12,192 (28%)	13,868 (31%)	4,439 (10%)	5,261 (12%)	44,067 (100%)
2017	9,661 (20%)	12,660 (26%)	15,481 (32%)	4,655 (10%)	5,746 (12%)	48,203 (100%)
2019	10,872 (22%)	13,173 (26%)	15,684 (31%)	4,408 (9%)	5,833 (12%)	49,970 (100%)
2021	10,690 (22%)	12,419 (26%)	15,244 (31%)	4,241 (9%)	5,877 (12%)	48,471 (100%)

¹⁰ Not including children where the level of deafness was reported as 'not known'.

Table 8: Number and proportion of deaf children living in the area by educational setting (regardless of whether in or out of local authority/education authority)

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Supported only at home - pre-school children	2,958 (7%)	134 (10%)	122 (5%)	87 (4%)	3,301 (7%)
Early years setting - pre-school children	2,372 (6%)	56 (4%)	198 (8%)	73 (3%)	2,699 (6%)
Supported at home - of school age and home educated	190 (0%)	0 (0%)	125 (5%)	14 (1%)	329 (1%)
Mainstream provision (including state-funded and independent/private schools)	26,807 (63%)	929 (67%)	1,783 (71%)	1,443 (68%)	30,962 (64%)
Mainstream provision: resource provision	2,031 (5%)	27 (2%)	117 (5%)	161 (8%)	2,336 (5%)
Special schools for deaf pupils	816 (2%)	41 (3%)	42 (2%)	8 ¹¹ (0%)	907 (2%)
Other special schools, not specifically for deaf children	4,725 (11%)	200 (14%)	139 (6%)	287 (13%)	5,351 (11%)
All other post-16 provision (not including school sixth forms)	1,852 (4%)	0 (0%)	<5 (0%)	63 (3%)	1,915 (4%)
Other (e.g. Pupil referral units, NEET) ¹²	731 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	<5 (0%)	731 (2%)
Total ¹³	42,482 (100%)	1,387 (100%)	2,526 (100%)	2,136 (100%)	48,531 (100%)

¹¹ It should be noted that there are no special schools for deaf children in Wales.

¹² NEET refers to young people not in education, employment or training.

¹³ Total not including children and young people where the educational setting was 'not known'

Table 9: Changes in the number and proportion of children, by type of educational provision, since 2011¹⁴

	UK 2011	UK 2013	UK 2015	UK 2017	UK 2019	UK 2021
Supported only at home - pre-school children	4,022 (11%)	5,568 (13%)	3,569 (8%)	3,397 (7%)	3,430 (6%)	3,301 (7%)
Early years setting - pre-school children	n/a	n/a	3,034 (6%)	2,944 (6%)	3,300 (6%)	2,699 (6%)
Supported at home - of school age and home educated	n/a	206 (0%)	310* (1%)	292 (1%)	215* (0%)	329 (1%)
Mainstream provision (including state-funded and independent/private schools)	24,329 (66%)	27,531 (63%)	30,380 (65%)	31,311 (66%)	34,290* (65%)	30,962 (64%)
Mainstream provision: resource provision	2,612 (7%)	2,914 (7%)	2,678 (6%)	2,538 (5%)	2,717 (5%)	2,336 (5%)
Special schools for deaf pupils	1,660 (5%)	1,092 (3%)	946 (2%)	1,038 (2%)	1,155* (2%)	907 (2%)
Other special schools, not specifically for deaf children	3,777 (10%)	4,166 (10%)	4,522* (10%)	4,731 (10%)	5,239 (10%)	5,351 (11%)
All other post-16 provision (not including school sixth forms)	n/a	1,663 (4%)	963 (2%)	1,079 (2%)	1,471 (3%)	1,915 (4%)
Other (e.g. Pupil referral units, NEET)	321 (1%)	239 (1%)	90* (0%)	129 (0%)	961 (2%)	731 (2%)
Total	36,721 (100%)	43,379 (100%)	46,495* (100%)	47,459 (100%)	52,776 (100%)	48,531 (100%)

Looking at trends over the years in education settings is challenging because of changes by CRIDE to the categories used. For example, the 2011 survey simply had an option of “Supported at home” with no option provided for children in early years settings or to distinguish between children of pre-school age or being home educated. Nor was an option provided for post-16 provision. In the 2013 survey, services were asked to place young people in 6th forms in the ‘post-16’ category whilst since 2015, CRIDE has asked that these be placed in the appropriate mainstream or special school category. The previous table should therefore be used with caution.

The following table looks at the proportion of **school-aged** deaf children in different educational settings.

¹⁴ Asterisks indicate where small numbers of fewer than 5 children have been suppressed in calculations.

