



Catholic Education Service for England and Wales

Digest of 2013 Census Data for Catholic Education in Wales

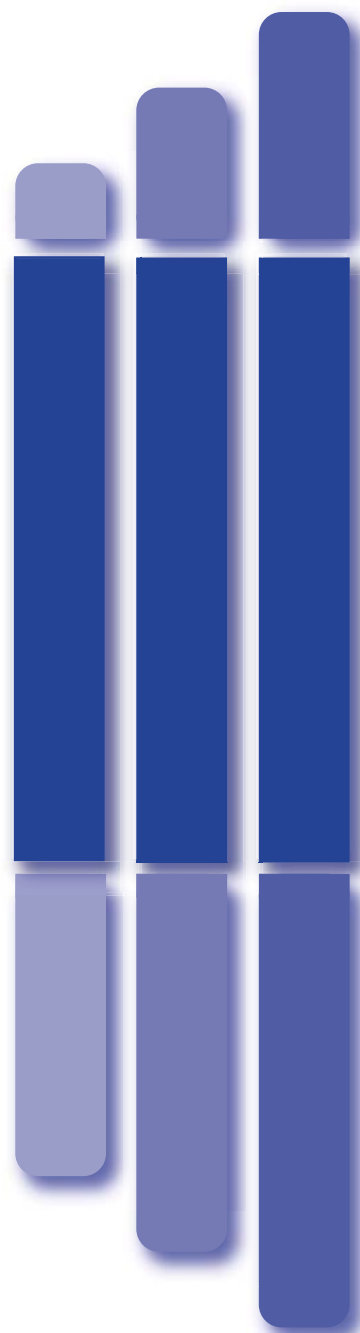


Promoting and Supporting
Catholic Education in England and Wales



**Catholic Education Service
for England and Wales**

**Digest of 2013 Census Data for Catholic
Education in Wales**



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Foreword

I am delighted to introduce the Digest of 2013 Census Data for Catholic Education in Wales. The title is important: this year marks a significant moment in the history of the CES Census, since for the first time digests for England and for Wales are issued separately. The increasing independence of the Welsh Assembly Government in educational matters and the consequent divergence of the two national systems have led to this development. We hope that both documents will gain clarity by limiting the subject matter of each to one national context rather than two.

I welcome the evidence of the flourishing of Catholic education in Wales. It is clear that Catholic schools have a firm place within the system: with their own distinctive character, chosen not only by Catholics but by other families who value the education their children experience in a Catholic ethos. The rich ethnic diversity of Catholic schools is also clearly illustrated in this Digest: this is another very practical and inclusive way in which they serve the needs of all those in their communities.

Wherever possible the Digest compares the position of Catholic schools with the situation nationally. The national school census is invaluable in this respect, providing an objective account of the national context for education. Comparison shows that the Catholic school populations of pupils and staff mirror the national scene in many respects. It is a particular pleasure to note that this is true for the provision of Education Support Staff, where national initiatives have led to progressive improvements in provision of these important staff in schools, including Catholic schools.

The organisation of the Census, the collection of accurate data, the collation of that data and the production of the Digest are demanding tasks, involving hundreds of people in many different ways. I am glad to express our corporate thanks to all those involved in schools, dioceses and the central office and to make particular mention of three: Robert Rushworth, the CES data manager who so expertly coordinated the collection of data; Rebekah Hayward, who designed the Digest in the form you are now reading; and Peter Irvine, CBE, former H.M. Inspector (England), who wrote it.



Paul Barber
Director of the Catholic Education Service
November 2013

Introduction

1. The CES Census achieved a response rate of more than 98%, which is the highest since publication began in 2007. In Wales only two schools failed to make a return, one primary school and an all through independent school. This provides a sound evidence base for commentary, subject to the following caveats:
 - the number of schools is comparatively small, particularly at secondary level, so all generalisations are tentative;
 - Cardiff diocese has about 60% of all the maintained schools in Wales and diocesan comparisons need to be understood in that context;
 - Of the two Catholic independent schools only one made a return; both the small number and the lack of detailed information from one school explain the comparatively slight reference to the independent sector;
 - St David's in Cardiff is the sole sixth form college in Wales; their data is included with secondary school data throughout this document.
2. This document follows the same pattern as in the comprehensive 'England and Wales' issues of recent years: sections on schools, pupils and teachers, followed by appendices giving more detailed information about pupils and teachers in each diocese. Some continuity is important to permit comparisons from year to year and to allow trends to be detected. The pattern is not cast in stone however: small changes are made annually and we are open to suggestions for improvements, either concerning parts of the digest or its overall structure.

