

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 000291
Date 19 July 2016

Children Missing from Education

Request:

- 1)
a) How many children were recorded as missing from education in the last 3 years (2014, 2015, 2016 to date). If possible can I have the figures broken down by academic year, or however you hold this information.
In answer to question 1a) please see table below.

Note that Wolverhampton Local Authority records CME data in academic years, e.g. 1/9/14 to 31/8/15 (2014/15) and 1/9/15 to date (2015/16). Of the total investigations there are cases of confirmed CME of children that are living in Wolverhampton and those that are not living in Wolverhampton.

	2014/15	2015/16
Total CME Investigations	687	508
Of those investigations, confirmed CME - cases of children living in Wolverhampton not on a school roll	10	4
Of those investigations, left Wolverhampton, destination unknown	83	68

- b) Can I have an ethnic and religious breakdown on the children in 1(a)
In answer to question b) above it has been established after careful consideration that the Council does not hold information relating to "religion". Consequently, we are unable to provide this specific information and are informing you as required by Section 1(1) (a) of the Act, that states:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

Therefore, please see “ethnic” information below as requested:

	14-15	15-16
AIND - Indian	3	1
AOTH - Any other Asian background	2	2
APKN - Pakistani	2	3
BAFR - Black African	4	2
BCRB - Black Caribbean	1	
BOTH - Any other Black background	1	1
CHNE - Chinese	1	
MOTH - Any other Mixed background	2	
MWBA - White/Black African	1	1
OOTH - Any other Ethnic Group	8	2
REFU - Refused	6	3
WBRI - White British	6	2
WEEU - White Eastern European	4	2
WIRT - Traveller - Irish Heritage	1	
WOTH - Any other White background	5	9
WROM - Gypsy/Roma	3	2
NOBT - Info not yet obtained	33	38

c) How many children in 1a) did your council manage to trace/track down and how many are still missing?

	2014/15	2015/16
Total CME Investigations	687	508
Traced	604	440
Unknown destination	83	68

d) Out of the children that have returned to school, what reasons have been given for their absence?

The reasons given were:

- * Children were not allocated parental school preference initially
- * Family were new into city, awaiting a school placement.

e) How many of the children in 1a) who have not been tracked down, have been removed from the schools admissions registers?

49

Please note that the children with unknown destinations have been removed from our system following all ‘reasonable enquiries’ in accordance with sections 8(1)(f)(iii) and 8(1)(h)(iii) of the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006.

2)

a) How many children under 16 who were in full time education have been removed from council records/ schools admissions registers in the last 3 years? 2014, 2015, 2016 to date?

Children removed from school registers: 2014/15 = 829
: 2015/16 = 708

b) Of those children under 16 removed from schools register, how many have a recorded destination/location?

2014/15 = 668
2015/16 = 564

c) Of those children under 16 removed from schools register, how many are deemed children missing in education?

Of those without a destination did we investigate and deem CME: 2014/15 = 74
: 2015/16 = 49

3) How many investigations into cases of a child who has stopped attending schools have been completed to ensure that child is receiving a suitable education in 2014, 2015 and 2016 to date?

2014/15 = 161
2015/16 = 144