

**From: [redacted]  
Education Analysis  
03 September 2019**

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills

**Statistics release: “School Estate Statistics 2019”**

**Purpose**

1. To provide you with an advance copy and summary of the main messages from the statistical publication scheduled for publication at 09.30am on Monday 9 September. We will also publish “*School Healthy Living Survey Statistics 2019*” at the same time. A separate briefing is provided to cover that publication.

**Priority**

2. Routine.

**Background**

3. This is a National Statistics publication covering the school estate. Further breakdowns of the statistics will be published on the Scottish Government website in supplementary tables.

4. The data behind the statistics are supplied to Scottish Government by local authorities. A copy of the publication will be provided to each local authority twenty-four hours prior to publication.

5. **Annex A** summarises the main statistics for 2019. **Annex B** highlights potential risks in the publication. More detailed briefing, including lines, is included in **Annex C**.

**Key Statistics**

6. The headline statistics you will wish to note include:

- The **proportion of schools reported as being in good or satisfactory condition** has increased to 88.3% (86.6% in 2018). This is substantially higher than in April 2007 (61.1%).
- The **proportion of pupils educated in schools in “poor” or “bad” condition** has decreased from 36.6% of all pupils (around 257,000) in 2007 to 10.3% of all pupils (around 71,000) in 2019.
- Since 2007-08, **928 schools have been built or substantially refurbished** (includes those with cost of £0.5m+ for primary or £1m+ for secondary and special).

**Action**

- To note that publication is scheduled for 9.30am on 9 September 2019.

**[redacted]**

**Learning Directorate, Education Analytical Services  
Ext 40[redacted]**

Copy List:	For Action	For Comment	For Information		
			Portfolio Interest	Constit Interest	General Awareness
First Minister					X
Leslie Evans, Permanent Secretary Paul Johnston, DG Education, Communities and Justice Colin McAllister, Special Advisor [redacted], Communications Graeme Logan, Director of Learning Clare Hicks, Deputy Director Workforce, Infrastructure and Reform [redacted], School Infrastructure Unit [redacted], School Infrastructure Unit Mick Wilson, Deputy Director, Education Analytical Services [redacted], Learning Analysis [redacted], Learning Analysis [redacted], Learning Analysis [redacted], Learning Analysis [redacted], Learning Analysis					

## Annex A – Main Statistics

81 schools built or substantially refurbished in 2018-19.

928 schools built or substantially refurbished since 2007-08.



+1.7pp  
since 2018

88.3% of schools in good or satisfactory condition in April 2019.



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86.0% of schools of a good or satisfactory suitability in April 2019.



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87.7% of pupils in schools of a good or satisfactory suitability in April 2019.

- 81 schools were built or refurbished in 2018-19. Of these, 73 were primary schools, seven were secondary schools and one was a special school.
- The proportion of schools in good or satisfactory condition has increased 27.1 percentage points from 61.1 per cent in April 2007 to 88.3 per cent in April 2019.
- Taking into account the number of pupils in each school, there has been a 28.8 percentage point increase in the proportion of pupils educated in good or satisfactory condition schools from 60.8 per cent in April 2007 to 89.6 per cent in April 2019
- The proportion of schools with a good or satisfactory suitability has increased 12.0 percentage points from 74.0 per cent in April 2010 to 86.0 per cent in April 2019
- Taking into account the different number of pupils in each school, there has been a 12.0 percentage point increase in the proportion of pupils in good or satisfactory suitability schools from 75.7 per cent in April 2010 to 87.7 per cent in April 2019

## **Annex B - Potential Risks/Sensitivities in the figures**

### School Estate

- The overall picture on the school estate is generally positive.
- 70,582 pupils (10.3% of the school roll) are in schools in “poor” or “bad” condition but this is the lowest since comparable statistics began in 2007.
- 83,955 pupils (12.3% of the school roll) are in schools in “poor” or “bad” suitability but this is the lowest since comparable statistics began in 2010.

## Annex C – Summary briefing for School Estate 2018-19 data

### Background

As part of the School Estates Core Facts survey information is collected on the condition, suitability and capacity of all schools open **on 1 April**. Information is also collected on all schools that had been built or substantially refurbished **during the financial year 2018-19**. Changes to the estate which have occurred since 1 April 2019 are not reflected in this survey.

