**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 increased year on year between 2014/15 and 2022/23 with a total increase of 9.4% (3,656 pupils). In the two years since then, there has been a decline in the total enrolments (198 pupils, 0.5%).

The numbers enrolled in pre-school education centres have fluctuated slightly over the years presented with a high in 2015/16 of 1,000 enrolments, dropping to a low of 759 in 2024/25. This represents a fall of 52 (6.4%) since 2023/24. Nursery school enrolments have remained relatively steady since 2014/15 while Primary school enrolments have been decreasing each year since 2018/19 when they were at their highest. Post-primary school enrolments have increased each year since 2015/16 and overall, since 2015/16 when they were at their lowest, enrolments have increased by 2,863 or 18.6%. Special schools have seen the greatest percentage increase in enrolments between 2014/15 and 2024/25, rising by 54.3% to 486 in 2024/25.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | Pre-school education centres | Nursery schools | Primary schools | Post-primary schools | Special schools | Total |
| 2014/15 | 912 | 737 | 21,389 | 15,474 | 315 | 38,827 |
| 2015/16 | 1,000 | 738 | 21,999 | 15,433 | 308 | 39,478 |
| 2016/17 | 934 | 738 | 22,483 | 15,581 | 313 | 40,049 |
| 2017/18 | 905 | 740 | 22,838 | 15,793 | 332 | 40,608 |
| 2018/19 | 886 | 733 | 22,965 | 16,195 | 344 | 41,123 |
| 2019/20 | 912 | 734 | 22,824 | 16,601 | 376 | 41,447 |
| 2020/21 | 895 | 737 | 22,775 | 17,099 | 404 | 41,910 |
| 2021/22 | 854 | 743 | 22,734 | 17,459 | 424 | 42,214 |
| 2022/23 | 857 | 732 | 22,620 | 17,819 | 455 | 42,483 |
| 2023/24 | 811 | 737 | 22,266 | 18,093 | 477 | 42,384 |
| 2024/25 | 759 | 741 | 22,003 | 18,296 | 486 | 42,285 |

*Table 1: Number of enrolments in educational establishments in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2024/25. Source: Northern Ireland School Census, Department of Education.*

In October 2024 there were 33 voluntary and private pre-school education centres in the Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough in which there were 759 pupils enrolled.

*Figure 1: Number of enrolments in pre-school education centres in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2024/25. Source: Northern Ireland School Census, Department of Education.*

There were 741 pupils enrolled in 12 nursery schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough in October 2024.

*Figure 2: Number of enrolments in nursery schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2024/25. Source: Northern Ireland School Census, Department of Education.*

A total of 22,003 pupils were enrolled in 90 primary schools across the borough when the Northern Ireland School Census was conducted in October 2024.

*Figure 3: Number of enrolments in primary schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2024/25. Source: Northern Ireland School Census, Department of Education.*

In October 2024 there were a total of 23 post-primary schools in the Borough in which there were 18,296 pupils enrolled.

*Figure 4: Number of enrolments in post-primary schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2024/25. Source: Northern Ireland School Census, Department of Education.*

There were 486 pupils enrolled in 3 special schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough in October 2024.

*Figure 5: Number of enrolments in special schools in Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough 2014/15 to 2024/25. 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>