

Dear Requester,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information Request.

The councils response is as follows:

1. Does the council compile the number of racism complaints recorded by local schools? The council no longer does this. Schools are however, required to keep a record and report to their own governing bodies.

1.1 If not, when did the council stop compiling figures of racism complaints recorded by local schools? The council stopped receiving copies of such complaints in 2016. This was in part due to changes with GDPR and the requirements around sharing with a third party, but also because since the Equality Act 2010, schools have not been legally obliged to share the incidents and the data we were receiving was therefore not representative of the complete picture of what might be happening in Nottinghamshire schools.

1.2 Does the council now record data on racist incidents in local schools by other means? If so, please specify how they are collated. The council does not record this data as the data is owned by the individual schools and the responsibility to record lies with them.

1.3 Does the council now only record data on racist incidents in some local schools, e.g. only primary or only secondary schools? See answers above.

2. How many complaints of racism did local schools report to the council in each of the last five school years? (Please provide the total number of complaints recorded by all schools, i.e the aggregate per year, not the figures for each school.) See above. The council has not recorded this data since 2016.

2016-17

2017-18

2018-19

2019-20

2020-21 (to date)

2.1 How many local schools reported racism complaints to the council in each of the past five years? Schools are not required to report racist incidents to the council. The council does however, offer support and advice where a school may have itself received a **complaint** about racism if it is part of a direct complaint to Ofsted or through some other mechanism such as a complaint to a governing body. There is no separate log which records complaints categorised by racism specifically and there are a number of logs across different teams/departments due to the varied routes that complaints come into the council. It is therefore not possible to provide any data to answer this question. The question is also ambiguous as I am not clear if it refers to racist incident reports or actual complaints.

2016-17

2017-18

2018-19

2019-20

2020-21 (to date)

2.2 If a council document, e.g. a spreadsheet or a report, already exists that lists the racism complaints recorded by named local schools for some or all of the above years please provide a copy of it. No such document exists.

3. If the council no longer records data on the number of racist incidents in local schools, what measures does it take to ensure that schools are robustly addressing racism? Guidance has been shared with all schools which was developed in partnership with Nottinghamshire Police and Nottingham City Council. This is available on the Nottinghamshire Schools Portal, along with a model incident recording template and advice and support around how to support victims/ access intervention programmes for offenders. There is an Equalities section which makes clear schools' legal duties in respect of the Equality Act along with tools and resources to proactively address racism. There is a training offer for schools. Guidance has been issued relating to the RSHE curriculum and anti-racism resources and CPD materials are regularly promoted (this is often through the TETC newsletter which in June and October had a specific focus on anti-racism). There are working parties involving school practitioners and LA staff to develop and share best practice across primary, secondary and special school settings. Pupil and parent voice informs training and curriculum tools. Anti-racism is embedded in related areas of the department's work- anti-bullying, behaviour and attendance, teaching and learning etc. and this is disseminated in a variety of ways including network meetings.

3.1 What does the most recent guidance that the council has issued to local schools about how they should record racist incidents say? Please see attached copy.

4. Has the council conducted or commissioned any research into the prevalence of racism in local schools in the past five years? The TETC team carry out focus groups with young people and parents/carers and this work has been undertaken in some secondary schools where the council has been invited in. This resulted in some co-produced resources which are available on the TETC Team's You Tube channel and are used in training and are suggested content for RSHE lessons. You can access an example here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NzEJ7qHf1Po&t=13s>. There are more sessions of this nature planned, although COVID restrictions have slowed the pace of this work unfortunately. The guidance which is attached was based on some pupil voice work lead by Nottinghamshire Police/Nottingham Citizens. Governance arrangements across schools are such that the council is not in a position to commission such a piece of work in every school.

4.1 If so, please provide a copy of the research, including its findings, or the report it is contained in. See TETC YouTube channel for co-production resources.

5. Does the council have a current action plan/strategic plan to address race equality and racism in schools? There is a draft anti-racism action plan for the Education, Learning and Skills Division which is currently awaiting sign off from the Service Director. Work is however, already underway and colleagues across teams are contributing to a toolkit for schools which includes our training offer, other recommended CPD materials and classroom resources, as well as practical ideas and tools to support schools auditing and developing their practice. These documents will go out for consultation in the very near future.

5.1 If so, please provide a copy of this plan. These are in draft form and as yet have not been signed off and are therefore exempt under Section 22 – information held with a view to its future Publication.

I hope this now satisfies your request, and should you have any further enquiries please do not hesitate to contact me directly on the details below.

In addition to this and for future reference Nottingham County Council regularly publishes previous FOIR,s and answers on its website, under Disclosure logs. (see link) <http://site.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/thecouncil/democracy/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log/>

You can use the search facility using keywords.

If you wish to raise any concerns about the way your request was dealt with, then please write to the Team Manager, Complaints and Information, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or e-mail foi@nottscc.gov.uk quoting the reference number above.

Kind Regards

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