Table 10: Number and proportion of school-aged deaf children by type of educational provision

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Supported at home - of school age and home educated	190 (1%)	0 (0%)	125 (6%)	14 (1%)	329 (1%)
Mainstream provision (including state-funded and independent/private schools)	26,807 (78%)	929 (78%)	1,783 (81%)	1,443 (75%)	30,926 (78%)
Mainstream provision: resource provision	2,031 (6%)	27 (2%)	117 (5%)	161 (8%)	2,336 (6%)
Special schools for deaf pupils	816 (2%)	41 (3%)	42 (2%)	8 (0%)	907 (2%)
Other special schools, not specifically for deaf children	4,725 (14%)	200 (17%)	139 (6%)	287 (15%)	5,351 (13%)
Total	34,569 (100%)	1,197 (100%)	2,206 (100%)	1,913 (100%)	39,885 (100%)

Table 11: Changes in the number and proportion of school-aged children, by type of educational provision, since 2015

	UK 2015	UK 2017	UK 2019	UK 2021
Supported at home – of school age and home educated	310 (1%)	292 (1%)	215* (0%)	329 (1%)
Mainstream state-funded schools (including academies and free schools)	30,380 (78%)	31,311 (78%)	34,290 (79%)	30,926 (78%)
Resource provision in mainstream schools	2,676 (7%)	2,538 (6%)	2,717 (6%)	2,336 (6%)
Special schools for deaf pupils	946 (3%)	1,038 (3%)	1,154 (3%)	907 (2%)
Other special schools, not specifically for deaf children	4,522 (12%)	4,731 (12%)	5,239 (12%)	5,351 (13%)
Total	36,616 (100%)	39,910 (100%)	43,614 (100%)	39,885 (100%)

Incidence of Auditory Neuropathy Spectrum Disorder (ANSD)

Table 12: Number of deaf children with auditory neuropathy spectrum disorder (ANSD)

	Number of deaf children with ANSD	Percentage of deaf children with ANSD of all deaf children in each nation
England	643	1%
Northern Ireland	22	2%
Scotland	40	1%
Wales	28	1%
UK	733	1%

The proportion of deaf children across the UK with ANSD also stood at 1% in 2019.

Incidence of additional needs

The following table looks at the incidence of additional needs as reported to CRIDE by services. Different terminology is used to describe children with additional needs in the nations and there are also some differences over which 'conditions' fall under the category of additional needs¹⁵. Any comparisons should therefore be made with care.

Table 13: Number of deaf children with any other additional need apart from deafness, regardless of whether this need is recognised as a 'primary' or 'secondary' need

	Number of deaf children with an additional need	Percentage of deaf children with additional needs of all deaf children in each nation
England	10,447	23%
Northern Ireland	380	27%
Scotland	582	20%
Wales	457	20%
UK	11,866	23%

The proportion of deaf children in the UK with additional needs has fluctuated between 19% and 23% since 2011.

Deaf children with cochlear implants and bone conduction hearing devices

Table 14: Number of deaf children with at least one cochlear implant

	Number of deaf children with at least one cochlear implant	Percentage of deaf children with at least one cochlear implant of all deaf children in each nation
England	3,907	9%
Northern Ireland	138	10%
Scotland	296	10%
Wales	160	7%
UK	4,501	9%

It should be noted that the above figures are as reported to CRIDE by specialist education services for deaf children, and may differ from figures held by cochlear implant centres. The proportion of deaf children in the UK with cochlear implants has fluctuated between 7% and 9% since 2011.

Eligibility for a cochlear implant is generally restricted to those with a severe or profound hearing loss (and who do not receive optimal benefit from hearing aids). We saw earlier in table 7 that there are 10,118 children with a severe or profound hearing loss. Whilst this can only be a rough approximation, it can be estimated that 44% of children with severe or profound hearing loss have at least one cochlear implant. If one were to make an assumption that most children with cochlear implants are those with a profound hearing loss, this percentage would rise to 77%.

¹⁵ These are: additional special educational need in England and Northern Ireland, additional learning needs in Wales, and additional support needs in Scotland (although the Scotland online survey in 2021 used the terminology additional special educational need).

The British Cochlear Implant Group (BCIG)¹⁶ reported in the annual UK data collection that between April 2020 and March 2021, there were 433 children who were new cochlear implant recipients, and 6,439 children in the maintained cochlear implant population, giving a total of 6,872 children with cochlear implants in the UK. This suggests that services reported 65% of children with cochlear implants for the CRIDE survey. Some children with cochlear implants will be supported by Teachers of the Deaf in cochlear implant centres.

Table 15: Number of deaf children with bone conduction devices

	Number of deaf children with bone conduction devices	Percentage of deaf children with bone conduction devices of all deaf children in each nation
England	2,966	7%
Northern Ireland	42	3%
Scotland	140	5%
Wales	71	3%
UK	3,219	6%

The proportion of deaf children in the UK with bone conduction devices has risen from 5% in 2019 to 6% in 2021.

Additional languages

We asked about languages used in education. In surveys before 2017, this question asked about languages used by **all deaf children** in education. In the surveys for 2017 and 2019, the question was changed to focus on languages used by **children with severe or profound deafness** only. For the 2021 survey, we reverted to asking about all deaf children.

