



Consortium for Research in Deaf Education

2023 UK-wide summary

Education provision for deaf children in 2022/23

Introduction

In 2023, we carried out the 13th Consortium for Research in Deaf Education (CRIDE) annual surveys on educational staffing and service provision for deaf children.¹

This report provides a high-level summary of the results across the four countries we surveyed. Separate reports are published for England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales which set out the results for each respective nation. All reports can be downloaded from www.ndcs.org.uk/CRIDE or www.batod.org.uk/information/cride-reports/.

The survey alternates from year to year between a standard survey and a survey with a mix of core and thematic questions. The 2023 survey was the standard version, covering the 2022/23 academic year.

Contents

Summary of key findings.....	3
PART 1: Deaf children in the UK.....	4
PART 2: Teachers of Deaf Children and Young People and other specialist staff	15
PART 3: Post-16 support	23
PART 4: Support provided.....	25
PART 5: Support following identification of deafness	30
PART 6: Background and methodology	32

Interpreting the results

Services were asked to give figures for the position as of 31st January 2023.

In the survey, we acknowledge that services and children do not always fit into the boxes or options provided. Services were able to leave comments or clarify where needed throughout the survey. This report notes particular issues that emerged in some areas.

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 under the age of 20 (under the age of 19 in Scotland) with sensori-neural or permanent conductive deafness.

As we see later, it is clear that some 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 sometimes vary and anomalies occasionally 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 needed due to differences in response rates to individual questions and potential mistakes in data provision between surveys.

We received a 100% response rate to the survey in England (132 services covering 150 out of 152 authority areas²), Northern Ireland (1 service), and Wales (14 services covering 22 local authorities). In Scotland, we received responses from 29 services, covering 31 out of 32 authority areas and giving a response rate of 97%.

A separate short survey was issued to special schools for deaf children. This received responses from 16 schools in England and 1 school in Northern Ireland³. A separate short survey was also issued to implant centres which received a response from 14 implant centres across the UK.

Please note that percentages in this report have been rounded up or down to the nearest whole number. Please also note that where there is a reported cohort of less than five children in any of the tables from individual country reports, in this report, we have replaced the figure with a '<5' and suppressed the actual figure to zero when calculating the totals in that table unless otherwise stated. This is indicated by an asterisk against the total. We have also used an asterisk to indicate where any total includes any suppressed figures.

² The remaining two local authorities in England, 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.

³ There are no schools for deaf children in Wales. There is no separate survey for schools for deaf children in Scotland as the main CRIDE Scotland survey captures information on schools for deaf children.

Summary of key findings

Numbers of deaf children

- There were 52,777 deaf children reported by services across the UK, essentially unchanged from 2022.
- 78% of school aged children were in mainstream schools, 13% in special schools not specifically for deaf children, 6% in resource provisions in mainstream schools, 2%⁴ in special schools for deaf children, and 1% were home educated.

Teachers of Deaf Children and Young People (TODs) and other specialist staff

- There were at least 1,557 fte TOD posts, of which 3% were vacant.
- Of the TODs in employment, 79% had the mandatory qualification, 15% were in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within three years, and 6% were teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training. 1% were people not qualified as teachers.⁵
- There were at least 770 fte other specialist support staff directly employed by services in employment at the time of the surveys. Of these 59% of whom were teaching assistants (or similar) and 21% of whom were communication support workers (or similar). In addition, there were at least 46 fte vacant posts for specialist support staff in services.

Resource provisions

- There were 263 resource provisions across the UK, down from 267 in 2022.
- The population of deaf children covered by each resource provision across the UK was 199.

Referrals

- Services reported 7,051 referrals were received over the calendar year of 2022. 18% of these were for children identified as deaf through the newborn hearing screening programme.
- 86% of families referred were contacted by a TOD within two working days if identified as deaf through the newborn hearing screening programme.
- 82% of families referred were contacted by a TOD within five working days if identified as deaf outside of the newborn hearing screening programme and before they had started statutory education.
- 73% of families referred were contacted by a TOD within five working days if identified as deaf outside of the newborn hearing screening programme and after they had started statutory education.
- 50% of families were offered a visit (either face-to-face or virtually) from a TOD within 10 working days of any referral.

⁴ Not including children in the school for deaf children in Northern Ireland as this data was not provided.

⁵ This category was only asked about in the separate survey for schools for deaf children in England and Northern Ireland.

PART 1: Deaf children in the UK

Services were asked to give details of deaf children living in the geographical area covered by their service.⁶

According to the surveys, the adjusted total number of deaf children under the age of 20 across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland⁷ and Wales was 52,777. This figure is essentially the same as reported in 2022 (a decrease of 0.04% from 52,798).

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		45,671	87%
	East England	4,857	9%
	East Midlands	3,533	7%
	London	7,654	15%
	North East	2,275	4%
	North West	6,308	12%
	South East	5,587	11%
	South West	4,237	8%
	West Midlands	5,742	11%
	Yorkshire and the Humber	5,478	10%
Northern Ireland		1,428	3%
Scotland		3,418	6%
Wales		2,260	4%
UK		52,777	100%

⁶ Services were asked to include: All children and young people under the age of 20 (in England, Northern Ireland and Wales) or under the age of 19 (in Scotland) who have a unilateral or bilateral sensori-neural or permanent conductive deafness, at all levels from mild to profound, using BSA/BATOD descriptors. Children and young people with temporary deafness should not be included. Services were asked to include all deaf children and young people, regardless of whether they receive support from the service, and to include children and young people who attend education provision outside of their area but who normally live in your 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 and young people with temporary deafness those 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

⁷ Under the age of 19 in Scotland.

