

How to calculate group sizes in a special school as per Section 2 – School Teachers’ Pay and Conditions Document September 2020

An example of how to calculate your school’s group size is available on request.

Unit totals and headteacher groups – special schools

7.1 a special school must be assigned to a headteacher group in accordance with the following table by reference to its modified total unit score calculated in accordance with paragraphs 7.2 to 7.8:

Modified total unit score	Group
Up to 2,200	2
2,201 to 3,500	3
3,501 to 5,000	4
5,001 to 7,500	5
7,501 to 11,000	6
11,001 to 17,000	7
17,001 and over	8

7.2 The relevant body must calculate the proportion of staff to pupils at the school expressed as a percentage (“the staff-pupil ratio”) in accordance with the following formula:

$$\frac{A}{B} \times 100$$

where A is the number of teachers and support staff weighted as provided in paragraph 7.3, and B is the number of pupils at the school weighted as provided in paragraph 7.4.

7.3 The weighting for a teacher is two units for each full-time equivalent teacher, and the weighting for each support staff member is one unit for each full-time equivalent individual.

7.4 The weighting for a full-time pupil is one unit and the weighting for a part-time pupil is half a unit.

7.5 The relevant body must calculate the staff-pupil ratio modifier in accordance with the following table by reference to the staff-pupil ratio determined in accordance with paragraphs 7.2 to 7.4:

Staff-pupil ratio	Staff-pupil ratio modifier
1 - 20%	1
21 - 35%	2
36 - 50%	3
51 - 65%	4
66 - 80%	5
81% or more	6

7.6 The relevant body must determine the school's total unit score in accordance with the number of pupils on the school register calculated as follows:

Key Stage (KS)	Units per pupil
For each pupil in the preliminary stage and each pupil in the first or second key stage	10
For each pupil in the third key stage	12
For each pupil in the fourth key stage	14
For each pupil in the fifth key stage	16

7.7 The relevant body must determine the school's modified total unit score by multiplying the school's total unit score determined under paragraph 7.6 by the staff-pupil ratio modifier calculated under paragraph 7.5.

7.8 In this paragraph:

- a) the number of pupils on the school register must be determined by the numbers as shown on the most recent return of the DfE School Census submitted to the DfE on behalf of the school; and
- b) "support staff member" means a member of the school staff who is not
 - (i) a teacher;
 - (ii) a person employed in connection with the provision of meals;
 - (iii) a person employed in connection with the security or maintenance of the school premises; or
 - (iv) a person employed in a residential school to supervise and care for pupils out of school hours.