THE SCHOOLS

Numbers of Schools

- The national census for Wales recorded 42 fewer schools than in January 2012: decreases of 38 primary schools, 5 secondary schools and one special school, slightly countered by the opening of two independent schools. About one third of primary schools and one quarter of secondary schools were classified as Welsh medium schools.
- The Catholic sector also showed a fall in the number of primary schools, the Census showing two schools fewer than in 2012. Of these schools (both in Menevia), only one was a closure, the other being an amalgamation of an infant and a junior school into one all age primary school. There were no changes in the secondary phase or in the independent sector. Only one Catholic primary school (in Wrexham diocese) was classified as Welsh medium. The tables below include one joint secondary school: St. Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School in Wrexham.

Table 1: Numbers of Schools¹ by Phase in January 2013

Phase	Maintained	Independent	Total
Primary	71	0	71
Secondary	15	0	15
Tertiary	1	0	1
All through	0	2	2
Total	87	2	89

- Numbers of independent schools in Wales are too small to allow meaningful generalisations. For this reason, almost all the current document is concerned with maintained schools unless the independent sector is specifically included.
- Maintained Catholic primary schools constituted 5% of all primary schools in Wales and Catholic secondary schools made up about 7% of all secondary schools.
- Table 2 shows the distribution of schools by diocese.

Table 2: Numbers of Schools by Diocese

Diocese	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Independent	Total
Cardiff	41	9	1	1	52
Menevia	16	3	0	0	19
Wrexham	14	3	0	1	18
Total	71	15	1	2	89

¹The five schools in Cardiff diocese but situated in Herefordshire have been excluded from the following tables.

Size of Catholic Maintained Schools

8. The average primary school in Wales had 192 pupils. For Catholic schools the figure was 206. The average for secondary schools nationally was 886; for Catholic secondary schools the average was 836, but the schools varied greatly in size, from around 500 to well over 1400. Eight of the secondary schools took pupils from age 11 to 16 and seven from age 11 to 18.
9. The sixth forms also showed great variation in size: the average was about 192, but three were much bigger than that and three much smaller, so that the average has limited value. The smallest sixth form had 78 students, the largest 313.
10. The sole sixth form college in Wales has continued to thrive, increasing its roll by 6% compared to 2012.

THE PUPILS

Numbers of Pupils in Catholic Schools

11. The national census showed that the total school population fell very slightly by 0.2% compared with 2012. Declining numbers in the secondary age range have continued to outweigh increases in the primary and under-5 numbers.
12. Catholic schools have closely followed the national trend: a small increase in primary numbers but a slightly bigger decrease in secondary numbers.
13. Catholic primary schools educated about 6% of the total population of primary pupils and secondary schools about 7% of secondary pupils.

Table 3: Numbers of Pupils in Catholic Schools by Phase in January 2013²

Phase	Maintained	Independent ³	Total
Primary	14620		
Secondary	12543		
Sixth form colleges	1441		
Total	28604	680	29284

Catholicity

14. The proportion of Catholic pupils in the Catholic sector overall was 57.9%. The overall figure showed a decrease since 2012, when the proportion was 59.6%, and confirmed a continued decrease since 2007, when the figure was 66.6%. The decrease was spread across all phases but was much more substantial in the secondary phase, as comparison with 2012 shows: primary schools 63.9%; secondary schools 56.3%. Table 4A shows the proportions of Catholic pupils in each phase of education.

Table 4A: Proportion of Catholic Pupils in Maintained Schools by Phase

Phase	Number of pupils ⁴	% Catholic pupils
Primary	14401	62.8
Secondary	13984	53.7
Wales	28385	57.9

15. Analysis by year group suggests that the decrease is likely to continue and in the secondary phase even to accelerate over the next five years. The reasons for the sudden drop in year 7 are not obvious, particularly as the overall numbers in year groups in the secondary phase have remained fairly level.

²These figures are comprehensive, the returns from the Census being supplemented from Edubase. They include pupils in the joint school: this explains slight differences from the national census figures for denominational schools.

³Only the overall total is given here: both independent schools are all through schools.

⁴These figures, and those in most subsequent tables, are from those schools responding to the Census. This explains the slight difference in primary numbers from table 3.

