

NUMBER OF PUPILS RECEIVING FREE EDUCATION AT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS UNDER
REGULATIONS FOR FREE PLACES.

		1922.			1923.		
		Boys.	Girls.	Totals.	Boys.	Girls.	Totals.
Junior free pupils	First year ..	1,213	929	2,142	1,512	1,117	2,629
	Second year ..	668	532	1,200	814	613	1,427
Senior free pupils	First year ..	227	193	420	275	239	514
	Second year ..	92	94	186	90	79	169
	Third year ..	18	13	31	34	22	56
Totals		2,218	1,761	3,979	2,725	2,070	4,795

FINANCIAL.

The total amount due by the Department to the controlling authorities for the salaries and incidental expenses of all technical classes, including technical high schools, was approximately £125,651, made up as follows:—

	£
Salaries of full-time teachers and Directors	83,672
Capitation for part-time teachers	16,854
Capitation for student teachers	2,261
Overtime payments	2,575
Incidental allowances	27,573
College classes capitation	2,720
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	135,655
Less recoveries from tuition fees	10,004
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Totals	£125,651

SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

STATE CARE OF DEPENDENT AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN AND INFANT-LIFE
PROTECTION.

The Special Schools Branch of the Education Department provides (1) for the maintenance, training, and general upbringing of neglected and homeless and orphan children committed by Courts to the care of the State, for the training of delinquent children and juvenile offenders, for the supervision of all young persons (male and female) placed on temporary probation by the Courts; (2) for the supervision of all infants under the age of six years maintained apart from their parents or adopted with premium, for the general supervision of children for whose upkeep pensions are paid under the widows' pensions scheme, and for the investigation of applications for the adoption of children; and (3) for the education and maintenance of all afflicted children—deaf, blind, feeble-minded, and for children with defective speech.

The total number of children under the supervision of the State in 1923 was 4,925, classed under the following headings:—

Boarded out, industrial schools, receiving-homes, &c.	3,692
Juvenile probation	227
Infant-life protection	684
Deaf children	106
Feeble-minded children	216
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Total	4,925

The number of children committed to the care of the State during the year was 313; classified according to reason for committal as follows: Destitution, 134; vagrancy, 10; associating with disreputable persons, 1; not under proper control, 88; uncontrollable (complaint by parents), 6; transferred from gaol, 11; accused or guilty of punishable offences, 46; and, in addition, 17 were admitted by private arrangement.

Classified according to age at the time of admission the numbers are as follows: Under six months, 40; over six months and under one year, 15; from one to five years, 63; from five to ten years, 82; from ten to fourteen years, 63; and over fourteen years, 50.