



My Ref: FOI 6647
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: -

As at the date of your response, please provide the following information regarding children and young people with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan in your local authority area:

- 1. The number of children/young people with an EHC Plan who are currently awaiting allocation of a special school place.** As of 19th August 2026 there are 141 children and young people awaiting a special school placement.
- 2. The number of children/young people currently educated otherwise than at school (e.g. via a Section 19 arrangement) while awaiting a specialist placement.** No pupils are recorded as EOTAS whilst awaiting a specialist placement.
- 3. The number of children/young people currently receiving interim or alternative tuition while awaiting a specialist placement.** 31 pupils awaiting specialist placement are currently receiving interim tuition.
- 4. The number of children/young people placed in an independent special school because no maintained (state) special school place was available.** As at 19th August, 253 pupils are placed in Independent or non-maintained special schools and a further 45 in other Independent special schools. The majority of these will only have been placed there as a result of no positive offer of placement from a maintained special school. It is not possible to answer this question without checking all individual consultations for each of the 298 pupils placed. To do so would take approximately 20 mins per case and therefore exceed the maximum time frame for an FOI. As no specific time frame has been provided an estimation of the time it would take cannot be provided
- 5. The average waiting time, in weeks, between an EHC Plan naming a school or type of provision and the child/young person starting at that placement, for the most recent 12 months for which you hold data.** Our case management system does not provide the data in a format that would allow us to provide this data. 62 pupils were newly placed in the last 12 months. We estimate it would take approximately 20 minutes per case to locate and record the required data for each case which equates to over 20 hours and would exceed the maximum time for an FOI.

6. A breakdown of (1) above by primary type of need (e.g. ASD, SEMH, SLCN, MLD, other), if held. See table below.

Primary Need	Grand Total
SEMH	23
ASD	58
SLCN	35
MLD	14
SLD	0
SpLD	6
PMLD	0
VI	0
HI	0
MSI	0
PD	2
OTH	2
Tbc	1
TOTAL	141

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: -

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

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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