Table 4B: Proportion of Catholic Pupils by Year Group

Year group	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
% Catholic	61	62	62	62	64	64	65	47	53	52	57	58

16. The three dioceses differed quite substantially, particularly in the secondary phase: Cardiff with 64% primary and 56% secondary, Menevia 59% primary and 47% secondary, Wrexham 62% primary and 44% secondary.
17. Proportions of Catholic/non-Catholic pupils differ greatly from school to school as well as across dioceses and phases of education. The following table shows this variation.

Table 4C: Distribution of non-Catholic Pupils in Maintained Catholic Schools

% non-Catholic pupils	<1	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	>80
Number of schools	0	4	9	9	19	15	16	11	2	1
% of schools	0	4.7	10.5	10.5	22.1	17.4	18.6	12.8	2.3	1.2

18. The proportion of schools with fewer than 10% non-Catholic pupils was below 5%, much lower than the equivalent figure for England, which was 23%. The proportion with more than 50% was 35%, considerably higher than the equivalent for England, which was 20%. These figures suggest that in this respect the profile of the school populations is significantly different in Wales.

Gender

19. In the primary phase the balance of boys/girls mirrored the national pattern of a slight preponderance of boys: 50.7% boys/49.3% girls. Nationally this continued through the 11-16 age range, but in Catholic secondary schools the situation was reversed, with 49.2% boys/50.8% girls. The reasons for this are not obvious, but may stem from the existence of more single sex schools for girls than for boys in the past. In the post-16 phase, girls predominated in school sixth forms, which showed a balance of 46.5% boys/53.5% girls, following the national pattern for post compulsory education.

Withdrawal from Collective Worship

20. No pupils at all were withdrawn from collective worship in Wales in 2013.

School Uniform

21. Almost all Catholic maintained schools - 99% - required the wearing of an approved school uniform. The proportion of schools making some allowance for the needs of other religions in their published uniform policy increased slightly in maintained schools (from 75% to 80%). The small number of independent schools does not permit generalisation from returns.

Ethnicity

Table 5: Ethnicity

	Number of pupils	% White British	% White Irish	% White Eastern European	% White other	% Traveller of Irish/ Gypsy/ Roma heritage	% Mixed/dual	% Asian/ Asian British	% Black/ Black British	% Chinese	% Other	% Not known
Maintained schools	28385	77.7	0.2	4.3	2.2	0.6	4.1	4.3	2.1	0.3	3.3	0.8
Catholic Primary	14401	73.6	0.3	6.0	2.3	1.0	4.2	5.1	2.3	0.3	3.8	1.1
All Primary		90.0			2.1*	0.3	2.5	2.4	0.8	0.2	1.1	0.7
Catholic Secondary	13984	81.9	0	3.0	2.0	0.2	4.1	3.6	2.3	0.3	2.8	0.6
All Secondary		91.8			1.6*	0.1	2.0	1.9	0.7	0.2	0.9	0.7

*This figure includes white Eastern European, since the national census does not identify this group separately.

22. The national census reported that the proportion of pupils of minority ethnic origin (not in the white British group) in primary schools was 9.3%, a small increase from 8.9% in 2012. In secondary schools the figure was 7.5%, an increase from 7% in 2012.
23. Catholic schools were much more ethnically diverse, with higher proportions in most ethnic categories. For Catholic primary schools the proportion of pupils of minority ethnic origin was 25.4%, increased from 24.1% in 2012. For Catholic secondary schools the proportion was 17.5%, increased from 16.4% in 2012. The national census does not record white Eastern European ethnicity separately, so national comparisons are not possible, but the increase in numbers of pupils from this group in Catholic schools was striking: 6.0% in the primary sector (4.8% in 2012) and 3.0% in the secondary sector (2.7% in 2012).. This is now the biggest minority ethnic group in Catholic primary schools in Wales.
24. Table 5 clearly shows that primary schools were generally more diverse than secondary schools, with higher proportions in almost all minority groups. Catholic primary schools educated 30% of all the Traveller/Gypsy/Roma children in Wales.
25. The diocesan figures show roughly equal proportions in the white British group and in several others. Wrexham was unusual in having far more in the white Eastern European group but fewer in both the Asian/Asian British and Black/Black British groups.

