

Data Insight: School Learning Support Workers Qualifications (Cumulative) 2025



Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

School learning support workers highest level of qualification held (cumulative)

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The Education Workforce Council (EWC) is the independent, professional regulator for the education workforce in Wales. All data included in this summary is derived from the EWC Register of Education Practitioners and relates specifically to school learning support workers.

In this insight, we will breakdown various characteristics of school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held.

Introduction to the Education Workforce Council's school learning support workers qualifications (cumulative) Data Insight for 2025

These statistics have been produced using data from the Register of Education Practitioners. The information that we are able to hold on the Register is set out in the Education Workforce Council (Main Functions) (Wales) Regulations 2015, as amended.

The Register is real time and provides a unique source of data about the 13 registered education groups in Wales. No equivalent data is available from any other body or organisation. Consequently, comparison should not be made with other sources such as the Welsh Government School Workforce Annual Census (SWAC), also published annually. For the school sector in particular, unlike SWAC, our data includes all supply staff, peripatetic workers, freelance workers, and others who provide education or training in a school, as well as other education settings. We also hold significant historic data which enables us to provide trend information.

The statistics in this report are based on the following criteria:

- only registrants who have levels assigned to their qualifications have been used in this report. Full figures can be found in our report titled: School learning support workers qualifications
- registrant numbers are recorded as actuals, rather than full-time equivalent
- the census date used for the data taken from the Register is 1 March each year
- where a registrant has more than one employment record on the Register (e.g. school teacher in a school and a further education teacher in a college) the relevant employment information is recorded in each category they are registered in
- the information recorded on the Register is obtained directly from the practitioner and/or their employer
- percentages may not total 100 due to rounding

Education Workforce Council (2025). School learning support workers qualifications Data Insight for 2025. Available at: (Accessed: 'insert date').

1. School learning support workers highest level of qualification held

1.1 Five-year trend - Highest level of qualification held

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

Table 1.1: Five-year trend - Number of registered school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held.

	2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Number	*C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %
Level 8	76	0.5	91	0.5	123	0.5	93	0.4	84	0.3
Level 7	5,633	34.9	6,713	34.7	7,941	32.0	6,199	26.1	5,616	23.5
Level 6	5,634	69.3	6,183	66.3	7,367	61.2	7,091	55.6	6,987	52.2
Level 5	649	73.3	813	70.5	967	65.0	1,002	59.8	953	56.1
Level 4	1,690	83.6	1,726	79.3	2,015	73.0	2,017	68.1	1,891	63.9
Level 3	1,653	93.7	2,291	91.0	3,551	87.1	3,924	84.4	4,460	82.3
Level 2	968	99.6	1,677	99.5	3,115	99.4	3,581	99.3	4,124	99.2
Level 1	58	100	91	100	144	100	163	100	185	100
Total	16,361		19,585		25,223		24,070		24,300	

*Cumulative percentages have been applied to display how contributions accumulate across the qualification levels, allowing the distribution to be viewed as a running total. For example 73.3% of 16,361 school learning support workers have a level 5 qualification or above in 2021 whereas 56.1% of 24,300 school learning support workers have a level 5 qualification or above in 2025.

1.2 Gender

Table 1.2: Number of registered school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held and gender 2025.

	Female		Male		Not specified	
	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %
Level 8	48	0.2	33	0.7	3	25.0
Level 7	4,273	22.0	1,339	29.6	4	58.3
Level 6	5,529	50.1	1,454	61.0	4	91.7
Level 5	754	54.0	199	65.3	0	91.7
Level 4	1,754	62.9	137	68.2	0	91.7
Level 3	3,624	81.3	836	86.3	0	91.7
Level 2	3,510	99.2	613	99.5	1	100
Level 1	161	100	24	100	0	100
Total	19,653		4,635		12	

Cumulative example: 50.1% of female school learning support workers have a level 6 qualification or above whereas 61% of male school learning support workers have a level 6 qualification or above.

1.3 Age

Table 1.3: Number of registered school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held and age 2025.