Table 16: Number of severely or profoundly deaf children, by languages mainly used at school/other educational setting

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Spoken English, Welsh or Gaelic	34,907 (88%)	1,211 (93%)	2,187 (87%)	1,553 (84%)	39,858 (88%)
British/Irish Sign Language	756 (2%)	8 (1%)	66 (3%)	34 (2%)	864 (2%)
Spoken English or Welsh together with signed support	2,667 (7%)	40 (3%)	217 (9%)	116 (6%)	3,040 (7%)
Other combination	1,198 (3%)	47 (4%)	44 (2%)	145 (8%)	1,434 (3%)
Total ¹⁷	39,528 (100%)	1,306 (100%)	2,514 (100%)	1,848 (100%)	45,196 (100%)

¹⁶ BCIG Annual UK Data Collection 01/04/2020 - 31/03/2021 available at <https://www.bcig.org.uk/annual-uk-update/>. It should be noted that some centres may have included reimplantation and revision surgery numbers in their new CI activity. The data collection asks for paediatric data (aged 0-18 years) but some centres may include young people aged over 18.

¹⁷ Total not including 'not known'.

It should be emphasised that these figures refer to the use of languages in education and may not reflect languages used in the home.

Table 17: Number of deaf children who are known to have English as an additional spoken language (EAL) at home

	Number of deaf children who are known to have English as an additional spoken language (EAL) at home	Percentage of deaf children who are known to have English as an additional spoken language (EAL) at home in each nation
England	6,180	14%
Northern Ireland	73	4%
Scotland	214	8%
Wales	163	7%
UK	6,630	13%

The proportion of deaf children using a spoken language other than English or Welsh at home was also 13% in 2017 and 2019.

Deaf children who are new to the country

We asked about the number of deaf children that were known to be ‘newly arrived’, having arrived at their service from outside of the UK or (if in Northern Ireland) from outside the Republic of Ireland in the past year. In this table, percentages have been rounded to one decimal point.

Table 18: Number of deaf children who are known to be ‘newly arrived’

	Number of ‘newly arrived’ deaf children	Percentage of ‘newly arrived’ deaf children in each nation
England	206	0.5%
Northern Ireland	13	0.9%
Scotland	<5	0.1%
Wales	0	0%
UK	219	0.4%

Number of deaf children on services’ caseloads

By caseload, we mean children who receive some form of support **at least once a year**. Examples of support included direct teaching, visits to the family or school, liaison with the family, school and teachers, providing hearing aid checks, etc. We asked services to include children supported by the service but who do not live in the same geographical area as that service. Services could also include children with temporary deafness in their response to this question if they were on the service caseload.

Table 19: Number of deaf children on services' caseloads, by nation

Country	Number of deaf children on services' caseloads (% of UK total)	... of whom have a temporary conductive hearing loss (% of UK total)
England	42,353 (85%)	4,027 (70%)
Northern Ireland	1,508 (3%)	262 (5%)
Scotland	2,612 (5%)	173 (3%)
Wales	3,430 (7%)	1,272 (22%)
UK	49,903 (100%)	5,734 (100%)

Table 20: Minimum, maximum and average number of deaf children on services' caseload in each service

	Minimum	Maximum	Average
England	65	1,013	321
Scotland	<5	285	104
Wales	37	1,204	229

As there is just one service in Northern Ireland, they do not appear in the table above.

PART 2: Teachers of the Deaf and other specialist staff

There are at least 1,354 (fte) teachers working as Teachers of the Deaf across the UK. This includes Teachers of the Deaf working in a peripatetic role, in a resource provision, in a special school for deaf children and/or in a special school/college not specifically for deaf children.

At the time the survey was completed, there were 55 (fte) vacant posts. If the vacant posts are added to the total number of teachers working as Teachers of the Deaf (including those with the mandatory qualification, those in training or intending to train, and those not in training and not intending to train for the mandatory qualification) in employment, this would indicate there are at least 1,410 Teacher of the Deaf posts, of which 4% are vacant.

Table 21: Number of Teacher of the Deaf posts (fte) by nation

	Number of Teachers of the Deaf in employment	Number of vacant posts	Total Teacher of the Deaf posts
England	1,132.35	51.05	1,183.4
Northern Ireland	30.5	0	30.5
Scotland	131.89	2	133.89
Wales	60	2.4	62.4
UK	1,354.74	55.45	1,410.19

The following table provides a break-down of Teachers of the Deaf in employment by qualification status.

Table 22: Number of overall full time equivalent (fte) Teachers of the Deaf in employment

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Teachers of the Deaf with the mandatory qualification	990.42 (87%)	30.5 (100%)	89.91 (68%)	54.4 (91%)	1,165.23 (86%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	111.5 (10%)	0 (0%)	35.08 (27%)	4.4 (7%)	150.98 (11%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	30.43 (3%)	0 (0%)	6.9 (5%)	1.2 (2%)	38.53 (3%)
Total	1,132.35 (100%)	30.5 (100%)	131.89 (100%)	60 (100%)	1,354.74 (100%)

Figures for Teachers of the Deaf in cochlear implant programmes across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales were collected in a separate short survey. Responses were received from 16 cochlear implant programmes. There were at least 30.6 fte fully qualified Teachers of the Deaf reported in post, and 3.8 fte vacancies reported. This means there are 34.4 fte posts, of which 6% are vacant. There were no Teachers of the Deaf in training for the mandatory qualification or not in training reported.

