

2018 report for Scotland

CRIDE report on 2018 survey on educational provision for deaf children in Scotland

Introduction

In 2018, the Consortium for Research into Deaf Education (CRIDE) carried out an annual survey on educational staffing and service provision for deaf children. This is the second survey since a CRIDE survey in 2011. The survey was carried out in 2018 and the results are reported in this report.

We circulated the survey to 32 local authorities. The analysis in this report is based on responses from 30 services, covering 32 authority areas giving a response rate of 100%.

CRIDE would like to take the opportunity to thank all the services for responding to the survey, despite the considerable time constraints to which many services are subject.

Summary of key findings

- x There are at least 3,363 deaf children across 30 services covering 32 local authorities in Scotland.
- x There are at least 159.68 Teacher of the Deaf posts in Scotland, of which 3% are vacant. It appears that

Interpreting the results

Services were asked to give figures for the position as of January 2018.

The survey acknowledges 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.

It is clear that many services still report 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 sometimes vary. Therefore, the results should continue to be used with caution, particularly with regards to comparisons with previous reports. Any notable differences between the findings from this survey and those from previous years have been highlighted in the report. Caution is also needed due to differences in response rates to individual questions and potential mistakes in data provision between surveys.

Please note that all percentages have been rounded up or down to the nearest whole number. Please also note that where the number of deaf children for any category is less than 5, the percentage is marked as 'X'.

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PART 1: Deaf children in Scotland

How many deaf children are there?

In 2018, services were asked to give details of deaf children living in the geographical area they covered.

Based on responses from all 30 services in Scotland, the total number of deaf children in Scotland is 3,363. This is up from 3,174 in 2017, an increase of 6%.

The smallest number of deaf children living in the area reported by a service was 9; the largest number reported was 318.

The following table compares the total number of deaf children living in Scotland with figures from previous years. As set out in the introduction, comparisons with earlier reports should be made with caution due to differences in the quality of the responses and response rates between the surveys.

Table 1: Number of deaf children reported in Scotland by year

	Number of children reported
CRID 2018	3,363

Table 2: ~~Source~~ ~~to~~ ~~table~~ ~~before~~ ~~the~~ ~~after~~ ~~ris~~ ~~ing~~

Year	Source	Number of deaf children in Scotland
2018	CRIDE 2018	3,363
	Scottish Pupil Census (2018)	3,332
2017	CRIDE (2017)	3,174
	Scottish Pupil Census (2017)	3,097
2016	Scottish Pupil Census (2016)	2,964
2015	CRIDE (2015)	2,942
	Scottish Pupil Census (2015)	2,738
2014	CRIDE (2014)	3,057
	Scottish Pupil Census (2014)	2,534

PART 2: Teachers of the Deaf

The survey asked how many Teachers of the Deaf are working in different settings, including those in a peripatetic role and/or working in resource provision in special schools. Figures are expressed as Full Time Equivalent (fte) posts; a 0.5 Teacher of the Deaf fte post could, for example, indicate a person spent 50% of their time working in a particular setting.

Based on data from all 30 services total, there are at least 154.88 fte Teachers of the Deaf in employment in Scotland.

Given the different pathways to becoming a qualified Teacher of the Deaf in Scotland, CRIDE also asked about the qualifications held by Teachers of the Deaf.

Table 4: Number of Teachers of the Deaf by qualification

Qualification	Working mainly as a peripatetic Teacher of the Deaf	Working mainly in a resource setting	Working mainly in special schools not specifically for deaf children or young

Support allocation

Services were ation

PART 4: Thematic questions: Early years support

Services were asked if parents of deaf children aged 4 were provided with radio aids/assistive listening devices for use within the home. 7 services (33%) answered yes, and 20 services (67%) answered no.

Services were also asked if parents of deaf children aged 4 were provided with radio aids/assistive listening devices for use within early years settings. 3 services (7%) answered yes, and 7 services (23%) answered no.

