



My Ref: FOI4601
Your Ref:
Date: 30/06/2025
Enquiries to: Information Requests
E-Mail: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear Requester,

Re: Request for Information – Freedom of Information Act 2000

I wish to confirm that the council has completed its search for the information which you requested.

The information requested and our findings are as follows: -

Your questions and my findings are as follows:-

We require numbers for each primary school in Barnsley, of how many pupils with EHCPs the LA SEND Team have directed them to admit. We also require the data for the ORG panel, and the number of children per school that have been agreed for specialist provision, and that have been rejected or deferred. In addition to this, we require data for the number of suspensions and exclusions for each primary school. We require this data for the following school years : 2024-25, 2023-24, 2022-23, 2021-22

Data on directions has been recorded since February 2024. Between February 2024 and June 2025, the Local Authority have issued directions for 71 pupils to primary schools. Breaking the data down by school would result in the publication of numbers below 5 and would therefore need to be suppressed to protect individual privacy. No individual primary school has been directed to take more than 5 pupils.

ORG panel decisions are published on a weekly basis and our system has no way to analyse the data behind the decisions. Therefore, whilst the Local Authority does hold the information you have requested we have to advise you that we will not be able to answer your request without exceeding the appropriate limit. This is because to retrieve information in the scope of your request would involve locating and downloading the decisions from every weekly ORG Panel then reading through to retrieve the information requested. We determine that at 10 minutes per document it would take approximately 25 hours to complete this task, resulting in an estimated cost of £625. Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act makes provision for public authorities to refuse requests for information where the cost of dealing with them would exceed the appropriate limit, which for Local Authorities is set at £450. The Local Authority may be able to provide some information in the scope of your request if you reduce or refine your request to bring the cost of compliance under the limit eg for the past 12 months. Please contact us if you would like to refine your request or require advice on doing so.

We do not record requests for specialist settings by school. We do record the total requests, the number agreed and the number not agreed. However, we only hold this data from October 2022. Data for 24/25 academic year is September to June only.

Academic year	22/23	23/24	24/25
Requests	203	195	255
Agreed	124	100	151
Not agreed	79	95	104

Data around suspensions and exclusions is published by DfE and can be found here:
<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/suspensions-and-permanent-exclusions-in-england/2023-24>

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact Information Requests Via email.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Directorate has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. Please clearly mark your correspondence 'Complaint' and address it to:

Barnsley MBC
Information Requests Team
PO Box 634
Barnsley
S70 9GG
email: informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: -

Customer Services Team
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Email: <http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints>

Kind regards,

Information Requests Team, Barnsley MBC

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