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

Nation	Region	2011	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023
England		34,927	43,467	46,404	45,060	45,680	45,671
	East England	2,572	4,471	4,666	4,363	4,405	4,857
	East Midlands	2,334	3,536	3,503	3,473	3,558	3,533
	London	5,271	7,309	7,554	7,408	7,570	7,654
	North East	1,949	2,393	2,457	2,409	2,409	2,275
	North West	5,037	4,768	6,219	6,260	6,354	6,308
	South East	5,624	6,279	6,490	5,759	5,787	5,587
	South West	3,348	3,951	4,303	4,510	4,508	4,237
	West Midlands	4,290	5,397	5,532	5,557	5,722	5,742
	Yorkshire and the Humber	4,502	5,363	5,680	5,321	5,367	5,478
Northern Ireland		1,239	1,687	1,417	1,387	1,476	1,428
Scotland		2,526	3,363	3,647	2,841	3,313	3,418
Wales		2,775	2,625	2,486	2,324	2,329	2,260
UK		41,467	51,142	53,954	51,612	52,798	52,777

The following table illustrates differences in the numbers of deaf children covered by services in each country. Please note that, as there is just one service in Northern Ireland, they do not appear in this table.

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

	Minimum	Maximum	Average
England	82	1,500	349
Scotland	11	352	118
Wales	39	455	161

What the survey tells us about the population of deaf children

The following tables provide breakdowns by age and level of deafness.

Table 4: Number and proportion of children living in the geographical area, by age⁸

	Early years/ pre-school	Primary-aged	Secondary-aged	Post-16 and under the age of 20⁹	Total
England	5,616 (12%)	17,086 (38%)	16,488 (36%)	6,107 (13%)	45,297 (100%)
Northern Ireland	150 (11%)	549 (38%)	529 (37%)	200 (14%)	1,428 (100%)
Scotland	459 (14%)	1,430 (42%)	1,290 (38%)	211 (6%)	3,390 ¹⁰ (100%)
Wales	207 (9%)	892 (40%)	933 (41%)	222 (10%)	2,254 ¹¹ (100%)
Total	6,432 (12%)	19,957 (38%)	19,240 (37%)	6,740 (13%)	52,369 (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 and under the age of 20¹²	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) ¹³	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%)
2023	6,432 (12%)	19,957 (38%)	19,240 (37%)	6,740 (13%)	52,369 (100%)

⁸ It should be noted that the age ranges for each education stage vary slightly in the different countries in the UK.

⁹ In Scotland this is Post-16 and under the age of 19.

¹⁰ 3,390 was the sum of the broken-down figures provided by services. The sum of totals provided by services was 3,400.

¹¹ 2,254 was the sum of the broken-down figures given by services. The sum of the totals given by services was 2,255.

¹² In Scotland this is Post-16 and under the age of 19.

¹³ In 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	Total¹⁴
England	8,979 (22%)	10,228 (25%)	13,225 (32%)	3,651 (9%)	4,987 (12%)	41,070 (100%)
Northern Ireland	384 (27%)	420 (29%)	397 (28%)	74 (5%)	153 (11%)	1,428 (100%)
Scotland	690 (21%)	678 (21%)	1,049 (32%)	355 (11%)	524 (16%)	3,296 (100%)
Wales	491 (22%)	561 (25%)	735 (33%)	206 (9%)	246 (11%)	2,239 (100%)
UK	10,544 (22%)	11,887 (25%)	15,406 (32%)	4,286 (9%)	5,910 (12%)	48,033 (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	Total¹⁵
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%)
2023	10,544 (22%)	11,887 (25%)	15,406 (32%)	4,286 (9%)	5,910 (12%)	48,033 (100%)

The following tables provide breakdowns by education setting for all children and then for school-aged children only.

¹⁴ Not including children where the level of deafness was reported as 'not known'.

¹⁵ 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	2,789 (6%)	92 (6%)	168* (5%)	77 (3%)	3,126* (6%)
Early years setting – pre-school children	2,699 (6%)	58 (4%)	298 (9%)	106 (5%)	3,161 (6%)
Supported at home – of school age and home educated	238 (1%)	5 (0%)	0* (0%)	14 (1%)	257* (0%)
Mainstream provision (including state-funded and independent/private schools)	28,065 (62%)	986 (69%)	2,431 (72%)	1,620 (72%)	33,102 (63%)
Mainstream provision: resource provision	2,168 (5%)	14 (1%)	253 (7%)	168 (8%)	2,603 (5%)
Special schools for deaf pupils ¹⁶	918 (2%)	No data	38 (1%)	0* (0%)	956* (2%)
Other special schools, not specifically for deaf children	4,984 (11%)	273 (19%)	194 (6%)	187 (8%)	5,638 (11%)
All other post-16 provision (not including school sixth forms)	2,587 (6%)	0 (0%)	0* (0%)	63 (3%)	2,650* (5%)
Other (e.g. Pupil referral units, NEET and ‘not known’)	750 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	5 (0%)	755 (1%)
Total	45,198 (100%)	1,428 (100%)	3,382* (100%)	2,240* (100%)	52,248* (100%)

Table 9: Changes in the number and proportion of children, by type of educational provision, since 2019

