



My Ref: FOI/ 4611
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: -

I am conducting research into home-to-school transport provision for children with special educational needs (SEN) who attend special schools, and I would be grateful if you could provide the following information:

1. Number of Children Transported How many children with special educational needs currently use your local authority's home-to-school transport service to attend special schools?

We currently transport 908 pupils with EHC plans.

2. Flexibility with Pick-up/Drop-off Locations Does your local authority allow any flexibility for families, such as permitting more than one designated pick-up/drop-off point (e.g., to accommodate changing family circumstances or shared parenting arrangements)?

We try to work with families where we can, but we have to be mindful of the needs of everyone in the vehicle. If the alternative pick up/drop off point is less than a mile away and will not cause drop off and pick up times to be changed for the other pupils in the vehicle we will accommodate.

3. Emergency Procedures What is your policy in an emergency situation where a parent or usual responsible adult is not present at the designated drop-off location?

o Will the child be dropped off with another named adult nearby (e.g., neighbour or relative)?

o If not, where is the child taken, and how is the family notified?

We always ask parent / carer for an emergency contact and that person will be contacted in the first instance. We will not drop a pupil off with a neighbour or close relative unless we have that name and address on our records as someone we can leave the pupil with. If we are unable to contact the parent or carer and do not have an emergency contact, we contact the duty social worker who will arrange to collect the child and take them to a place of safety whilst the parent / carer is contacted.

4. Transport Policy Document Please provide a copy of your current Home to School Transport policy, particularly the sections relevant to children with SEN attending special schools.

The Council's Home to School Travel Assistance Policy can be found on our website <https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/kganbqu2/home-to-school-travel-assistance-policy-2023-2028.pdf>

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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