The following sections look in more detail at numbers and proportions of Teachers of the Deaf in different roles or settings.

Table 23: Number of full time equivalent (fte) peripatetic or visiting Teachers of the Deaf in employment

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Teachers of the Deaf with the mandatory qualification	577.54 (92%)	23.5 (100%)	55.31 (74%)	32.7 (93%)	689.05 (91%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	44 (7%)	0 (0%)	19.08 (25%)	2.4 (7%)	65.48 (9%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	3.6 (1%)	0 (0%)	0.6 (1%)	0 (0%)	4.2 (1%)
Total	625.14 (100%)	23.5 (100%)	74.99 (100%)	35.1 (100%)	758.73 (100%)

Table 24: Number of full time equivalent (fte) Teachers of the Deaf in employment in resource provisions

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Teachers of the Deaf with the mandatory qualification	269.98 (84%)	3 (100%)	26 (63%)	20.7 (87%)	319.68 (82%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	43.1 (13%)	0 (0%)	10.6 (26%)	2 (8%)	55.7 (14%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	7.4 (2%)	0 (0%)	4.8 (12%)	1.2 (5%)	13.4 (3%)
Total	320.48 (100%)	3 (100%)	41.4 (100%)	23.9 (100%)	388.78 (100%)

Table 25: Number of full time equivalent (fte) Teachers of the Deaf in employment working in a special school or college for deaf children and young people

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland¹⁸	UK
Teachers of the Deaf with the mandatory qualification	103.6 (72%)	4 (100%)	8.6 (59%)	116.2 (71%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	22.4 (15%)	0 (0%)	5.4 (37%)	27.8 (17%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	18.83 (13%)	0 (0%)	0.5 (3%)	19.33 (12%)
Total	144.83 (100%)	4 (100%)	14.5 (100%)	163.33 (100%)

There are no special schools for deaf children and young people in Wales.

¹⁸ Please note that the figures for Scotland in this table are taken from the CRIDE Scotland survey whilst the other figures are taken from the separate UK-wide survey of special schools that was carried out by CRIDE.

Table 26: Number of full time equivalent (fte) Teachers of the Deaf in employment working in a special school or college not specifically for deaf children or young people

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Teachers of the Deaf with the mandatory qualification	19.1 (95%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	19.1 (91%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (5%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (100%)	0 (0%)	1 (5%)
Total	20.1 (100%)	0 (0%)	1 (100%)	0 (0%)	21.1 (100%)

Table 27: Number of full time equivalent (fte) Teachers of the Deaf in employment working flexibly between the peripatetic service, resource provisions and/or a special school or college not specifically for deaf children and young people

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland ¹⁹	Wales	UK
Teachers of the Deaf with the mandatory qualification	20.2 (93%)	0 (0%)	Data not collected	1 (100%)	21.2 (93%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	1 (5%)	0 (0%)	Data not collected	0 (0%)	1 (4%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	0.6 (3%)	0 (0%)	Data not collected	0 (0%)	0.6 (3%)
Total	21.8 (100%)	0 (0%)	Data not collected	1 (100%)	22.8 (100%)

Changes in numbers of Teachers of the Deaf

The following table looks at changes in numbers of Teachers of the Deaf over time. The first table looks at changes in the number of qualified Teachers of the Deaf. It excludes those working as a Teacher of the Deaf who are currently in training or do not intend to gain the qualification. Particular caution is needed in interpreting these figures because of variation in response rates from year to year.

In addition, the survey has not consistently asked about Teachers of the Deaf in special schools for deaf children over the years. Figures in 2018, 2019 and 2021 for England, and 2019 and 2021 for Northern Ireland include Teachers of the Deaf in special schools for deaf children. To allow a like-for-like comparison, the figures shown in brackets exclude Teachers of the Deaf in special schools for deaf children. From 2018, the CRIDE Scotland survey also asked about Teachers of the Deaf in special schools for deaf children. However, we have not provided bracketed figures as feedback suggests they were included in previous years also.

¹⁹ Please note, this category was not included in the Scotland survey questions (this year or last year), so there is no data from Scotland included in the UK total.

Table 28: Changes in numbers of Teachers of the Deaf (fte) with the mandatory qualification in employment

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
2011	1,062.1	34.9	165.3	71.95	1,334.25
2012	1,063.7	29.6	No survey	91.75	1,185.05
2013	1,031.9	30	140.6	66.5	1,269
2014	998.8	28.6	138.7	66.95	1,233.05
2015	995.75	30.6	129.5	69.86	1,225.71
2016	932.38	32.6	No survey	65.45	1,030.43
2017	913.75	29.3	101.15	57.63	1,101.83
2018	1037.72 (898.82)	28.4	121.68	56.42	1,244.22 (1,105.32)
2019	1050.11 (903.41)	32.2 (25.2)	99.63	57	1,238.94 (1,085.24)
2021	990.42 (886.82)	30.5 (26.5)	89.91	54.4	1,165.23 (1,057.63)

Additional qualifications held by Teachers of the Deaf

Table 29: Number of Teachers of the Deaf with an additional qualification in early years support