	UK 2019	UK 2021	UK 2022	UK 2023
Supported only at home – pre-school children	3,430 (6%)	3,301 (7%)	3,127 (6%)	3,126* (6%)
Early years setting – pre-school children	3,300 (6%)	2,699* (6%)	2,623* (5)	3,161 (6%)
Supported at home – of school age and home educated	215* (0%)	329 (1%)	241* (0%)	257* (0%)
Mainstream provision (including state-funded and independent/private schools)	34,290* (65%)	30,962* (64%)	32,161* (64%)	33,102 (63%)
Mainstream provision: resource provision	2,717 (5%)	2,336* (5%)	2,466* (5%)	2,603 (5%)
Special schools for deaf pupils ¹⁷	1,155* (2%)	907* (2%)	1,091 (2%)	956* (2%)
Other special schools, not specifically for deaf children	5,239 (10%)	5,351* (11%)	5,681* (11%)	5,638 (11%)
All other post-16 provision (not including school sixth forms)	1,471 (3%)	1,915* (4%)	2,267* (4%)	2,650* (5%)
Other (e.g. Pupil referral units, NEET and ‘not known’)	961 (2%)	731* (2%)	837* (2%)	755 (1%)
Total	52,776* (100%)	48,531* (100%)	50,494* (100%)	52,248* (100%)

¹⁶ There are no schools for deaf children in Wales.

¹⁷ There are no schools for deaf children in Wales.

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.

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	238 (1%)	5 (0%)	0* (0%)	14 (1%)	257* (1%)
Mainstream provision (including state-funded and independent/private schools)	28,065 (77%)	986 (77%)	2,431 (83%)	1,620 (81%)	33,102 (78%)
Mainstream provision: resource provision	2,168 (6%)	14 (1%)	253 (9%)	168 (8%)	2,603 (6%)
Special schools for deaf pupils	918 (3%)	No data	38 (1%)	0* (0%)	956* (2%)
Other special schools, not specifically for deaf children	4,984 (14%)	273 (21%)	194 (7%)	187 (9%)	5,638 (13%)
Total	36,373 (100%)	1,278 (100%)	2,916* (100%)	1,989* (100%)	42,556* (100%)

Table 11: Changes in the number and proportion of school-aged children, by type of educational provision, since 2019

	UK 2019	UK 2021	UK 2022	UK 2023
Supported at home – of school age and home educated	215* (0%)	329 (1%)	241* (1%)	257* (1%)
Mainstream provision (including state-funded and independent/private schools)	34,290 (79%)	30,926 (78%)	32,161* (77%)	33,102 (78%)
Mainstream provision: resource provision	2,717 (6%)	2,336 (6%)	2,466* (6%)	2,603 (6%)
Special schools for deaf pupils	1,154 (3%)	907 (2%)	1,091 (3%)	956* (2%)
Other special schools, not specifically for deaf children	5,239 (12%)	5,351 (13%)	5,681* (14%)	5,638 (13%)
Total	43,614 (100%)	39,849 (100%)	41,640 (100%)	42,556* (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	731	2%
Northern Ireland	21	1%
Scotland	39	1%
Wales	36	2%
UK	827	2%

The proportion of deaf children across the UK with ANSD stood at 1% in 2021.

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 needs¹⁸. 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	10,950	24%
Northern Ireland	513	36%
Scotland	943	28%
Wales	540	24%
UK	12,946	25%

The proportion of deaf children in the UK with additional needs has fluctuated between 19% and 25% 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	4,201	9%
Northern Ireland	118	8%
Scotland	380	11%
Wales	209	9%
UK	4,908	9%

¹⁸ These are: additional special educational need in England, special educational need or disability in Northern Ireland, additional learning needs in Wales, and additional support needs in Scotland.

The proportion of deaf children in the UK with cochlear implants, as reported by specialist education services for deaf children, has fluctuated between 7% and 9% since 2011.

Eligibility for a cochlear implant is generally restricted to those with a severe or profound deafness (and who do not receive optimal benefit from hearing aids). We saw earlier in table six that there are 10,196 children with a severe or profound deafness. Whilst this can only be a rough approximation, it can be estimated that 48% of children with severe or profound deafness have at least one cochlear implant. If one were to make an assumption that most children with cochlear implants are those with a profound deafness, this percentage would rise to 83%.

The British Cochlear Implant Group (BCIG)¹⁹ reported in the annual UK data collection that between February 2022 to March 2023, there were 436 children who were new cochlear implant recipients, and 6,617 children in the maintained cochlear implant population, giving a total of 7,053 children with cochlear implants in the UK, compared to 4,908 identified through CRIDE. This suggests that services reported 70% of children with cochlear implants for the CRIDE survey. Some children with cochlear implants will be supported by TODs 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	3,831	8%
Northern Ireland	53	4%
Scotland	238	7%
Wales	157	7%
UK	4,279	8%

The proportion of deaf children in the UK with bone conduction devices has risen from 5% in 2019 to 8% in 2023.

Additional languages

We asked about languages used in education.

¹⁹ [BCIG Annual UK numbers update](#) 01/02/2022 to 31/03/2023. The data collection asks for paediatric data (aged 0-18 years) but some centres may include young people aged over 18. It should be noted that some centres may class under 19 as 'children'; others may use under 18.

