



My Ref: FOI 5900
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: -

For the purposes of this request:

“Electively Home Educated (EHE)” refers to any child of compulsory school age not registered at a school and whose education is primarily the responsibility of their parent/carers, regardless of how recorded by the local authority.

Please include children currently recorded as EHE, and those recorded as CME where they were previously known to be EHE prior to being moved to CME.

“Compulsory school age (CSA)” refers to children aged 5 to 16.

Where exact data is not held, please provide the closest available data and explain any limitations.

1 - Population Data

a) Please provide

i) the total population of children in your area as of 1 April 2026

50995

ii) how many of those are CSA

36893

b) i) Total number of children known to Children’s Services as of 1 April 2026

1764

ii) how many of those are pre CSA

548

iii) how many are post CSA

114

c) Number of those in b) recorded as EHE (as defined above)

611

2 - Referrals

Between 1 April 2025 and 1 April 2026:

a) Total number of referrals to Children’s Services for CSA children

1663

b) Number of referrals involving children recorded as EHE

60

c) Of those involving EHE how many children received more than one referral?

10

d) Of the referrals involving EHE children, how many involved children known to services due to adoption-related support?

0

3 - Section 47 Enquiries (Child Protection Investigations) Between 1 April 2025 and 1 April 2026:

a) Total number of Section 47 enquiries for CSA children

982 enquires started between 01/04/25 and 01/04/2026

b) Number involving EHE children

60

4 - Child Protection Plans (CPP)

Between 1 April 2025 and 1 April 2026:

a) Total number of CSA children subject to a Child Protection Plan

672

b) Number of those children who are EHE

8

5 - Children in Need (CIN)

a) Total number of CSA children recorded as Children in Need

1815

b) Number of those children who are EHE

70

c) Of the EHE children recorded how many are due to accessing disability services in the local offer?

X – Answer suppressed to protect confidentiality

d) Of the EHE children recorded how many are recorded as receiving adoption-related support?

0

6 - Children in Care (Looked After Children)

a) Total number of CSA children in care

327

b) Number of those children who were EHE immediately prior to entering care

X – Answer suppressed to protect confidentiality

7 - Outcomes of Referrals (EHE vs Overall) For referrals identified in Question 2: Please provide a breakdown of outcomes for:

No further action

Early help offered and if it was accepted/declined Child in need offered and if it was accepted/declined Section 47 enquiry initiated Please indicate, where possible, whether adoption-related involvement was a factor in EHE cases.

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Provide this for:**a) All children**

Referral Outcome	Referrals
NFA (Including step down to Early Help & no consent provided for CIN planning)	41
Child or Young Person Assessment (CIN and Looked After pathways)	1059
Led to a Section 47 Enquiry being initiated	375

b) EHE children

Referral Outcome	Referrals
NFA (Including step down to Early Help & no consent provided for CIN planning)	X
Child or Young Person Assessment (CIN and Looked After pathways)	30
Led to a Section 47 Enquiry being initiated	12

X- Suppressed to protect confidentiality.

Breakdown for No Further Action (NFA) outcomes not provided to protect confidentiality.

“Adoption-related involvement” is not a factor specifically recorded in referrals as the factors used are the same for parents (birth or adoptive) and carers.

8 - Reasons for Referral

Please provide the recorded primary reasons for referral for EHE children (e.g. neglect, physical abuse, emotional abuse, education concerns, etc.).

If “education concerns” is a category, please specify how many referrals were solely due to concerns about education provision.

Factor	Referrals
Domestic Abuse	18
Neglect	11
Mental health	6
Physical Abuse	5
Emotional Abuse	5
Drug Misuse	14
Alcohol Misuse	6
Sexual Abuse	X
Other	X
Child criminal exploitation	X
Learning disability	X
Missing	X
Child sexual exploitation	X
Gangs	X

Please be aware that as there can be multiple factors to an individual referral the counts above do not total to the number of referrals for the same cohort.

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X- Supressed to protect confidentiality.

9 - Source of Referrals

For EHE children, please provide the source of referrals (e.g. school, GP, hospital, police, local authority EHE team, family, anonymous, etc.).

Source	Referrals
ANONYMOUS	5
EDUCATION SERVICES	X
HEALTH SERVICES – A&E (emergency department)	X
HEALTH SERVICES – other primary health services	X
INDIVIDUAL – family member, relative or carer	X
LA SERVICES – other internal (department other than social care in local authorities, for example youth offending (excluding housing))	X
LA SERVICES – social care for example adults social care services	X
OTHER LEGAL AGENCY – including courts, probation, immigration, CAFCASS or prison	X
POLICE	34
SCHOOLS	7

X- Supressed to protect confidentiality.

10 - Internal Recording Practices

a) Does your authority record EHE status within Children's Services systems?

No

b) If so, at what stage is this recorded (e.g. referral, assessment, ongoing case)?

c) If not, how would EHE children be identified within safeguarding data?

Matching against the EHE cohort from Education systems.

Data Limitations

If any data requested is not held:

Please confirm this explicitly

Explain why it is not held

State whether it could be obtained within cost limits

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:

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PO Box 634, Barnsley, South Yorkshire S70 9GG

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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