**Enrolments**

The Northern Ireland School Census takes place in October each year and provides a snapshot of the situation in schools at that time. Information from the School Census shows that the total number of enrolments in educational establishments in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough have risen year on year since the 2014/15 school year. Between 2014/15 and 2022/23, there has been an increase of 9.4% (3,656 pupils).

The numbers enrolled in voluntary and private pre-school education centres have fluctuated slightly over the last eight years with a high in 2015/16 of 1,000 enrolments, dropping to a low of 854 in 2021/22. In 2022/23, total enrolments increased by just 3 to 857. Nursery school enrolments have remained fairly steady since 2014/15. However, with 732 enrolments in 2022/23, this was the lowest of the years presented. Primary school enrolments have increased by 1,231 between 2014/15 and 2022/23 to bring the current figure to 22,620 which represents a decrease of 114 on 2021/22 enrolments. Post-primary school enrolments have increased by 15.2% between 2014/15 and 2022/23, with 2,345 more enrolments in 2022/23 than 2014/15. Special schools have seen the greatest increase in enrolments between 2014/15 and 2022/23, rising by 44.4% to 455 in 2022/23.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **2014/15** | **2015/16** | **2016/17** | **2017/18** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** |
| **Pre-school education centres** | 912 | 1,000 | 934 | 905 | 886 | 912 | 895 | 854 | 857 |
| **Nursery schools** | 737 | 738 | 738 | 740 | 733 | 734 | 737 | 743 | 732 |
| **Primary schools** | 21,389 | 21,999 | 22,483 | 22,838 | 22,965 | 22,824 | 22,775 | 22,734 | 22,620 |
| **Post-primary schools** | 15,474 | 15,433 | 15,581 | 15,793 | 16,195 | 16,601 | 17,099 | 17,459 | 17,819 |
| **Special schools** | 315 | 308 | 313 | 332 | 344 | 376 | 404 | 424 | 455 |
| **Total** | 38,827 | 39,478 | 40,049 | 40,608 | 41,123 | 41,447 | 41,910 | 42,214 | 42,483 |

*Table 1: Number of enrolments in educational establishments in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2022/23. Source: Northern Ireland School Census, Department of Education.*

In October 2022 there were 37 voluntary and private pre-school education centres in the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough in which there were 857 pupils enrolled.

*Figure 1: Number of enrolments in pre-school education centres in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2022/23. Source: Northern Ireland School Census, Department of Education.*

There were 732 pupils enrolled in 12 nursery schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough in October 2022.

*Figure 2: Number of enrolments in nursery schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2022/23. Source: Northern Ireland School Census, Department of Education.*

A total of 22,620 pupils were enrolled in 90 primary schools across the borough when the Northern Ireland School Census was conducted in October 2022.

*Figure 3: Number of enrolments in primary schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2022/23. Source: Northern Ireland School Census, Department of Education.*

In October 2022 there were a total of 23 post-primary schools in the borough in which there were 17,819 pupils enrolled.

*Figure 4: Number of enrolments in post-primary schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2022/23. Source: Northern Ireland School Census, Department of Education.*

There were 455 pupils enrolled in 3 special schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough in October 2022.

*Figure 5: Number of enrolments in special schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2022/23. Source: Northern Ireland School Census, Department of Education.*

Further information on school enrolments can be found via the following link:

<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-research/school-enrolments>