

Dear

I am writing to you in reply to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to Nottinghamshire County Council. I have the following information.

1. In the 2018/19 academic year, how many families received a letter from a school in respect of their child's attendance, including a warning that if attendance did not improve they may be at risk of prosecution?

Not available - the local authority does not collate data about all the correspondence schools send to parents in respect of a child's attendance.

2. In the 2018/19 academic year, how many families were referred to Education Welfare (or an equivalent service) in respect of a child's school attendance?

625 referrals were received during 2018-2019 where school attendance was an issue. Of these we commenced the legal process in about 360 instances.

3. In the 2018/19 academic year, how many families were prosecuted in respect of a child's school attendance?

158 parents were prosecuted through the Magistrate court in 2018-19 in respect of the child's school attendance.

4. How many of the prosecutions at (3) resulted in (a) parents being fined, (b) a non-custodial sentence, (c) a custodial sentence, (d) no action being taken against the parents?

a) Parents being fined -	76
b) A non-Custodial Sentence	58
c) A Custodial Sentence	1
d) No Further action being taken*	22

*We are interpreting this to include cases where the parent was found guilty but no additional penalty was given.

Please note:

Some parents will have received a combination of a fine and community sentence.

The figures above do not include parents who have been referred to the Magistrates Court under the Single Justice Process following non-payment of an Education Penalty Notice Fine.

5. Does the Council collate any statistics in respect of whether:

a) the children involved in the above situations have an EHC Plan, are the subject of a current or previous request for an EHC Needs Assessment, or are known to CAMHS or equivalent?

No; we do not collate aggregated data of this kind, although it may be included in the case file.

b) the parents involved in the above situations have any disability?

If so, please provide a copy of these statistics in respect of the 2018/19 academic year. If not, please explain whether the Council has any policy to ensure its actions in respect of school attendance do not discriminate against families where there is a disability or additional needs and please provide a copy of any such policy, guidelines or similar.

No; we do not collate aggregated data of this kind. Where this is relevant to the case then it will be included within individual case files and records.

The council has a policy in relation to enforcement action (attached). This also covers cases open to our Youth Justice Service.

If you have any queries or concerns then please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, you should write to the Team Manager, Complaints and Information Team, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or e-mail foi@nottscc.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

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