Responsibility for the provision, management and maintenance of the school estate rests with the education authorities. They need to plan and put in place any investment needed.

The Government's manifesto states:

*No child should have to learn in a school that is in poor or bad condition. Modern, accessible buildings help create the right environment for children to learn and teachers to work in. In the next Parliament, we will bring forward new proposals to build upon the success of Our Schools for the Future programme which rebuilt or refurbished 607 schools – almost a quarter of the school estate – between 2007 and 2015. We will also work to ensure that our schools are sustainably built, refurbished and maintained and are world-leading in energy efficiency.*

The Government has made significant progress in helping education authorities improve the quality of Scotland's school estate through the Schools for the Future programme. Nevertheless, in spite of this good work, there is still more to do and is why the Manifesto indicated that the Government would bring forward new proposals to build on the success of the Schools for the Future programme.

On 21 November 2018, at the Education Buildings Scotland Conference, the Deputy First Minister announced a new £1 billion Learning Estate Investment Programme to last until the end of the next Parliament in 2026. This new investment will maintain the objective of replacing poor/bad condition schools, along with a number of other strategic high level outcomes that we will seek to achieve across our learning estate, and will be aligned to our National Infrastructure Mission.

The Scottish Government will now engage with COSLA and other key stakeholders to agree a new Learning Estate Strategy and an outcomes funding model for future investment.

Consideration is being given on the schools only investment element of the plan and more detail discussion with Finance colleagues will resume after the budget process has concluded. At this stage no decisions have been taken as to the precise form that these new proposals might take.

### Main Points

- Over the last 12 financial years, 2007-08 to 2018-19, a total of **928 schools have been built or substantially refurbished**.
- The proportion of schools reported as being in **good or satisfactory condition** has **increased from 61.1 per cent** in April 2007 **to 88.3 per cent** in April 2019 (1.7 percentage points higher than 2018).
- The number of school buildings which were in the top condition category of 'good' increased from 696 in 2018 to 709 in 2019.
- 288 school buildings were in poor or bad condition in April 2019. This is the lowest number since 2007 when the data collection began.
- The number of **pupils educated in poor or bad condition schools has decreased** from 256,794 (36.6 per cent of pupils) in April 2007 to 70,582 (10.3 per cent of pupils) in April 2019.

- The proportion of schools with **good or satisfactory suitability has increased** from 74.0 per cent in April 2010 to 86.0 per cent in April 2019 (2.7 percentage points higher than 2018).
- This has resulted in the **proportion of pupils in schools with a good or satisfactory suitability** increasing to 87.7 per cent in April 2019 – 1.7 percentage points higher than 2018 and 12.0 percentage points higher than 2010 when comparable statistics were first collected.
- There are around 10,000 fewer pupils being educated in schools with poor or bad suitability compared to last year (83,955 in 2019 compared to 94,022 in 2018). This is a reduction of 11 per cent.

**Bulletin Table 2.1: Schools built or substantially refurbished, 2012-2019<sup>(1)</sup>**

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Primary	43	50	71	33	82	71	73
Secondary	14	8	5	9	11	17	7
Special	3	5	5	2	7	8	1
Total number built or refurbished	60	63	81	44	100	96	81

1. Only includes builds or refurbishments costing at least half a million pounds for primary and at least one million pounds for secondary and special schools.

#### Lines to take

- When complete in 2020 the Schools for the Future Programme will have delivered 117 top quality school projects for more than 60,000 pupils – this does not include the local authorities’ own school improvement Programmes.
- 928 school building projects have been completed during the last 12 years (2007-08 to 2018-19). By comparison, **this is more than double the amount of schools (328) completed over the preceding 8 years.**
- The proportion of schools in good or satisfactory condition has increased from 61 per cent in April 2007 to 88.3 per cent in April 2018. This means the number of pupils educated in schools in “poor” or “bad” condition has fallen from some 257,000 (37% of all pupils) in 2007 to around 71,000 (10% of all pupils) in 2019 – a reduction of 73%.

[redacted],  
 School Infrastructure Unit, Learning Directorate,  
 Ext. 47[redacted]

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The Scottish Government worked in collaboration with COSLA and other key stakeholders to agree a new joint SG/COSLA Learning Estate Strategy and a new funding model for future investment.

### Main Points

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