

2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

22 February 2023

Our ref: 9065516

Thank you for your request received on 25 January 2023, for the following information:

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.**

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.

Can you please provide a breakdown of the weapons found and the age of the child involved in each case?

Please detail in each case, if the case was reported to police?

We have processed this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Response

The Local Authority does not hold reportable data on this. It would require looking at each MASH referral and opening cases over the course of these years, which would exceed the time spent to service this request (Section 12 - Time limit).

S12 - Cost limit (Exceeds Appropriate Limit)

We are refusing your request under section 12 because we estimate that compliance with your request will exceed the "appropriate limit" under section 12. The appropriate limit is £450 which is equivalent to 18 hours at £25 per hour. The per

hour figure is set by Regulation rather than actual salary paid to any officers handling requests. The appropriate limit includes the time it will take the council to discover if it holds the information requested, to locate it, extract it and collate it as well as putting it into any particular format requested by the requester.

We have calculated that it will take approx 500 hours to comply with your request. Our calculation is as follows:

We would need to read every MASH referral.

We would have to look at approx 3000 cases. It would take approximately 10 minutes to review each case. 3000 files x 10 minutes = 30,000 minutes (500 hours).

We have therefore decided to refuse your request.

Advice and Assistance

We will only be aware of young people who are known to children and families' services, and not those who may have been dealt with internally by the school.

So to effectively to obtain this information, you would need to contact schools directly. Please see the following link for Barnet School contact details - [Schools | Barnet Council](#).

Further information

If you are interested in the data that the council holds you may wish to visit Open Barnet, the council's data portal. This brings together all our published datasets and other information of interest on one searchable database for anyone, anywhere to access. <http://open.barnet.gov.uk/>

Advice and Assistance : Direct Marketing

If you are a company that intends to use the names and contact details of council officers (or other officers) provided in this response for direct marketing, you need to be registered with the Information Commissioner to process personal data for this purpose. You must also check that the individual (whom you wish to contact for direct marketing purposes) is not registered with one of the Preference Services to prevent Direct Marketing. If they are you must adhere to this preference.

You must also ensure you comply with the Privacy Electronic and Communications Regulations (PECR). For more information follow this Link www.ico.org.uk

For the avoidance of doubt the provision of council (and other) officer names and contact details under FOI does not give consent to receive direct marketing via any media and expressly does not constitute a 'soft opt-in' under PECR.

Your rights

If you are unhappy with the way your request for information has been handled, you can request a review within the next 40 working days by writing to the Information Management Team at: foi@barnet.gov.uk. Or by post to Records & Information Management Service, Assurance Group, London Borough of Barnet, 2 Bristol Avenue, Colindale, NW9 4EW

If, having exhausted our review procedure, you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request or complaint, you will have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF (telephone: 0303 123 1113; website www.ico.org.uk). There is no charge for making an appeal.