	Number of Teachers of the Deaf	Percentage of Teachers of the Deaf in post in each nation
England	87.2	9%
Northern Ireland	0	0%
Scotland	7.6	6%
Wales	1	2%
UK	95.8	8%

Table 30: Number of Teachers of the Deaf with an additional qualification in educational audiology

	Number of Teachers of the Deaf	Percentage of Teachers of the Deaf in post in each nation
England	59.3	6%
Northern Ireland	1	4%
Scotland	7.6	6%
Wales	1	2%
UK	68.9	6%

Age profile of peripatetic Teachers of the Deaf

In the following table on the age profile of Teachers of the Deaf, figures for Teachers of the Deaf in England, Northern Ireland and Wales are for those working in a peripatetic role. Figures for Scotland include Teachers of the Deaf also working in resource provisions, special schools for deaf children and other special schools not specifically for deaf children.

Table 31: Age profile of Teachers of the Deaf

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	Total
Aged 49 or under	300.54 (47%)	15 (60%)	80.48 (59%)	24 (66%)	420.02 (50%)
Aged between 50 and 59	273.95 (42%)	8 (32%)	41.26 (30%)	11.1 (31%)	334.31 (40%)
Aged between 60 and 64	64.95 (10%)	2 (8%)	9.3 (7%)	1 (3%)	77.25 (9%)
Aged 65 or over	6.2 (1%)	0 (0%)	4.24 (3%)	0 (0%)	10.44 (1%)
Total	645.64 (100%)	25 (100%)	135.28 (100%)	36.1 (100%)	842.02 (100%)

As in 2019, the above table shows that 50% of Teachers of the Deaf were aged 50 and over, and due to retire in the next 10 to 15 years.

Peripatetic Teachers of the Deaf caseloads

This section looks at the theoretical or notional caseloads of each visiting Teacher of the Deaf by looking at the number of deaf children living in an area who are not already in specialist provision (regardless of whether they are receiving support or not). There is a range of views on both the usefulness of this and how best to calculate this ratio. Points to consider include:

- areas that are large or rural may, by necessity, have more visiting Teachers of the Deaf than areas that are small and urban because of the need to allow for travel time
- areas in which there are specialist units or special schools may have fewer visiting Teachers of the Deaf because it has been assumed that deaf children with most need are already in specialist provision
- services that are better able to reliably record and identify how many deaf children, including those over 16, are in their area may appear to have heavier caseloads than services which have only given a figure for the number of deaf children they 'know' about
- the theoretical caseload does not tell us about the outcomes achieved by deaf children in the area.

In simple terms, and for consistency across all parts of the UK, we calculate the theoretical caseloads by dividing the number of permanently deaf children living in any given area and in non-specialist provision²⁰ by the number of visiting Teachers of the Deaf who are qualified or in training for the mandatory qualification²¹. Responses have been excluded where there were obvious gaps or anomalies in either the number of Teachers of the Deaf or numbers of deaf children living in the area.

²⁰ This includes: "Supported only at home – pre-school children, Early years setting – pre-school children, Supported at home – of school age and home educated, Mainstream state-funded schools (including academies and free schools), Mainstream independent (non-state-funded) schools (for example, Eton), Other special schools, not specifically for deaf children (whether state funded or non-maintained), All other post-16 provision (not including school sixth form colleges), NEET (Not in education, employment or in training) (post-16 only), Other (e.g. Pupil referral units), Not known. This excludes deaf children reported as being in mainstream schools with resource provision or special schools for deaf children."

²¹ This excludes any teachers who are working as Teachers of the Deaf but who are not qualified nor in training, and vacant posts.

Table 32: Ratio of deaf children per Teacher of the Deaf

	Number of deaf children for each peripatetic Teacher of the Deaf
England	62:1
Northern Ireland	56:1
Scotland	33:1
Wales	60:1

Other specialist staff

We changed the way we asked about specialist staff (other than Teachers of the Deaf) in the 2021 survey, asking for information on those who are directly employed by the service (rather than who are known to the service). This change was made to ensure greater consistency in our reporting. It means that we cannot make direct comparisons with responses from previous years.

Table 33: Number of full time equivalent (fte) specialist support staff in post, directly employed by services

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Teaching assistants/ Classroom support assistants etc	417.78 (55%)	0 (0%)	39.56 (53%)	37.1 (86%)	494.44 (56%)
Communication support workers/ Communicators etc	174.58 (23%)	0 (0%)	17.2 (23%)	1 (2%)	192.78 (22%)
NRCPD/SASLI/SRLPDC registered BSL/English interpreters	5.4 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	5.4 (1%)
Deaf instructors/Deaf role models/Sign language instructors etc	57.49 (8%)	0 (0%)	6.5 (9%)	1 (2%)	64.99 (7%)
Educational audiologists/Audiologists in Education who do not also hold a qualification as a Teacher of the Deaf	6.48 (1%)	0 (0%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	7.48 (1%)
Technicians et al.	29.2 (4%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1.5 (3%)	30.7 (3%)
Speech and language therapists	12.6 (2%)	0 (0%)	3 (4%)	0.2 (0%)	15.8 (2%)
Family support workers/Liaison officers	11.19 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0.4 (1%)	11.59 (1%)
Social workers/Social workers for deaf children	0.5 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (2%)	1.5 (0%)
Other	45.23 (6%)	0 (0%)	7.02 (9%)	1 (2%)	53.25 (6%)
Total	760.45 (100%)	0 (0%)	74.28 (100%)	43.2 (100%)	877.93 (100%)

