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Lord Watson of Invergowrie House of Lords London SW1A 0PW

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In the House of Lords Oral Parliamentary Question statement on Thursday 17 January on art and design, you suggested that art subjects in state schools were being squeezed out by the English Baccalaureate.

I responded *in 2009 150,000 pupils took art and design, while 141,000 did so in 2018—that with a cohort of 50,000 fewer pupils in the system for that phase.* For the sake of accuracy I would like to inform you that the correct statistics are as follows: in 2009/10 150,000 state funded pupils took art and design, while 142,000 did so in 2017/18—that with a cohort of 54,000 fewer pupils in the system for that phase.

Again, for the sake of precision when I said *In 2009 only 365,000 pupils took science. Last year it was 499,000—that is 130,000 children getting a much better education.* That should be: In 2009/10 only 365,000 state funded pupils entered the EBacc science pillar. Last year it was 500,000—that is over 130,000 children getting a much better education.

I hope this letter has been useful. A copy of this letter will be sent to all Peers who spoke in the debate as well as being placed in the House of Lords Library.

THEODORE AGNEW