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

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Spoken English, Welsh or Scottish Gaelic	34,500 (89%)	1,251 (89%)	3,013 (89%)	1,469 (87%)	40,233 (89%)
British/Irish Sign Language	792 (2%)	8 (1%)	104 (3%)	44 (3%)	948 (2%)
Spoken English or Welsh together with signed support	2,238 (6%)	24 (2%)	183 (5%)	110* (7%)	2,555* (6%)
Other combination	1,381 (4%)	119 (8%)	97 (3%)	59 (4%)	1,656 (4%)
Total ²⁰	38,911 (100%)	1,402 (100%)	3,397 (100%)	1,682* (100%)	45,392* (100%)

Table 17: Children with severe or profound deafness using sign language in each nation

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Children using BSL/ISL as a percentage of children with a severe or profound deafness	9%	4%	12%	10%	9%
Children using signed support with spoken English/Welsh as a percentage of children with a severe or profound deafness	26%	11%	21%	24%	25%
Children using BSL/ISL or signed support with spoken English/Welsh as a percentage of children with a severe or profound deafness	35%	14%	33%	34%	34%

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

	Number of deaf children who are known to have English or Welsh 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	7,151	16%
Northern Ireland	80	6%
Scotland	281	8%
Wales	113	5%
UK	7,625	14%

The proportion of deaf children using a spoken language other than English or Welsh at home has risen from 13% in 2021 to 14% in 2023.

²⁰ Total not including 'not known'.

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.

Table 19: 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	242	1%
Northern Ireland	47	3%
Scotland	21	1%
Wales	12	1%
UK	322	1%

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 20: 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	43,851 (85%)	3,796 (71%)
Northern Ireland	1,259 (2%)	129 (2%)
Scotland	3,435 (7%)	222 (4%)
Wales	3,224 (6%)	1,223 (23%)
UK	51,769 (100%)	5,370 (100%)

Table 21: Minimum, maximum and average number of deaf children on services’ caseload in each service

	Minimum	Maximum	Average
England	77	1,149	332
Scotland	16	309	118
Wales	38	1,074	230

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

Table 22: Services that provide support to deaf young people over the age of 19 (or over the age of 18 in Scotland)

	Number and percentage of services that do provide this support	Number and percentage of services that don't provide this support	Total
England	105 (80%)	27 (20%)	132 (100%)
Northern Ireland	0 (0%)	1 (100%)	1 (100%)
Scotland	5 (17%)	24 (83)	29 (100%)
Wales	3 (23%)	10 (77%)	13 ²¹ (100%)

²¹ One service in Wales did not answer this question.

PART 2: Teachers of Deaf Children and Young People and other specialist staff

In previous surveys, we used the terminology 'Teachers of the Deaf'. For the 2023 survey and going forward, we use the terminology 'Teachers of Deaf Children and Young People (TODs)' instead. However, the definition of the role has not changed and should continue to be understood as a specialist teaching role, occupied by someone with the mandatory qualification for teaching deaf children or in training to acquire this qualification.

There are at least 1,505 teachers working as TODs across the UK. This includes TODs 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 surveys were completed, there were 52.6 fte vacant posts. If the vacant posts are added to the total number of teachers working as TODs in employment, this would indicate there are at least 1,557.89 TOD posts, of which 3% are vacant.

Table 23: Number of TOD posts (fte) by nation

	Number of TODs in employment	Number of vacant posts	Total TOD posts
England	1,222.15	45	1,267.15
Northern Ireland	44	1.4	45.4
Scotland	174.84	4.6	179.44
Wales	64.3	1.6	65.9
UK	1,505.29	52.6	1,557.89

The following table provides a break-down of TODs in employment by qualification status.

Table 24: Number of overall full time equivalent (fte) TODs in employment

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
TODs with the mandatory qualification	993.45 (81%)	27 (61%)	104.04 (60%)	59.7 (93%)	1,184.19 (79%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	156.4 (13%)	8 (18%)	55.4 (32%)	4.6 (7%)	224.4 (15%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	59.8 (5%)	9 ²² (20%)	15.4 (9%)	0 (0%)	84.2 (6%)
People not qualified as Teachers ²³	12.5 (1%)	0 (0%)	n/a	n/a	12.5 (1%)
Total	1,222.15 (100%)	44 (100%)	174.84 (100%)	64.3 (100%)	1,505.29 (100%)

²² As shown in table 28, these teachers work in the school for deaf children in Northern Ireland.

²³ This category was included in the separate survey for schools for deaf children in England and Northern Ireland carried out by CRIDE. It was not included in the CRIDE survey for Scotland which includes schools for deaf children in Scotland.

The following table instead shows the numbers of TODs in employment by their role.

Table 25: Number of TODs in employment overall by role

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Working mainly as a peripatetic TOD	624.03 (51%)	24 (55%)	91.84 (53%)	35.8 (56%)	775.67 (52%)
Working mainly in a resource provision	303.22 (25%)	3 (7%)	59.8 (34%)	24.5 (38%)	390.52 (26%)
Working mainly in a special school or college not specifically for deaf children or young people	3.2 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (3%)	5.2 (0%)
Working flexibly as a peripatetic TOD, in a resource provision and/or in a special school or college not specifically for deaf children or young people ²⁴	21.5 (2%)	0 (0%)	5 (3%)	2 (3%)	28.5 (2%)
Working mainly in a special school for deaf children	270.2 (22%)	17 (39%)	18.2 (10%)	n/a ²⁵	305.4 (20%)
Total of figures given	1,222.15 (100%)	44 (100%)	174.84 (100%)	64.3 (100%)	1,505.29 (100%)

Figures for TODs in cochlear implant programmes across England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales were collected in a separate short survey. Responses were received from 14 cochlear implant programmes. There were at least 26.37 fte fully qualified TODs reported in post, and 3 fte vacancies reported. This means there are 29.37 fte posts, of which 10% are vacant. There were no TODs in training for the mandatory qualification or not in training, or people who have not qualified as a Teacher reported.