Table 34: Number of full time equivalent (fte) specialist support staff vacant posts in services

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Teaching assistants/ Classroom support assistants etc	24.36 (53%)	0 (0%)	3 (63%)	1.4 (100%)	28.76 (55%)
Communication support workers/ Communicators etc	14.3 (31%)	0 (0%)	1.8 (38%)	0 (0%)	16.1 (31%)
NRCPD/SASLI/SRLPDC registered BSL/English interpreters	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Deaf instructors/Deaf role models/Sign language instructors etc	2.2 (5%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2.2 (4%)
Educational audiologists/Audiologists in Education who do not also hold a qualification as a Teacher of the Deaf	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Technicians et al.	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Speech and language therapists	1.1 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1.1 (2%)
Family support workers/Liaison officers	0.8 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0.8 (2%)
Social workers/Social workers for deaf children	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Other	3.02 (7%)	0 (0%)	n/a ²²	0 (0%)	3.02 (6%)
Total	45.78 (100%)	0 (0%)	4.8 (100%)	1.4 (100%)	51.98 (100%)

It should be noted that we have only included responses for 'Other' where an fte figure was given.

²² The Scotland survey did not specifically ask about 'other' vacancies.

Qualifications in British Sign Language

Table 35: British Sign Language (BSL) qualifications of any teaching assistants and communication support workers (or in similar roles) directly employed by the service, working directly with deaf children who are sign language users

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Level 1 BSL (SCQF 4)	110.67 (21%)	0 (0%)	11.3 (21%)	16.6 (41%)	138.57 (22%)
Level 2 BSL (SCQF 5)	223.91 (42%)	0 (0%)	17.78 (33%)	14 (34%)	255.69 (41%)
Level 3 BSL (SCQF 6)	128.28 (24%)	0 (0%)	13.34 (25%)	8 (20%)	149.62 (24%)
Level 4 BSL (SCQF 7)	11.7 (2%)	0 (0%)	2 (4%)	1 (2%)	14.7 (2%)
Level 6 BSL (SCQF 9 & 10)	59.7 (11%)	0 (0%)	8.7 (16%)	1 (2%)	69.4 (11%)
Total	534.26 (100%)	0 (0%)	53.12 (100%)	40.6 (100%)	627.98 (100%)

Table 36: British Sign Language (BSL) qualifications of any teaching assistants and communication support workers (or in similar roles) not directly employed by the service, working directly with deaf children who are sign language users

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Level 1 BSL	94.8 (21%)	0 (0%)	1 (11%)	19 (42%)	114.8 (23%)
Level 2 BSL	187.27 (42%)	0 (0%)	3.2 (34%)	17 (37%)	207.47 (41%)
Level 3 BSL	112.75 (25%)	0 (0%)	3 (32%)	6 (13%)	121.75 (24%)
Level 4 BSL	6 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (2%)	7 (1%)
Level 6 BSL	46.6 (10%)	0 (0%)	2.2 (23%)	2.4 (5%)	51.2 (10%)
Total	447.42 (100%)	0 (0%)	9.4 (100%)	45.4 (100%)	502.22 (100%)

PART 3: Post-16 support

Young people who have left school

Table 37: Deaf young people with a transition plan informed by a Teacher of the Deaf

	Number of deaf young people who left school at the end of the 2019/20 academic year	Number of deaf young people with a transition plan informed by a Teacher of the Deaf	% of deaf young people who had left school in each nation
England	1,881	1,061	56%
Northern Ireland	22	11	50%
Scotland	117	94	80%
Wales	112	51	46%
UK	2,132	1,217	57%

Table 38: Support to deaf young people in further education or other post-school destinations

	Number of services that did support deaf young people in further education or other post-school destinations	Number of services that did not support deaf young people in further education or other post-school destinations	Total
England	103 (79%)	28 (21%)	131 (100%)
Northern Ireland	0 (0%)	1 (100%)	1 (100%)
Scotland	2 (8%)	23 (92%)	25 (100%)
Wales	2 (13%)	13 (87%)	15 (100%)
UK	107 (62%)	65 (38%)	172 (100%)

Careers advice

We asked if peripatetic Teachers of the Deaf in services provided any of the support below in relation to careers advice and moving into employment.