	Under 30		30 to 39		40 to 49		50 to 59		60+	
	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %
Level 8	6	0.1	13	0.3	34	0.8	21	0.7	10	0.8
Level 7	2,062	19.3	1,368	26.6	1,091	27.3	728	25.4	367	28.5
Level 6	3,123	48.4	1,675	58.9	1,162	55.5	729	50.2	298	51.0
Level 5	223	50.5	254	63.8	212	60.6	157	55.5	107	59.1
Level 4	165	52.1	449	72.4	490	72.5	560	74.5	227	76.2
Level 3	2,960	79.7	522	82.5	493	84.4	332	85.8	153	87.8
Level 2	2,126	99.5	887	99.6	614	99.3	367	98.2	130	97.6
Level 1	50	100	23	100	28	100	52	100	32	100
Total	10,715		5,191		4,124		2,946		1,324	

Cumulative example: 50.5% of school learning support workers in the under 30 age group have a level 5 qualification or above whereas 63.8% of school learning support workers in the 30 to 39 age group have a level 5 qualification or above.

1.4 Ethnic group

The data below is provided in an aggregate format to prevent the disclosure of registrants. The ethnic group options as detailed on the Register of Education Practitioners can be found on the [Government Analysis function website](#).

Table 1.4: Number of registered school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held and ethnic group 2025.

	White		Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups		Asian/Asian British		Black/African/Caribbean/Black British		Other ethnic group		Does not wish to record ethnic group		Unknown	
	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %
Level 8	54	0.3	2	0.5	14	1.1	6	0.9	7	2.4	1	0.3	0	0.0
Level 7	4,822	23.7	86	21.5	348	28.7	158	23.5	55	21.5	80	28.0	67	9.0
Level 6	5,606	50.9	131	53.4	554	72.6	417	83.4	126	65.1	96	61.2	57	16.7
Level 5	837	54.9	11	56.1	27	74.8	33	88.1	8	67.8	18	67.5	19	19.3
Level 4	1,289	61.2	10	58.5	16	76.1	4	88.7	3	68.9	24	75.8	545	92.8
Level 3	3,991	80.5	99	82.7	186	90.8	47	95.4	47	85.1	43	90.7	47	99.2
Level 2	3,844	99.2	70	99.8	111	99.6	29	99.6	40	99.0	24	99.0	6	100
Level 1	170	100	1	100	5	100	3	100	3	100	3	100	0	100
Total	20,613		410		1,261		697		289		289		741	

Cumulative example: 50.9% of White school learning support workers have a level 6 qualification or above whereas 83.4% of Black/African/Caribbean/Black British school learning support workers have a level 6 qualification or above.

1.5 National identity

Table 1.5: Number of registered school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held and national identity 2025.

	Welsh		British		English		Scottish, Irish or Northern Irish		Other		Does not wish to record national identity		Unknown	
	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %
Level 8	22	0.2	30	0.4	2	0.1	0	0.0	28	1.5	2	1.0	0	0.0
Level 7	2,904	24.3	1,711	22.2	304	21.9	40	32.0	522	28.6	63	32.8	72	9.5
Level 6	3,194	50.8	2,200	50.2	367	48.1	36	60.8	1,049	83.2	74	70.2	67	18.4
Level 5	463	54.6	340	54.6	62	52.5	9	68.0	55	86.1	6	73.2	18	20.8
Level 4	840	61.6	344	58.9	114	60.6	5	72.0	28	87.5	15	80.8	545	92.9
Level 3	2,479	82.2	1,496	78.0	257	79.0	18	86.4	136	94.6	27	94.4	47	99.1
Level 2	2,065	99.3	1,657	99.1	276	98.7	16	99.2	93	99.4	10	99.5	7	100
Level 1	85	100	69	100.0	18	100	1	100	11	100	1	100	0	100
Total	12,052		7,847		1,400		125		1,922		198		756	

Cumulative example: 54.6% of school learning support workers who identify as Welsh have a level 5 qualification or above whereas 68% of school learning support workers who identify as Scottish, Irish or Northern Irish have a level 5 qualification or above.

1.6 Phase

Table 1.6: Number of in service and supply registered school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held and phase 2025.