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

Table 26: Number of full time equivalent (fte) peripatetic or visiting TODs in employment

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
TODs with the mandatory qualification	570.93 (91%)	19 (79%)	60.44 (66%)	33.2 (93%)	683.57 (88%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	48.1 (8%)	5 (21%)	26 (28%)	2.6 (7%)	81.7 (11%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	5 (1%)	0 (0%)	5.4 (6%)	0 (0%)	10.4 (1%)
Total	624.03 (100%)	24 (100%)	91.84 (100%)	35.8 (100%)	775.67 (100%)

²⁴ In Scotland this category also includes TODs working in schools for deaf children and young people.

²⁵ There are no schools for deaf children in Wales.

Table 27: Number of full time equivalent (fte) TODs in employment in resource provisions

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
TODs with the mandatory qualification	249.92 (82%)	2 (67%)	31.6 (53%)	22.5 (92%)	306.02 (78%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	43.9 (14%)	1 (33%)	18.8 (31%)	2 (8%)	65.7 (17%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	9.4 (3%)	0 (0%)	9.4 (16%)	0 (0%)	18.8 (5%)
Total	303.22 (100%)	3 (100%)	59.8 (100%)	24.5 (100%)	390.52 (100%)

Table 28: Number of full time equivalent (fte) TODs in employment working in a special school or college for deaf children and young people

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland ²⁶	UK
Teachers of the Deaf with the mandatory qualification	151.5 (56%)	6 (35%)	7.8 (43%)	165.3 (54%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	61.2 (23%)	2 (12%)	9.8 (54%)	73 (24%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	45 (17%)	9 (53%)	0.6 (3%)	54.6 (18%)
People not qualified as Teachers ²⁷	12.5 (5%)	0 (0%)	n/a	12.5 (4%)
Total	270.2 (100%)	17 (100%)	18.2 (100%)	305.4 (100%)

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

²⁶ 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 survey of special schools in England and Northern Ireland that was carried out by CRIDE. There are no schools for deaf children in Wales.

²⁷ This category was included in the separate survey for schools for deaf children in England and Northern Ireland carried out by CRIDE. It was not included in the CRIDE survey for Scotland which includes schools for deaf children in Scotland.

Table 29: Number of full time equivalent (fte) TODs in employment working in a special school or college not specifically for deaf children or young people

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
TODs with the mandatory qualification	3 (94%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (100%)	5 (96%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	0.2 (6%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0.2 (4%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Total	3.2 (100%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (100%)	5.2 (100%)

Table 30: Number of full time equivalent (fte) TODs 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 ²⁸	Wales	UK
TODs with the mandatory qualification	18.1 (84%)	0 (0%)	4.2 (84%)	2 (100%)	24.3 (85%)
Teachers in training for the mandatory qualification or intending to train within 3 years	3 (14%)	0 (0%)	0.8 (16%)	0 (0%)	3.8 (13%)
Qualified teachers without the mandatory qualification and not in training	0.4 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0.4 (1%)
Total	21.5 (100%)	0 (0%)	5 (100%)	2 (100%)	28.5 (100%)

Changes in numbers of TODs

The following table looks at changes in numbers of qualified TODs over time. It excludes those working as a TOD 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. For example, the surveys have not consistently asked about TODs in special schools for deaf children over the years. Figures in 2018, 2019, 2021 and 2022 for England, and 2019, 2021 and 2022 for Northern Ireland include TODs in special schools for deaf children. To allow a like-for-like comparison, the figures shown in brackets in the below table exclude TODs in special schools for deaf children in these years in those nations.²⁹

²⁸ In Scotland this category also includes TODs working in schools for deaf children and young people.

²⁹ 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. There are no special schools for deaf children in Wales.

It must also be taken into account that there are different response rates to the surveys in different years³⁰, particularly in Scotland, and for the separate survey to special schools for deaf children.

Table 31: Changes in numbers of TODs (fte) with the mandatory qualification in employment

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
2023	993.45 (841.95)	27 (21)	104.04	59.7	1,184.19 (1,026.69)
2022	1,022.89 (860.34)	27.6 (22.6)	100	57.8	1,208.29 (1,040.74)
2021	978.42 (874.82)	30.5 (26.5)	89.91	54.4	1,153.23 (1,045.63)
2019	1,050.11 (903.41)	32.2 (25.2)	99.63	57	1,238.94 (1,085.24)
2018	1037.72 (898.82)	28.4	121.68	56.425	1,244.225 (1,105.32)
2017	913.75	29.3	101.15	57.63	1,101.83
2016	932.38	32.6	No survey	65.45	1,030.43
2015	995.75	30.6	129.5	69.86	1,225.71
2014	999.2	28.6	138.7	66.95	1,233.45
2013	1,031.9	30	140.6	66.5	1,269
2012	1,063.7	29.6	No survey	91.75	1,185.05
2011	1,062.11	34.9	165.3	71.95	1,334.26

Table 32: Percentage change in numbers of TODs (fte) with the mandatory qualification in employment

	Percentage change over past 12 years (between 2011 and 2023)	Percentage change over past year (between 2022 and 2023)
England – including figures from special schools for deaf children (from 2018 onwards)	n/a	-3%
England – excluding figures from special schools for deaf children	-21%	-2%
Northern Ireland - including figures from special schools for deaf children (from 2019 onwards)	n/a	-2%
Northern Ireland - excluding figures from special schools for deaf children	-40%	-7%
Scotland	-37%	+4%
Wales	-17%	+3%

³⁰ In 2022 one service reported that in 2021 13 TODs working in special schools for deaf children were included in their main CRIDE survey as working in special schools or colleges not specifically for deaf children and were therefore double counted. The 2021 data was adjusted for this, however in years prior to that ToDs working in schools for deaf children were also double counted and given the complexities and uncertainties involved in correcting data going back several years, data from previous years have not been adjusted to reflect this issue.