Table 39: Services that provide support on careers advice and moving into employment

Category	England – Number and % of all services in nation	Northern Ireland – Number and % of all services in nation	Scotland – Number and % of all services in nation	Wales – Number and % of all services in nation	Total – Number and % of all services in the UK
Engaging with careers advisors in schools on careers advice to deaf young people	103 (78%)	1 (100%)	19 (76%)	11 (73%)	134 (77%)
Engaging with careers advisors in colleges on careers advice to deaf young people?	62 (47%)	0 (0%)	7 (28%)	7 (47%)	76 (44%)
Provision of advice on the accessibility of work placements being undertaken by deaf young people	90 (68%)	1 (100%)	15 (60%)	9 (60%)	115 (66%)
Provision of information to deaf young people about the support available through the Access to Work scheme for employment support	90 (68%)	1 (100%)	16 (64%)	7 (47%)	114 (66%)
Provision of information to deaf young people about their rights under the Equality Act to reasonable adjustments in the workplace	90 (68%)	1 (100%)	15 (60%)	8 (53%)	114 (66%)

Post-19 support

When asking about numbers of deaf children, we ask services for numbers of deaf children aged 0 to 19. We have traditionally not asked for numbers of deaf young people aged over 19. This is due to feedback from services that they do not hold reliable numbers on this cohort. However, we introduced a new question in the 2021 survey to ask services if they provide support to deaf young people over the age of 19.

Table 40: Support for deaf young people over the age of 19

	Number of services that did support deaf young people over the age of 19	Number of services that did not support deaf young people over the age of 19	Total
England	98 (75%)	32 (25%)	130 (100%)
Northern Ireland	0 (0%)	1 (100%)	1 (100%)
Scotland	1 (4%)	24 (96%)	25 (100%)
Wales	2 (13%)	13 (87%)	15 (100%)

PART 4: Support provided

Where services are based

Table 41: Where specialist education services are based

	England	Scotland	Wales	Great Britain
Based in the local authority	113 (86%)	17 (71%)	15 (100%)	145 (85%)
Based in a school with a resource provision	4 (3%)	2 (8%)	0 (0%)	6 (4%)
Based in a special school for deaf children	1 (1%)	2 (8%)	0 (0%)	3 (2%)
Based in a special school not specifically for deaf children	6 (5%)	2 (8%)	0 (0%)	8 (5%)
Provided by another body or organisation	4 (3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (2%)
Other	4 (3%)	1 (4%)	0 (0%)	5 (3%)
Total	132 (100%)	24 (100%)	15 (100%)	171 (100%)

As there is one service covering the whole Education Authority in Northern Ireland, this is not included in the above table.

Heads of services

Table 42: Qualifications of heads of services

	Number of services where Teachers of the Deaf were managed by someone who is a qualified Teacher of the Deaf or in training for the mandatory qualification	Number of services where Teachers of the Deaf were not managed by someone who is a qualified Teacher of the Deaf or in training for the mandatory qualification	Total
England	92 (70%)	40 (30%)	132 (100%)
Northern Ireland	1 (100%)	0 (0%)	1 (100%)
Scotland	13 (52%)	12 (48%)	25 (100%)
Wales	7 (47%)	8 (53%)	15 (100%)

Number of resource provisions

Table 43: Number of resource provisions

	England ²³	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	Total
Within a primary school	135.5	2	7	10	154.5
Within a secondary school	101.5	1	7	10	119.5
Total	237	3	14	20	274

Table 44: Number of resource provisions reported by responding services over successive years

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	Total
2016	260	3	No survey	24	287
2017	251	3	15	25	294
2018	240	3	22	25	290
2019	246	3	22	24	295
2021	237	3	14	20	274

Table 45: Number of resource provisions headed by a qualified Teacher of the Deaf

	Number of resource provisions headed by a qualified Teacher of the Deaf	Percentage of resource provisions in each nation
England	190	80%
Northern Ireland	2	67%
Scotland	11	79%
Wales	16	80%

We also looked at the number of resource provisions against the overall population of deaf children in each nation.

Table 46: Population of deaf children covered by each resource provision

	Average ratio
England	190:1
Northern Ireland	462:1
Scotland	201:1
Wales	116:1
UK	188:1

This is intended to indicate the spread of resource provisions across each nation, relative to the overall population of deaf children. It shows that, on average, there is one resource provision for every 188 deaf children across the whole of the UK.

This is **not** a measure of the number of places available in or individual deaf children enrolled at each resource provision; figures for places or deaf children enrolled will vary from provision to provision. It

²³ The England figures for resource provisions include one resource provision for both primary and secondary aged children.

should also be noted that this figure may be influenced by a range of different factors, including, for example, the number (if any) of special schools for deaf children in each nation and how urban/rural different areas are.

Eligibility frameworks

Table 47: Number of services using the NatSIP Eligibility Framework for Scoring Support Levels (2017) to help determine the level of support provided by Teachers of the Deaf

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Using the NatSIP framework	125 (95%)	1 (100%)	12 (48%)	15 (100%)	153 (88%)
Not using the NatSIP framework	7 (5%)	0 (0%)	13 (52%)	0 (0%)	20 (12%)
Total number of services	132 (100%)	1 (100%)	25 (100%)	15 (100%)	173 (100%)

Table 48: Number of services using the NatSIP Eligibility Framework for scoring support levels for deaf children from birth to the end of F1 (Nursery) (2019) to determine the level of support provided by Teachers of the Deaf to pre-school deaf children

