

Request

I am writing to ask for your assistance with the below FOI request pertaining to data that we believe you hold.

For the purposes of this request, the time frames to be considered are:

- For the school year 2018/2019
 - For the school year 2019/2020
 - For the school year 2020/2021
 - For the school year 2021/2022
 - For the school year 2022/2023 so far, up to and including the day of your response to this inquiry.
- 1) Broken down by the above timeframes, how many times have pupils been found with offensive, or potentially offensive, weapons on school premises within your local authority area? This includes being in possession of an article with a blade or point, or corrosive substance.
 - 2) Can you please provide a breakdown of the weapons found and the age of the child involved in each case?
 - 3) Please detail in each case, if the case was reported to police?

Response

This response has pulled together information relating to suspensions, permanent exclusions, and referrals to targeted youth support youth offending services.

For exclusions and suspensions the school can provide 3 reasons for each issued. These are ranked as first second and third. For the purpose of this response we have collated all according to the number of pupils.

The LA does not collect this information as a bespoke data set but would expect this is a reasonable assumption that these two data sets will encompass most pupils. In some of these data sets year groups are not available.

1) 2018-19 none recorded

2019-20 4 recorded

1 Perm Exclusion

3 referrals

2020-21 47 recorded

46 suspensions

1 referral

2021-22 50 recorded

45 suspensions

5 referrals

2022-23 16 recorded

15 suspensions

1 referral

- 2) Records for suspensions and permanent exclusions do not record the type of weapon. It is recorded as 'Threat Offensive Weapon'.
- 3) All the above referrals were via youth offending services were reported to the police and resulted in Out of Court disposals.