Additional qualifications held by TODs

Table 33: Number of TODs with an additional qualification in early years support³¹

	Number of TODs	Percentage of TODs in post in each nation
England	61.45	6%
Northern Ireland	0	0%
Scotland	3	2%
Wales	0.8	1%
UK	65.25	5%

Table 34: Number of TODs with an additional qualification in educational audiology³²

	Number of TODs	Percentage of TODs in post in each nation
England	56.1	6%
Northern Ireland	2	7%
Scotland	3.2	2%
Wales	2	3%
UK	63.3	5%

Age profile of peripatetic TODs

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

Table 35: Age profile of TODs

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	Total
Aged 49 or under	334.27 (49%)	19.6 (77%)	91.24 (60%)	23.6 (64%)	468.71 (52%)
Aged between 50 and 59	291.4 (43%)	5.8 (23%)	50.7 (33%)	11.2 (31%)	359.1 (40%)
Aged between 60 and 64	51.6 (8%)	0 (0%)	8 (5%)	1.8 (5%)	61.4 (7%)
Aged 65 or over	7.2 (1%)	0 (0%)	2.6 (2%)	0 (0%)	9.8 (1%)
Total	684.47 (100%)	25.4 (100%)	152.54 (100%)	36.6 (100%)	899.01 (100%)

The above table shows that 48% of TODs were aged 50 and over, and due to retire in the next 10 to 15 years. In 2021 this stood at 50%.

³¹ Not including TODs in schools for deaf children in England, Northern Ireland or Wales. Including TODs in schools for deaf children in Scotland.

³² Not including TODs in schools for deaf children in England, Northern Ireland or Wales. Including TODs in schools for deaf children in Scotland.

Other specialist staff

There are 770.49 fte specialist staff, other than TODs, who are directly employed by services across the UK. At the time the surveys were completed, there were 46.43 fte vacant posts. If the number of vacant posts is added to the numbers of other specialist staff in employment, this means there are 816.92 fte other specialist staff posts, of which 6% are vacant.

The following table provides a breakdown of other specialist staff in employment by type of role.

Table 36: Number of full time equivalent (fte) specialist staff in post, directly employed by services

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Teaching assistants/Classroom support assistants/Learning support assistants etc	358.65 (56%)	0	57.1 (65%)	36.8 (85%)	452.55 (59%)
Communication support workers etc	141.8 (22%)	0	18.5 (21%)	3 (7%)	163.3 (21%)
NRCPD/SRLPDC registered BSL/English interpreters	5.6 (1%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	5.6 (1%)
Deaf instructors/Deaf role models/Sign language instructors etc	53.72 (8%)	0	5.22 (6%)	1 (2%)	59.94 (8%)
Educational audiologists/Audiologists in Education who do not also hold a qualification as a TOD	5.6 (1%)	0	2 (2%)	0 (0%)	7.6 (1%)
Technicians et al	24.66 (4%)	0	0 (0%)	1.5 (3%)	26.16 (3%)
Speech and language therapists	8 (1%)	0	0.6 (1%)	0.2 (0%)	8.8 (1%)
Family support workers/Liaison officers	7.24 (1%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	7.24 (1%)
Social workers/Social workers for deaf children	0 (0%)	0	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Other	33.33 (5%)	0	4.97 (6%)	1 (2%)	39.3 (5%)
Total	638.6 (100%)	0	88.39 (100%)	43.5 (100%)	770.49 (100%)

There has been a 7% reduction in specialist staff in post (fte) directly employed by services between 2022 and 2023.

It should be noted that we have only included responses for 'Other' where an fte figure was given. Figures for vacant posts in each nation are presented in the individual reports.

Services were asked about the British Sign Language (BSL) qualifications of any teaching assistants (or similar) and communication support workers (or similar) (those included in the first two rows in the previous table).

Table 37: BSL qualifications of teaching assistants and communication support workers (or similar) directly employed by services.

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
No formal qualification in BSL and not a first language BSL user	46.24 (9%)	0	10.9 (15%)	6.5 (16%)	63.64 (10%)
Level 1 BSL (SCQF 4)	95.15 (19%)	0	13.2 (18%)	15.7 (38%)	124.05 (20%)
Level 2 BSL (SCQF 5)	187.71 (37%)	0	23.5 (32%)	9.6 (23%)	220.81 (35%)
Level 3 BSL (SCQF 6)	116.99 (23%)	0	14.1 (19%)	7.5 (18%)	138.59 (22%)
Level 4 BSL (SCQF 7)	12.43 (2%)	0	0 (0%)	0.5 (1%)	12.93 (2%)
Level 6 BSL (SCQF 9 & 10)	34.2 (7%)	0	4 (5%)	1 (2%)	39.2 (6%)
First language BSL user	21.48 (4%)	0	8.4 (11%)	1 (2%)	30.88 (5%)
Total of figures given	514.2 ³³ (100%)	0	74.1 ³⁴ (100%)	41.8 ³⁵ (100%)	630.1 (100%)

³³ 514.2 is the total of the broken-down figures given by services in England. The sum of the totals was 341.99. Both these figures differ from the 495.32 TAs and CSWs etc. in post reported in the earlier question on other specialist staff directly employed by services in England. These data should therefore be used with caution.

³⁴ 74.1 fte was the total of the broken-down figures given by services in Scotland. The sum of the totals was 61.8. Both of these figures differ from the 75.6 TAs and CSWs in post reported in the earlier question on other specialist staff directly employed by service in Scotland. These data should therefore be used with caution.