Free School Meals

26. The national census showed that the number of pupils known to be eligible for free meals increased slightly in both primary and secondary phases. This continued the upward trend since 2008 (though there was a slight decrease in 2012). Catholic primary schools reflected the national trend, but slightly below the average figures. Catholic secondary schools were closer to the average than primary schools, but contrary to the national trend the proportion of eligible pupils decreased slightly, from 16.1% in 2012 to 14.9% in 2013. Table 6 summarises this information.

Table 6: Proportion of Pupils Eligible for and Claiming Free Meals in Schools by Phase

Phase	Number of pupils	Number eligible for and taking FSM	% eligible for and taking FSM (national average in brackets)
Primary	14401	2543	17.7 (18.9)
Secondary	13984	2084	14.9 (16.2)

27. Scrutiny of the diocesan figures shows very little difference between them.

Looked after Children

28. The proportion of looked after children in Wales was about 0.9% of the entire child population, or about 5730 children or young people up to age 18. The number in Catholic schools was 180, which is 0.63% of the Catholic school population (almost identical to 2012), but it needs to be noted that these percentages are not comparable since the populations from which they are derived are different. There was little variation between the dioceses.

Special Educational Needs

29. Compared to 2012, the national census showed slightly fewer pupils in both primary and secondary phases for whom statements of SEN had been produced: 1.4% in primary schools compared to 1.5% in 2012, and 2.5% in secondary schools compared to 2.6% in 2012. Proportions of pupils without statements were almost identical in primary schools (20.1%) but had risen in secondary schools from 18.6% to 19.2%.
30. The figures for Catholic schools were below the national figures in both categories, although the difference for pupils without statements in primary schools was negligible.

Table 7A: Proportion of Pupils with SEN by Phase

	Number of pupils	% SEN with statements (national figure in brackets)	% SEN without statements (national figure in brackets)
Primary	14401	0.8 (1.4)	19.8 (20.1)
Secondary	13984	2.0 (2.5)	16.2 (19.2)

31. Proportions of pupils with statements were comparable for the different dioceses, but the figures for those without statements showed more variation than for most other aspects. Table 7B illustrates this.

Table 7B: Proportions of Pupils with SEN by Diocese

	% SEN with statements	% SEN without statements
Cardiff	1.3	19.4
Menevia	1.6	16.9
Wrexham	1.5	14.2

Post-16 Retention

32. This section of the Digest is subject to caveat because of the variety of post-16 provision across the country and particularly the lack of any Catholic provision post-16 in many areas. It is often difficult, not to say impossible, for the 11-16 schools to gather data about the destination of pupils. This is illustrated by the diocesan analysis in table 8.

Table 8: Post-16 Retention by Diocese

	Pupils in Y11 in 2012	% pupils who returned to school in Y12	% pupils known to enrol in another Catholic school in Y12	% pupils whose destination was unknown after Y11
Cardiff	1337	39	26	35
Menevia	431	50	0	50
Wrexham	367	14	5	81
Total	2135	37	17	46

33. The table shows that average national figures need to be treated with extreme caution when the sample is small. The existence of the sixth form college facilitates data collection for schools in Cardiff city. At the other extreme only one of the three secondary schools in Wrexham diocese is an 11-18 school and the 11-16 schools are under no obligation to undertake the arduous task of collecting destination data for those leaving the schools.

THE STAFF

Leadership Teams

34. At the time of the Census six primary headship posts were vacant compared to four in 2012 and the average time since the last incumbent had left was one term. The same number of posts was vacant at deputy head level, again compared to four in 2012 and the duration of the vacancies was also one term. The numbers involved are too small to permit generalisation.
35. No headship posts were vacant among the secondary schools and two posts for deputy heads. The latter two posts had been vacant for one term.

Table 9: Leadership Vacancies, NPQH and Gender

	Number of schools responding	% headship vacancies	% deputy or assistant vacancies	% Catholic with NPQH	% not Catholic with NPQH	% Catholic taking NPQH	% not Catholic taking NPQH	Gender of heads %F/%M
Primary	70	8.6	8.6	6.0	0.2	1.0	0.3	58/42
Secondary	15	0	13.3	3.0	0.6	0.1	0	29/71

36. The National Professional Qualification for Headship (NPQH) is not mandatory for heads in Wales (and no longer for heads in England). There were nonetheless 42 teachers holding the qualification and nine preparing for it in the primary sector, and 29 holders and one aspirant in the secondary sector. These figures are similar to those in previous years. The distribution of 'holders' and 'takers' was fairly even across the dioceses.
37. In primary schools the proportion of women to men in headship was 58:42, the same as in 2012, and has not changed much since these Digests were first published. Women were much more predominant in deputy headship, where the ratio was 85:15. For the secondary sector the small numbers preclude generalisation: of the fourteen schools responding to this question, ten had male heads and four had female heads. Representation was more equal at deputy level and women were preponderant at assistant head level. It remains to be seen whether the position of women in second tier posts leads to more appointments of women heads.

