

Property Data Survey Programme Education Establishments

The following five main types of education establishments that all receive funding from either central government directly or via local authorities will be within the scope of the Property Data Survey Programme (PDSP):

- **Community schools** – are run by the local authority, which employs the staff, owns the land and buildings and decides which ‘admissions criteria’ to use.
- **Foundation schools** - are run by their own governing body, which employs the staff and sets the admissions criteria. Land and buildings are usually owned by the governing body or a charitable foundation.
- **Trust schools** - are a type of foundation school which forms a charitable trust with an outside partner - for example, a business or educational charity - aiming to raise standards and explore new ways of working.
- **Voluntary-aided schools** - are mainly religious or ‘faith’ schools, although anyone can apply for a place. As with foundation schools, the governing body employs the staff and sets the admissions criteria; land and buildings are normally owned by a charitable foundation, often a religious organisation. The governing body contributes to building and maintenance costs.
- **Voluntary-controlled schools** - are similar to voluntary aided schools, but are run by the local authority. As with community schools, the local authority employs the school’s staff and sets the admissions criteria; school land and buildings are normally owned by a charity, often a religious organisation, which also appoints some of the members of the governing body.

Within the state system described above, there are a number of education establishments with particular characteristics. As with other state education establishments, admissions are coordinated by the local authority. However, some may have different admission criteria or funding arrangements:

- **Academies** - independently managed, all-ability schools. They may have sponsors from business, faith or voluntary groups in partnership with the DfE and the local authority. Together they fund the land and buildings, with the DfE providing the running costs.
- **City technology colleges** - independently managed, non-fee-paying schools in urban areas for pupils of all abilities aged 11 to 18. They are geared towards science, technology and the world of work, offering a range of vocational qualifications as well as GCSEs and A levels.
- **Nursery schools** – cater for children aged between 2 and 5 in an early years setting.
- **Community and foundation special schools** - cater for children with specific special educational needs. These may include physical disabilities or learning difficulties.
- **Faith schools** - mostly run in the same way as other state schools. However, their faith status may be reflected in their religious education curriculum, admissions criteria and staffing policies.
- **Grammar schools** - select all or most of their pupils based on academic ability.
- **Maintained boarding schools** - offer free tuition but charge fees for board and lodging.
- **Free schools** – non-profit making, independent, state-funded schools. Free Schools could be primary or secondary schools. They could be set up by a wide range of proposers – including charities, universities, businesses, educational groups, teachers or parents. Free Schools are funded on a comparable basis to other state-funded schools.

The following education establishments, identified by phase, are therefore within scope of the PDS:

- Nursery schools.
- Primary phase schools: Infant, Junior, Primary, Middle Deemed Primary.
- Secondary phase: Middle Deemed Secondary, Secondary e.g. 11-16, 11-18, Sixth Form Centres and Special Colleges.
- Other schools: Special schools, Short stay/Pupil referral units, secure units, Service Children’s Education.