Where services indicated that they were provided to children aged 4 in either of these categories, they were asked to indicate if there were any eligibility criteria, factors or conditions in place. These criteria may limit the number of deaf children that benefit from radio aids in an area. Responses to this included:

- x Radio aids provided if parents request them
- x Parents views taken into account
- x Parents need to sign a loan agreement and have insurance in place
- x Insurance not required from families, as many families in area are deprived
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- x Evidence of benefit
- x Age t children are fitted with radio aids in the term prior to starting P1
- x Need assessed according to access to the curriculum
- x Assistive devices are considered when the setting is open plan
- x Setting staff knowledge of child is taken into account
- x Guidance from Teacher of the Deaf
- x Guidance from Audiologist
- x Guidance from Educational Audiologist
- x No specific criteria, each situation assessed individually.

PART 5: Thematic questions: Access arrangements

We asked services how many deaf students would be undertaking National 5 examinations in summer 2018. 30 services responded, indicating 173 students. Of these 30 services, 3 indicated that they had no students undertaking National 5 examinations.

Services were then asked for how many of these students had access arrangements related to their hearing loss been requested or arranged. 21 services were able to provide data for this question, indicating 60 students. Five services stated that they did not know this information, and four left the answer blank.

We asked services to provide more information about the access arrangements (related to hearing loss) that had been requested or arranged. 21 services provided information, indicating 60 students. Five services stated that they did not know this information, and four left the answer blank.

Table 9: Access arrangements

	Number of services where this access arrangement had been requested	Number of students for whom access arrangement had been requested	Number of students for whom any requested access arrangements were rejected or not put in place	Number of services that did not know this information
Extra time	18	65	<5	4
Breaks	5	11	0	6
Electric note taker	0	0	0	3
Exam in BSL	2	9	0	2
BSL/English interpreter	3	<5	0	2
Reader	3	19	0	6
Electronic papers	1	<5	0	5
Separate room	14	48	0	4
Direct input to audio	9	<5	0	3
Other	3	6	0	7

Whilst the table above is reassuring in that relatively few access arrangements are being rejected or not put into place, it should be noted that many services acknowledged that they did not always have this information. However, many of the comments indicated that they were unaware of any specific issues or concerns.

Comments included:

- x Live speaker for foreign language exam
- x Exams sat in a small group
- x Taped transcription
- x Access to a word processor
- x Lip speaker for language exams
- x Exams are filmed and translated from BSL/English by the Deaf

Comments included:

- x Young person refused
- x Young person changed their mind
- x School staff requesting evidence for qualification for special arrangement, even though the young person receives regular support.

Services were asked if they had any other comments relating to access arrangements. Comments included:

- x No issues with establishing access arrangements for young people. There is good collaboration between Teachers of the Deaf, guidance staff and support for learning staff.
- x Issues occur when pupils choose not to use the access arrangements in S4, but then decide they need them used in previous years.
- x Ensuring a live speaker for languages can be challenging. Schools try to ensure the speaker is known to the young person so that they are accustomed to their voice/accent/lip patterns, but this can be difficult to manage.
- x Staff have invested a great deal of time to tighten up access arrangements to ensure parity across the local authority.
- x Transcribing exams is very time consuming. Preparation and follow up on exams with BSL is much more onerous than any other special arrangement.

Annex: Information by Local Authority

This table sets out some individual data from services. Services were asked to provide figures for the number of children and Teachers of the Deaf as of 31 January 2016.

Where a service does not have resource provisions for deaf children or young people, the relevant question was received whereas service does not have resource provisions).

References to Teachers of the Deaf should be taken to include those in post who hold the mandatory qualification or who are in training. Services were asked to provide fte figures.

Table 10: Data by LA

Service	Number of permanently deaf children living in the geographical area covered by your service	Number of children with permanent or temporary deafness on the caseload for your service	Number of children with temporary deafness on the caseload for your service	Number of Teachers of the Deaf in the specialist peripatetic service (fte)	Number of Teachers of the Deaf in resource provisions (fte)	Number of Teachers of the Deaf working in a special school not specifically for deaf children or young people (fte)	Number of Teachers of the Deaf working in a school for deaf children (fte)
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North Lanarkshire	22	70	0	1	6.4	0	0
Orkney	12	20	7	0.5	0	0	0
Perth & Kinross	123	123	12	2	0	0	0
Renfrewshire	302	302	0	5.6	0	0	0
Scottish Borders	50	50	0	2	0	0	0

