



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI478367537

Thank you for your request for information relating to Pupils absent from Secondary Schools.

You have requested the following information:

1. In each of the school years 2021/22, 2020/21 and 2019/20 how many pupils of secondary school age were recorded as persistently absent from school? (For the purposes of this request, 'persistently absent' refers to pupils with an attendance record of 90% or below, as defined by the Department of Education).

In response to Question 1, we confirm the information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the Council website, please use the following link:

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/pupil-absence-in-schools-in-england>

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

Please note that the data which you have requested for the academic year 2021/2022 will not be available until March 2023 and data for 2019/2020 was not published on the website.

2. For each of the years listed above, how much did the Local Education Authority spend on addressing persistent absence.

In response to Question 2, we confirm we do not hold this information and are advising you as per section 1(1) of the Act. The information which you have requested forms a part of the overall role of a variety of staff and a separate account of time spent or resources used related to addressing persistent absence is not recorded on our system.

3. For each of the years listed above, what was the total figure collected from truancy penalty notices?

Please refer to the summary of penalty notices paid for reason of irregular attendance by academic year below:

Academic Year	Fines Paid (£)
2019/2020	4,500
2020/2021	3,600
2021/2022	13,205
Grand Total	21,305

The supply of information in response to a FOI request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner’s Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email icocasework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully
Information Governance