Catholicity

38. Across all phases the overall proportion of Catholic teachers was 55%, lower than the 57% in 2012. Cardiff and Menevia were both around this figure, but Wrexham at 51% was rather below. The analysis in Table 10 shows substantial variation between the phases (even more than for England). The proportion of teachers holding the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) has continued to decline slowly in all three phases: in 2012 the proportions were 36% in primary schools and 7% secondary. Nine teachers held a master's degree in leadership of a Catholic school and another 13 were studying for such a degree: all but one of these 22 teachers were from Cardiff diocese.

Table 10: Catholicity and the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies

	Number of teachers	% Catholic teachers	Number of staff with CCRS	% with CCRS
Primary	685	76	236	34.5
Secondary	885	38	49	5.5

Religious Education Teaching

39. The phase analysis in Table 11 confirms that in primary schools most teaching of Religious Education (RE) was done by the class teacher. The proportion of RE specialists has decreased since 2012 but this may reflect misreporting in the last census. The table makes clear that only a handful of these specialists taught RE for a majority of their time. It is also true that the majority of primary schools did not have a specialist. The number of schools where some RE was taught by a Teaching Assistant (TA) decreased to about the level in 2011. The total is small, but this is an aspect that requires vigilance.
40. The secondary figures have not varied greatly in the last three years and are in fact very close to those for 2010. They suggest that most RE was taught by specialists for whom RE was the major part of their teaching commitment, while another one or two teachers in each school taught a few lessons of RE. Further exploration of the time devoted to RE in the curriculum would be a useful supplement to the present data and help informed assessments in this important area.

Table 11: Teachers of RE by Phase

	Number of teachers	Number of specialist RE teachers	% specialist RE teachers	Number of staff teaching RE	% staff teaching RE	Number of staff teaching RE for >50%	% staff teaching RE for >50%	Schools where at least one class taken by TAs
Primary	685	23	3.4	565	82.5	8	1.2	8
Secondary	885	61	6.9	88	9.9	59	6.6	0

Ethnicity

41. The teaching staff was much less mixed ethnically than the pupil population. In primary schools 2.8% of teachers were from groups other than the white British, and more than half of these were classified as white Irish. In the secondary phase 4.9% were from minority ethnic groups and again almost half of these were white Irish. The figures show little variation from previous years, as might be expected. The dioceses did not differ very much in the ethnic profile of their staff: the apparent difference for Wrexham (see Appendix 2.4) is almost entirely due to the high 'not known' figure, caused by deficient returns from two secondary schools. It is not possible to make comparisons with other parts of the school system, since ethnic data for teachers is not available.

Table 12: Ethnicity of Teachers Overall and by Phase

	Number of teachers	% White British	% White Irish	% White Eastern European	% White other	% Traveller of Irish/Gypsy/Roma heritage	% Mixed/dual	% Asian/Asian British	% Black/Black British	% Chinese	% Other	% Not known
All Catholic schools	1570	91.7	1.9	0.1	0.9	0	0.3	0.5	0.1	0	0.1	4.5
Primary	685	95.9	1.6	0	0.3	0	0.3	0.2	0.2	0	0.2	1.6
Secondary	885	88.4	2.2	0.2	1.4	0	0.2	0.8	0	0	0.1	6.8

42. Leadership teams overall have very little representation from minority ethnic groups apart from the white Irish. In the primary schools five teachers in leadership groups identified themselves as white Irish, in the secondary schools one person was classified as white other and one was in the white Eastern European group.

Education Support Staff

43. The national census showed an increase of almost 6% in the number of education support staff (ESS) in the year, which continued the upward trend of previous years. The introduction of the Foundation Stage and the implementation of the Teacher Workload agreement were important factors in bringing about this improvement. The result is a ratio of ESS to teachers of about 0.95 globally, breaking down by phase to 1.2 for primary schools and 0.6 for secondary schools.
44. Catholic schools were close to these national averages, as is shown in table 13. The proportions of Catholic ESS were very close to the figures for the last two years.