³⁵ 41.8 is the total of the broken-down figures given by services in Wales. The sum of the totals was 31.1. Both of these figures differ from the 39.8 teaching assistants etc. and communication support workers etc in post reported in the earlier question on other specialist staff directly employed by service in Wales. These data should therefore be used with caution.

PART 3: Post-16 support

Young people who have left school

Table 38: Deaf young people with a transition plan informed by a TOD

	Number of deaf young people who left school at the end of the 2021/22 academic year	Number of deaf young people with a transition plan informed by a TOD	% of deaf young people who had left school in each nation
England	1,730	1,003	58%
Scotland	243	150	62%
Wales	118	59	50%
Total – England, Scotland and Wales	2,091	1,212	58%

The service in Northern Ireland stated that there were 140 deaf young people who left school at the end of the 2021/22 academic year. The service was not able to provide information on the number of deaf young people with a transition plan informed by a TOD. Figures for Northern Ireland have therefore not been included in the above table.

Careers advice

We asked if peripatetic TODs in services provided any of the support set out in the following table in relation to careers advice and moving into employment.

Table 39: Services that provide support on careers advice and moving into employment³⁶

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	85 (64%)	1 (100%)	24 (83%)	11 (79%)	121 (69%)
Engaging with careers advisors in colleges on careers advice to deaf young people?	61 (46%)	0 (0%)	15 (52%)	7 (50%)	83 (47%)
Provision of advice on the accessibility of work placements being undertaken by deaf young people	90 (68%)	0 (0%)	21 (72%)	6 (43%)	117 (66%)
Provision of information to deaf young people about the support available through the Access to Work scheme for employment support	105 (80%)	1 (100%)	24 (83%)	10 (71%)	140 (80%)
Provision of information to deaf young people about their rights under equality legislation to reasonable adjustments in the workplace	101 (77%)	1 (100%)	26 (90%)	10 (71%)	138 (78%)

Table 40: Year on year changes in number and proportion of services that provide support on careers advice and moving into employment

Category	UK 2021	UK 2022	UK 2023
Engaging with careers advisors in schools on careers advice to deaf young people	134 (77%)	131 (74%)	121 (69%)
Engaging with careers advisors in colleges on careers advice to deaf young people?	76 (44%)	88 (50%)	83 (47%)
Provision of advice on the accessibility of work placements being undertaken by deaf young people	115 (66%)	122 (69%)	117 (66%)
Provision of information to deaf young people about the support available through the Access to Work scheme for employment support	114 (66%)	130 (73%)	140 (80%)
Provision of information to deaf young people about their rights under equality legislation to reasonable adjustments in the workplace	114 (66%)	132 (75%)	138 (78%)

³⁶ Percentages in this table are out of the number of all services that responded to the survey.

PART 4: Support provided

Table 41: Where specialist education services are based

	England	Scotland	Wales	Great Britain
Based in the local authority	113 (86%)	23 (79%)	14 (100%)	150 (86%)
Based in a school with a resource provision	6 (5%)	3 (10%)	0 (0%)	9 (5%)
Based in a special school for deaf children	1 (1%)	2 (7%)	0 (0%)	3 (2%)
Based in a special school not specifically for deaf children	5 (4%)	1 (3%)	0 (0%)	6 (3%)
Provided by another body or organisation	3 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (2%)
Other	4 (3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (2%)
Total	132 (100%)	29 (100%)	14 (100%)	175 (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 TODs were managed by someone who is a qualified TOD or in training for the mandatory qualification	Number of services where TODs were not managed by someone who is a qualified TOD or in training for the mandatory qualification	Total
England	94 (71%)	38 (29%)	132 (100%)
Northern Ireland	1 (100%)	0 (0%)	1 (100%)
Scotland	17 (59%)	12 (41%)	29 (100%)
Wales	8 (57%)	6 (43%)	14 (100%)

Number of resource provisions

We use the term 'resource provision' to include all schools with any specialist resource provision, base or unit specifically for deaf children.

Table 43: Number of specialist resource provisions for deaf children

	England ³⁷	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	Total
For primary-aged deaf children	128.5	1	7	9	145.5
For secondary-aged deaf children	98.5	1	8	10	117.5
Total	227	2	15	19	263

Table 44: Number of resource provisions reported by responding services over successive years³⁸

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	Total
2023	227 ³⁹	2	15 ⁴⁰	19	263
2022	230	2	16	19 ⁴¹	267
2021	237	3	14	20	274
2019	246	3	22	24	295
2018	240	3	22	25	290
2017	251	3	15	25	294
2016	260	3	No survey	24	287

Table 45: Number of resource provisions headed by a qualified TOD

	Number of resource provisions headed by a qualified TOD	Percentage of resource provisions in each nation
England	186	82%
Northern Ireland	1	50%
Scotland	13	87%
Wales	17	89%

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

³⁷ The England figures for resource provisions include one resource provision for both primary and secondary aged children. We have reported this as 0.5 in each age group.

³⁸ 2020 data not included because of lower response rate to the survey.

³⁹ One service in England stated that two previous resource provisions merged into one resource provision since CRIDE 2022.

⁴⁰ We believe this apparent decrease in Scotland from 16 resource provisions in 2022 to 15 in 2023 is due to a special school for the deaf being reported in error as a resource provision in the previous survey.

⁴¹ In one area in Wales, two resource provisions that were recorded separately in 2021 were recorded by the service as one in 2022, following both moving to one site.

