

Decline in the hours of arts teaching and number of arts teachers in England's secondary schools

Briefing July 2017

Department for Education figures published in June 2017 show that between 2010 and 2016 the number of hours the arts were taught in secondary schools **fell by -17%** and the number of arts teachers **fell by -16%**.

In comparison the EBacc subjects of History and Geography saw rises in the number of teachers and of hours taught of between +11% and +23%.

- Design and Technology is experiencing the greatest falls with -25% fewer teachers and -28% fewer hours of teaching.
- Drama teacher numbers have fallen by -17% and the hours taught by -13%. These hours include teaching time from non-specialists.
- Art & Design teachers have declined by -9% with a reduction of -15% in teaching hours.

All data from the Department for Education School Workforce in England statistics <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-school-workforce>.

Headcount of teachers by subject

	2010	2015	2016	Percentage change 2015 to 2016	Percentage change 2010 to 2016
History	15000	16500	16600	1%	11%
Geography	13500	15400	15800	3%	17%
Design and Technology	15000	11500	11300	-2%	-25%
Music	7500	6900	6700	-3%	-11%
Drama	11100	9400	9200	-2%	-17%
Art & Design	13200	12000	12000	0%	-9%
All arts subjects	46800	39800	39200	-2%	-16%

Hours taught by subject

	2010	2015	2016	Percentage change 2015 to 2016	Percentage change 2010 to 2016
History	153400	177000	182000	3%	19%
Geography	138700	164100	170100	4%	23%
Design and Technology	119900	89500	86500	-3%	-28%
Music	92700	85500	83600	-2%	-10%
Drama	95000	85100	82900	-3%	-13%
Art & Design	159800	139000	136500	-2%	-15%
All arts subjects	467400	399100	389500	-2%	-17%

Data for Dance is not available in the released DfE figures.