Table 13: Proportion and Catholicity of Education Support Staff

	Number of teachers	Number of ESS	Ratio of ESS to teachers	% Catholic ESS
Primary	685	759	1.1	52.6
Secondary	885	393	0.5	30.5
Total P&S	1570	1152	0.7	45.1

APPENDICES

1.1 Numbers of Pupils according to Diocese

Diocese	Number of pupils in primary schools responding	Number of pupils in secondary schools responding	Number of pupils in the college	Number of pupils in schools and college responding	Number of pupils from Census and Edubase
Cardiff	8536	7692	1441	17669	17888
Menevia	3083	2713		5796	5796
Wrexham	2782	2138		4920	4920
Total	14401	12543	1441	28385	28604

1.2 Catholicity, Free School Meals, Special Educational Needs and Looked after Children in Schools according to Diocese

Diocese	Number of pupils in schools responding	% Catholic pupils primary	% Catholic pupils secondary	% Eligible for FSM	% SEN with statement	% SEN no statement	% Looked after children
Cardiff	16228	64	59	16.6	1.3	19.4	0.62
Menevia	5796	59	47	15.7	1.6	16.9	0.67
Wrexham	4920	62	44	15.9	1.5	14.2	0.65
Wales	26944	63	54	16.3	1.4	18.0	0.63

1.3 Ethnicity of Pupils according to Diocese

	Number of pupils in schools responding	% White British	% White Irish	% White Eastern European	% White other	% Traveller of Irish/ Gypsy/ Roma heritage	% Mixed/ Dual	% Asian/ Asian British	% Black/ Black British	% Chinese	% other ethnic group	% Not known
Cardiff	17669	77.0	0.1	3.5	2.2	0.4	4.8	4.6	2.9	0.3	3.3	1.0
Menevia	5796	78.9	0.2	3.6	2.2	0.8	3.3	5.6	1.3	0.1	3.5	0.5
Wrexham	4920	78.8	0.4	8.1	2.1	1.0	2.8	1.9	0.5	0.3	3.4	0.8
Total	28385	77.7	0.2	4.3	2.2	0.6	4.1	4.3	2.1	0.3	3.3	0.8

2.1: Leadership Teams (Primary Schools) according to Diocese

Diocese	Number of schools responding	Number of head teacher vacancies	% head teacher vacancies	Number of deputy /assistant head vacancies	% deputy/assistant head vacancies	Number of staff holding NPQH	Number of staff undertaking NPQH
Cardiff	40	1	2.5	2	5.0	27	5
Menevia	16	2	12.5	3	18.8	8	3
Wrexham	14	3	21.4	1	7.1	7	1
Total	70	6	8.6	6	8.6	42	9

2.2: Leadership Teams (Secondary Schools) according to Diocese

Diocese	Number of schools responding	Number of head teacher vacancies	% head teacher vacancies	Number of deputy /assistant head vacancies	% deputy/assistant head vacancies	Number of staff holding NPQH	Number of staff undertaking NPQH
Cardiff	9	0	0	1	11.1	16	1
Menevia	3	0	0	0	0	9	0
Wrexham	3	0	0	1	33.3	4	0
Total	15	0	0	2	13.3	29	1

2.3: Catholicity and CCRS according to Diocese

Diocese	Number of teachers	Number of Catholic teachers	% Catholic teachers	% Teachers with CCRS
Cardiff	988	547	55.4	15.6
Menevia	308	168	54.6	25.0
Wrexham	274	140	51.1	19.7
Wales	1570	855	54.5	18.2

2.4 Ethnicity of Teachers according to Diocese

	Number of teachers in schools responding	% White British	% White Irish	% White Eastern European	% White other	% Traveller of Irish/ Gypsy/ Roma heritage	% mixed/dual	% Asian/Asian British	% Black/Black British	% Chinese	% other ethnic group	% not known
Cardiff	988	92.8	2.1	0.2	1.1	0	0.3	0.6	0.1	0	0.2	2.6
Menevia	308	94.8	0.7	0	0.7	0	0.3	0.7	0	0	0	2.9
Wrexham	274	83.9	2.6	0	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	13.1
Total	1570	91.7	1.9	0.1	0.9	0	0.3	0.5	0.1	0	0.1	4.5

Appendix 3: Map Showing the Catholic Dioceses in Wales



Notes

Notes



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