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

	Average ratio
England	200:1
Northern Ireland	714:1
Scotland	227:1
Wales	119:1
UK	199:1

This is intended to indicate the spread of resource provisions across each nation, relative to the overall population of deaf children. It shows that there is one resource provision for every 199 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 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 TODs

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Using the NatSIP framework	124 (94%)	1 (100%)	17 (59%)	13 (100%)	155 (89%)
Not using the NatSIP framework	8 (6%)	0 (0%)	12 (41%)	0 (0%)	20 (11%)
Total number of services ⁴²	132 (100%)	1 (100%)	29 (100%)	13 (100%)	175 (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 TODs to pre-school deaf children

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Using the NatSIP framework	114 (86%)	1 (100%)	12 (41%)	11 (85%)	138 (79%)
Not using the NatSIP framework	18 (14%)	0 (0%)	17 (59%)	2 (15%)	37 (21%)
Total number of services ⁴³	132 (100%)	1 (100%)	29 (100%)	13 (100%)	175 (100%)

⁴² Total number of services that answered the question.

⁴³ Total number of services that answered the question.

Support allocations

Table 49: Changes to service support allocation between the 2021/22 and 2022/23 academic years

	Number of services where there were changes in support allocations	Number of services where there were no changes in support allocations	Total ⁴⁴
England	21 (16%)	111 (84%)	132 (100%)
Northern Ireland	0 (0%)	1 (100%)	1 (100%)
Scotland	8 (28%)	21 (72%)	29 (100%)
Wales	0 (0%)	13 (100%)	13 (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	9 (7%)	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	2 (15%)	13 (7%)
Outcomes data collected only for children who receive support from the service	47 (36%)	0 (0%)	7 (24%)	3 (23%)	57 (33%)
Outcomes data not collected	76 (58%)	1 (1%)	20 (69%)	8 (62%)	105 (60%)
Total ⁴⁵	132 (100%)	1 (1%)	29 (100%)	13 (100%)	175 (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.

⁴⁴ Total number of services that answered the question.

⁴⁵ Total number of services that answered the question.

Table 51: Services sharing outcomes data with CHSWGs

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Yes	13 (23%)	n/a	3 (38%)	0 (0%)	16 (23%)
No	43 (77%)	n/a	4 (50%)	5 (100%)	52 (75%)
N/a – there is no CHSWG in the area	0 (0%)	n/a	1 (13%)	0 (0%)	1 (1%)
Total ⁴⁶	56 (100%)	n/a	8 ⁴⁷ (100%)	5 (100%)	69 (100%)

⁴⁶ Of services that did collect this data.

⁴⁷ One service in Scotland that collected the data did not provide information on whether this information was shared with the CHSWG in their area.

PART 5: Support following identification of deafness

We asked services how many referrals they received over the calendar year of 2022.

Table 52: Referrals

	England	Northern Ireland	Scotland	Wales	UK
Number of referrals for children identified as deaf through the newborn hearing screening programme	1,084 (18%)	33 (25%)	88 (20%)	34 (8%)	1,239 (18%)
Number of referrals for children identified as deaf outside of the newborn hearing programme and before they had started statutory education	1,336 (22%)	25 (19%)	97 (22%)	108 (24%)	1,566 (22%)
Number of referrals for children identified as deaf outside of the newborn hearing programme and after they had started statutory education	3,617 (60%)	72 (55%)	250 (57%)	307 (68%)	4,246 (60%)
Total	6,037 (100%)	130 (100%)	435 (100%)	449 (100%)	7,051 (100%)

We then asked how soon families were contacted and visited following the initial referral. These questions were drafted with reference to the [NatSIP Quality Standards for Sensory Support Services in England \(2016\)](#) – in particular, standards A1ii and A1iii.

We recognise there may be a range of reasons why initial contact or the first visit cannot take place within the timescales outlined by the quality standards (e.g. the family is not able to meet). However, we hope that these questions will help to build a national picture of how these quality standards are being met.

Where possible, we have also included figures from the previous surveys on the 2021 calendar year.

Table 53: Families referred who were contacted by a TOD within two working days if identified as deaf through the newborn hearing screening programme

	Percentage of families referred - 2021 calendar year	Percentage of families referred - 2022 calendar year
England	89%	90%
Northern Ireland	77%	88%
Scotland	33%	41%
Wales	69%	85%
UK	85%	86%

Table 54: Families referred who were contacted by a TOD within five working days if identified as deaf outside of the newborn hearing screening programme and before they had started statutory education

	Percentage of families referred – 2021 calendar year	Percentage of families referred - 2022 calendar year
England	75%	85%
Northern Ireland	61%	76%
Scotland	59%	67%
Wales	74%	62%
UK	74%	82%

Table 55: Families referred who were contacted by a TOD within five working days if identified as deaf outside of the newborn hearing screening programme and after they had started statutory education

	Percentage of families referred – 2021 calendar year	Percentage of families referred – 2022 calendar year
England	66%	75%
Northern Ireland	75%	85%
Scotland	52%	70%
Wales	42%	41%
UK	64%	73%

Table 56: Families who were offered a visit (either face-to-face or virtually) from a TOD within 10 working days of any referral

	Percentage of families referred – 2021 calendar year	Percentage of families referred – 2022 calendar year
England	55%	52%
Northern Ireland	45%	52%
Scotland	48%	38%
Wales	56%	32%
UK	54%	50%

PART 6: 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: BATOD, BATOD Cymru, Frank Barnes School for Deaf Children, National Deaf Children's Society, UCL, University of Edinburgh, former heads of services or 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 seventh 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, Ayrshire Hearing Impairment Service, Fife Sensory Service and Highland Deaf Education Service.

The survey alternates from year to year between a standard survey and a survey with a mix of core and thematic questions. The 2023 survey was the standard version.

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 the surveys 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.