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Using the NatSIP framework	96 (73%)	0 (0%)	7 (28%)	13 (87%)	116 (67%)
Not using the NatSIP framework	35 (27%)	1 (100%)	18 (72%)	2 (13%)	56 (33%)
Total number of services	131 (100%)	1 (100%)	25 (100%)	15 (100%)	172 (100%)

Support allocations

Table 49: Changes to service support allocation between the 2019/20 and 2020/21 academic years

	Number of services where there were changes in support allocations	Number of services where there were no changes in support allocations	Total
England	26 (20%)	106 (80%)	132 (100%)
Northern Ireland	0 (0%)	1 (100%)	1 (100%)
Scotland	4 (16%)	21 (84%)	25 (100%)
Wales	2 (13%)	13 (87%)	15 (100%)

Educational outcomes

Table 50: Data collection by services on educational outcomes achieved by deaf children at the end of Key Stage 4 (or S4 in Scotland)

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Outcomes data collected for all deaf children living in the local authority or authorities covered by the service	18 (14%)	0 (0%)	2 (8%)	4 (27%)	24 (14%)
Outcomes data collected only for children who receive support from the service	55 (43%)	0 (0%)	5 (20%)	9 (60%)	69 (41%)
Outcomes data not collected	56 (43%)	1 (100%)	18 (72%)	2 (13%)	77 (45%)
Total	129 (100%)	1 (100%)	25 (100%)	15 (100%)	170 (100%)

Services that did collect this data were then asked if it was shared with the Children’s Hearing Services Working Groups (CHSWGs) in their area, where applicable.

Table 51: Services sharing outcomes data with CHSWGs

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Yes	16 (19%)	n/a	1 (14%)	5 (38%)	22 (21%)
No	67 (79%)	n/a	5 (71%)	8 (62%)	80 (76%)
N/a – there is no CHSWG in the area	2 (2%)	n/a	1 (14%)	0 (0%)	3 (3%)
Total	85 (100%)	n/a	7 (100%)	13 (100%)	105 (100%)

Support following identification of deafness

In the 2021 survey, we introduced a new question to ask services how many referrals they received over the calendar year of 2020.

Table 52: Referrals received over the calendar year of 2020

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Number of referrals for children identified as deaf through the newborn hearing screening programme	1,091 (24%)	20 (27%)	120 (42%)	34 (20%)	1,265 (25%)
Number of referrals for children identified as deaf outside of the newborn hearing programme	3,421 (76%)	54 (73%)	165 (58%)	135 (80%)	3,775 (75%)
Total	4,512 ²⁴ (100%)	74 (100%)	285 (100%)	169 (100%)	5,040 (100%)

Table 53: Referrals who were contacted by a Teacher of the Deaf within 2 working days if identified as deaf through the newborn hearing screening programme

	Percentage of families referred
England	83%
Northern Ireland	75%
Scotland	25%
Wales	88%
UK	77%

Table 54: Referrals who were contacted by a Teacher of the Deaf within 5 working days if identified as deaf outside of the newborn hearing screening programme

	Percentage of families referred
England	61%
Northern Ireland	52%
Scotland	56%
Wales	64%
UK	61%

Table 55: Families who were offered a visit (either face-to-face or virtually) from a Teacher of the Deaf within 10 working days of any referral

	Percentage of families referred
England	54%
Northern Ireland	No data
Scotland	31%
Wales	50%
UK	52%

²⁴ The figure generated by the sum of different referral options differed from the figure given when asked for the total. The sum of the 'total' figures given was 4,526. In the table, we have used the sum total generated from the different referral options.

PART 5: Background and methodology

CRIDE is a consortium bringing together a range of organisations and individuals with a common interest in using research to improve the educational outcomes achieved by deaf children. At the time the survey was sent out, representatives included: British Association of Teachers of the Deaf (BATOD), Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children, Mary Hare, National Deaf Children's Society, National Sensory Impairment Partnership (NatSIP), University College London (UCL), University of Edinburgh, consultants with expertise in deafness, and specialist education services for deaf children in Cambridgeshire, Camden, Kent, and Leeds.

The surveys for England, Northern Ireland and Wales were designed and created by members of CRIDE. The Scotland survey was modified and further developed by a separate CRIDE Scotland reference group. This is the fifth year that a CRIDE Scotland Reference group has been in place. Members of this group have worked to improve how the CRIDE survey fits within the Scottish education context, whilst ensuring the data collected can still be compared with the rest of the UK. Current members include: National Deaf Children's Society, Scottish Sensory Centre, University of Edinburgh, BATOD, Aberdeenshire Sensory Service, Fife Sensory Support Service, Ayrshire Hearing Impairment Service and Highland Deaf Education Service.

The CRIDE survey alternates between a standard survey and a survey with a mix of core and thematic questions. In 2021, the standard survey was issued.

Analysis of the results using Excel and drafting of this report was largely completed by the National Deaf Children's Society, with guidance and clearance from members of CRIDE.

We would like to thank all services for taking the time to complete this survey and for their valuable comments and feedback, which will be used to inform the design of future surveys. The results from this survey will be used for research purposes, to influence government policy and to campaign to protect funding and services for deaf children.

If you have any feedback or questions on the results, please contact cride@ndcs.org.uk or cride.scotland@ndcs.org.uk.