

Educational visits, staff:student ratio

The schools and Local Education Authorities should provide guidelines on staff:student ratios. The DfEE (1999) and ROSPA have suggested the following:

- 1:6 for students in years 1–3, and a higher ratio for reception children;
- 1:10–15 for years 4–6;
- 1:15–20 in years 7 onwards;
- for swimming and water activities no less than 1:10 minimum, and for swimming pools activities 1:12 for years 4–5, 1:20 for years 7 onwards and a higher ratio for students in year 3 and below;
- 1:10 for trips overseas with a minimum of two adults of different sex if the group is mixed;
- 1:15 for other residential visits, with a minimum of two adults of different sex if the group is mixed;
- 1:20 for day visits outside the walking distance of the school, with a minimum of two adults of different sex if the group is mixed;
- 1:25 for a short local visit (e.g. for the duration of one or two lessons), where one teacher might be sufficient for a mixed party.

Reference

Department for Education and Employment (DfEE) (1999) *Social Inclusion: Pupil Support* Circular 10/99, London: DfEE, Annexe D.