	Nursery		Primary		Middle		Secondary		Pupil referral unit		Special		Supply	
	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %
Level 8	0	0.0	3	0.1	0	0.0	12	0.5	1	0.9	0	0.0	42	0.5
Level 7	3	16.7	586	13.3	64	16.5	558	23.6	11	10.6	111	10.4	2,255	27.3
Level 6	4	38.9	1,051	36.9	94	40.7	719	53.4	33	39.8	280	36.6	2,646	58.8
Level 5	1	44.4	200	41.4	19	45.6	158	59.9	4	43.4	50	41.3	276	62.1
Level 4	2	55.6	1,065	65.4	51	58.8	207	68.5	16	57.5	158	56.1	165	64.0
Level 3	3	72.2	758	82.5	85	80.7	392	84.7	26	80.5	175	72.5	1,575	82.7
Level 2	4	94.4	742	99.2	71	99.0	356	99.5	20	98.2	279	98.7	1,390	99.3
Level 1	1	100	36	100	4	100	13	100	2	100	14	100	61	100
Total	18		4,441		388		2,415		113		1,067		8,410	

Cumulative example: 36.9% of school learning support workers who work in a primary school have a level 6 qualification or above whereas 53.4% of school learning support workers who work in a secondary school have a level 6 qualification or above.

1.7 Local authority

Table 1.7a: Number of registered school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held (8 to 5) and local authority 2025.

	Level 8		Level 7		Level 6		Level 5	
	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %
Blaenau Gwent	0	0.0	25	18.9	27	39.4	5	43.2
Bridgend	0	0.0	55	16.0	102	45.6	24	52.6
Caerphilly	0	0.0	46	14.0	61	32.6	14	36.9
Cardiff	2	0.2	228	20.6	348	51.9	35	55.0
Carmarthenshire	0	0.0	67	13.8	131	40.9	36	48.3
Ceredigion	3	1.7	26	16.0	53	45.3	11	51.4
Conwy	1	0.4	40	15.8	63	40.0	16	46.2
Denbighshire	0	0.0	37	14.9	57	37.9	10	41.9
Flintshire	0	0.0	59	13.8	88	34.4	23	39.8
Gwynedd	0	0.0	34	10.2	67	30.3	18	35.7
Isle of Anglesey	0	0.0	13	8.1	42	34.4	9	40.0
Merthyr Tydfil	0	0.0	15	9.3	40	34.2	13	42.2
Monmouthshire	1	0.5	46	21.3	45	41.6	11	46.6
Neath Port Talbot	0	0.0	42	11.0	94	35.7	27	42.8
Newport	1	0.2	78	17.0	135	46.1	21	50.6
Pembrokeshire	1	0.3	60	15.4	110	43.1	17	47.4
Powys	1	0.3	75	21.3	85	45.1	26	52.4
Rhondda Cynon Taf	1	0.2	74	14.0	104	33.5	27	38.5
Swansea	5	0.6	171	20.6	246	49.5	44	54.6
Torfaen	0	0.0	37	13.9	48	31.8	8	34.8
Vale of Glamorgan	0	0.0	63	15.5	109	42.3	18	46.7
Wrexham	0	0.0	42	10.8	126	43.3	19	48.2
Supply	42	0.5	2,255	27.3	2,646	58.8	276	62.1
Others in service*	5	0.8	166	26.3	224	60.9	33	65.9
Others out of service*	21	0.3	1,862	27.7	1,936	56.2	212	59.3
Total	84	0.3	5,616	23.5	6,987	52.2	953	56.1

* 'Others in service' includes school learning support worker registrants who are employed by a local authority but the school and phase have not been provided by the relevant local authority. Peripatetic school learning support workers are also included.

* 'Others out of service' includes individuals not employed in a school learning support worker role, independent school learning support workers*, no longer employed in education, or those with no employment recorded.

1.7 Continued

Table 1.7b: Number of registered school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held (4 to 0) and local authority 2025.

