

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES SUPPORT STAFF FACE IN SCHOOLS SINCE COVID19?

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MODULE: ECIE4001



FROM TEACHER AIDE TO TEACHING ASSISTANT.

- The role of Teachers Aide has developed throughout the years.
- Government legislation and research leading to an increase in Ta's. (Education Act 2002)
- Seeing potential TA's have on academic progress. (DISS project 2010)

**TAs have more
responsibility for pupils
with statements than
teachers**

(Harris 2023)



TA'S DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

TA's were asked to do more than their job role throughout the lockdown.

Not only supporting the pupils in school but supporting and offering emotional support to the families.

Covering other roles (E.g Teaching, kitchen staff, IT support)

(Hall and Webster)



ISSUES FACING TA'S ON THEIR RETURN TO WORK, POST COVID-19.

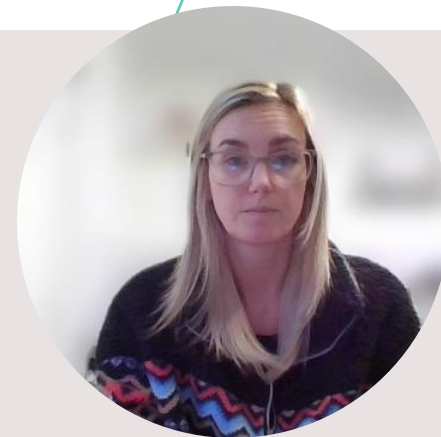
- September 2021 marked the start of the 'recovery' phase.
- Informal assessments.
- Curriculum adaptations.
- Behaviour.
- Mental health and well-being.





School support staff survey 2024

UNISON 2024 ANNUAL REPORT.



BEHAVIOUR ISSUES.

54% NOTE THAT BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT HAS INCREASED WORKLOAD. THIS LINKS WITH THE 'ALARMING PREVALENCE OF VIOLENCE' AGAINST TEACHING ASSISTANTS IN SCHOOLS FOUND IN THE SAME SURVEY.

(Harris, 2024)



INTERVENTIONS AND CLASS COVER.

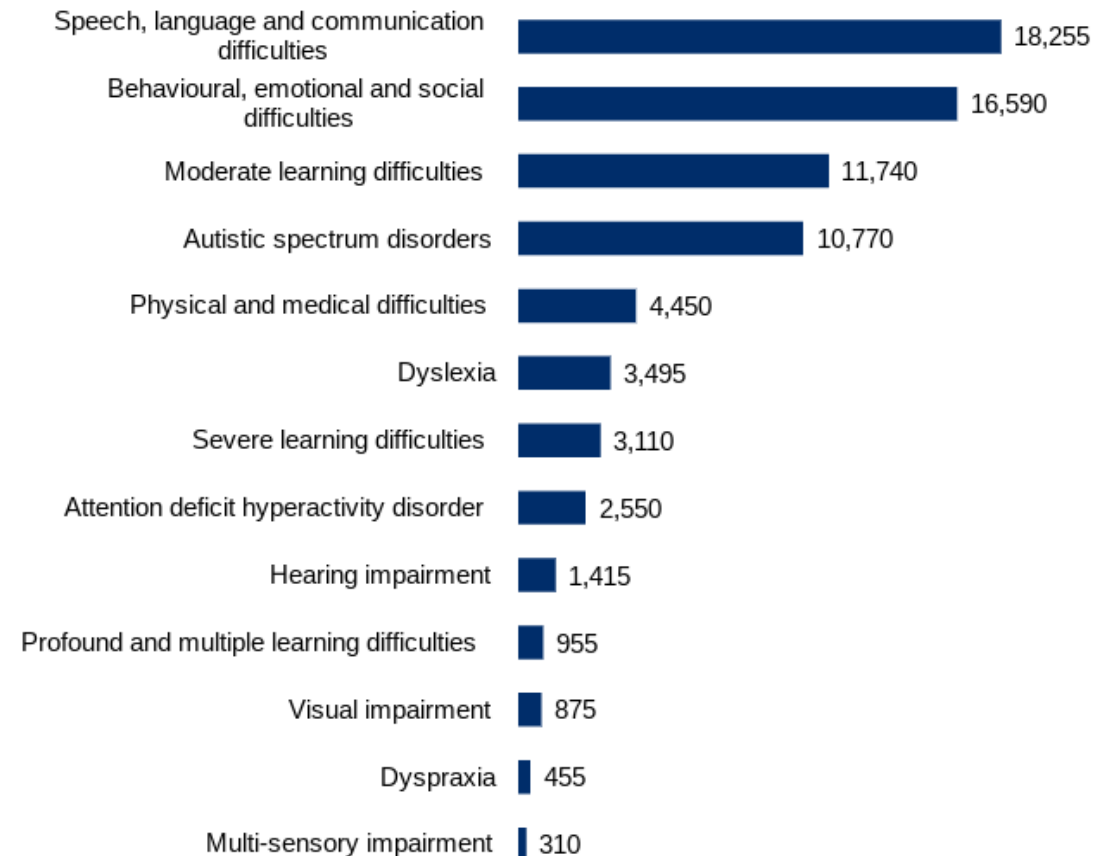
47% of support staff say leading more interventions has affected their workload and 40% say providing more class cover has.