	Level 4		Level 3		Level 2		Level 1		Total
	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number
Blaenau Gwent	31	66.7	19	81.1	24	99.2	1	100	132
Bridgend	50	67.2	59	84.3	52	99.4	2	100	344
Caerphilly	102	68.0	52	83.8	51	99.4	2	100	328
Cardiff	159	69.3	174	84.9	162	99.5	6	100	1,114
Carmarthenshire	71	63.0	94	82.4	83	99.6	2	100	484
Ceredigion	35	70.7	31	87.8	19	98.3	3	100	181
Conwy	67	71.9	33	84.6	35	98.1	5	100	260
Denbighshire	57	64.9	40	81.0	43	98.4	4	100	248
Flintshire	104	64.2	59	78.0	88	98.6	6	100	427
Gwynedd	58	53.2	72	74.8	80	98.8	4	100	333
Isle of Anglesey	34	61.3	25	76.9	35	98.8	2	100	160
Merthyr Tydfil	39	66.5	26	82.6	26	98.8	2	100	161
Monmouthshire	55	71.5	35	87.3	28	100.0	0	100	221
Neath Port Talbot	32	51.2	78	71.7	101	98.2	7	100	381
Newport	91	70.3	64	84.1	70	99.1	4	100	464
Pembrokeshire	58	62.0	67	78.8	77	98.2	7	100	397
Powys	65	70.6	51	84.9	52	99.4	2	100	357
Rhondda Cynon Taf	138	64.3	102	83.4	88	99.8	1	100	535
Swansea	81	64.1	157	82.5	146	99.6	3	100	853
Torfaen	65	59.2	45	76.0	64	100.0	0	100	267
Vale of Glamorgan	64	62.4	89	84.3	63	99.8	1	100	407
Wrexham	43	59.3	67	76.5	85	98.5	6	100	388
Supply	165	64.0	1,575	82.7	1,390	99.3	61	100	8,410
Others in service	33	71.0	66	81.2	119	99.5	3	100	649
Others out of service	194	62.1	1,380	82.4	1,143	99.2	51	100	6,799
Total	1,891	63.9	4,460	82.3	4,124	99.2	185	100	24,300

Cumulative example: 55% of school learning support workers employed by Cardiff LA have a level 5 qualification or above whereas 36.9% of school learning support workers employed by Caerphilly LA have a level 5 qualification or above.

1.8 Priority subject trained

Table 1.8a: Number of registered school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held (8 to 5) and priority subject trained 2025.

	Level 8		Level 7		Level 6		Level 5	
	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %
Chemistry	4	2.4	38	25.6	36	47.6	3	49.4
Biology	2	0.5	73	17.4	54	29.9	6	31.3
Physics	4	3.6	20	21.6	33	51.4	0	51.4
Design & Technology	0	0.0	81	48.8	36	70.5	4	72.9
Computer Science & IT	1	0.4	67	26.2	78	56.2	11	60.4
Mathematics	5	0.4	126	11.8	82	19.1	6	19.7
Modern Languages	3	0.8	148	41.5	108	71.2	10	73.9
Welsh Studies	0	0.0	86	16.7	76	31.5	3	32.0
Total	19	0.6	639	21.1	503	37.2	43	38.5

Table 1.8b: Number of registered school learning support workers by highest level of qualification held (4 to 0) and priority subject trained 2025.

	Level 4		Level 3		Level 2		Level 1		Total
	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number	C %	Number
Chemistry	1	50.0	63	88.4	18	99.4	1	100	164
Biology	3	31.9	220	82.9	73	99.8	1	100	432
Physics	2	53.2	34	83.8	18	100.0	0	100	111
Design & Technology	0	72.9	26	88.6	19	100.0	0	100	166
Computer Science & IT	3	61.5	54	82.3	46	100.0	0	100	260
Mathematics	1	19.8	176	35.6	696	98.1	21	100	1,113
Modern Languages	2	74.5	66	92.6	26	99.7	1	100	364
Welsh Studies	9	33.8	61	45.6	277	99.4	3	100	515
Total	21	39.2	700	61.6	1,173	99.1	27	100	3,125

Cumulative example: 49.4% of school learning support workers trained in Chemistry have a level 5 qualification or above whereas 31.3% of school learning support workers trained in Biology have a level 5 qualification or above.