Do you ever work more than your contracted hours without getting paid overtime?	Per cent
No	33%
1-2 hours per week	34%
2-3 hours per week	15%
3-4 hours per week	7%
4-5 hours per week	5%
5-6 hours per week	3%
6-7 hours per week	1%
More than 8 hours per week	2%

(School Support Staff Survey 2024)

Figure 5: Reports of ALN or SEN in maintained schools by type of need, 2024 [Note 1]



(Schools' Census Results, 2024.)

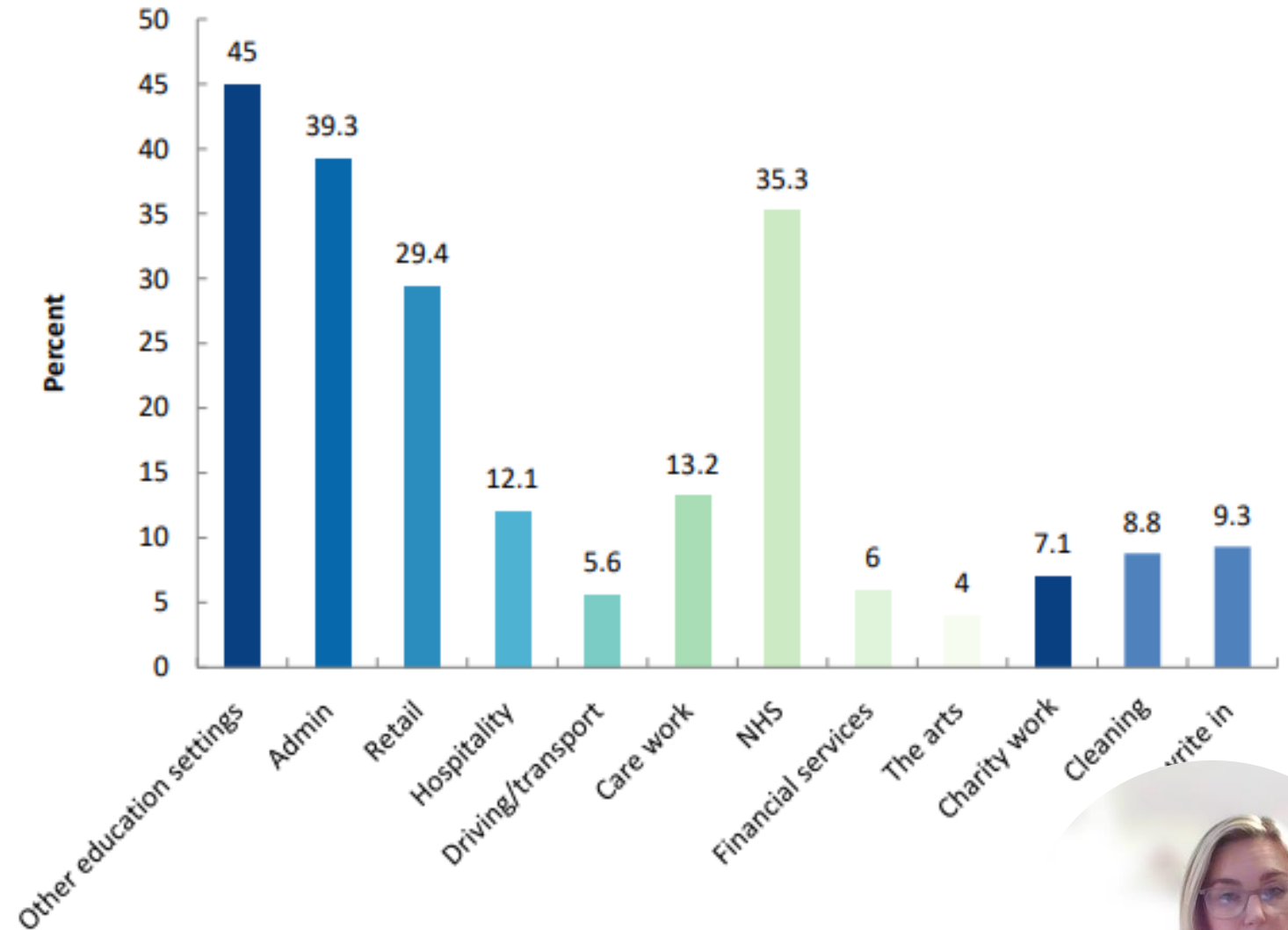
SEND SUPPORT

- There were 21,319 pupils with Individual Development Plans under the new ALN system in maintained schools (40.9% of pupils with ALN or SEN), up from 10,499 (16.6%) at January 2023.



THE RESULT.

“Staff are being torn between leaving the job that they love or going to other sectors where the work is less stressful and the pay is better. It’s got to stop.”



(Barnes 2024)



CONCLUSION.

Table 6: Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) qualified teachers and support staff in maintained schools, 2022 to 2024

Staff role	2022	2023	2024
Qualified teachers	24,657	24,884	24,297
Support staff	24,517	25,812	25,018

(Schools' Census Results, 2024.)



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POWERPOINT LINK

MODULE ECIE4001.PPTX