

CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 000324
Date 29 June 2016

School Fines in Wolverhampton

Request:

1. How many fixed penalty notices (sometimes called truancy penalty notices) have been issued each month for the last 3 years in respect of all absences from school and how many have been withdrawn each month for the last 3 years.

2013	Penalty Notices Issued	Withdrawn
September	2	0
October	14	12
November	19	9
December	5	2

2014	Penalty Notices Issued	Withdrawn
January	9	3
February	4	0
March	47	6
April	7	1
May	22	1
June	39	3
July	101	17
August	48	5
September	15	0
October	102	14
November	49	10
December	62	9

2015	Penalty Notices Issued	Withdrawn
January	31	1
February	31	10
March	23	7
April	18	2
May	66	9
June	89	10
July	195	32
August	16	2

September	50	10
October	107	11
November	89	12
December	65	17

2016	Penalty Notices Issued	Withdrawn
January	28	10
February	89	14
March	49	7
April	31	0
May	45	14
June	49	0
July	43	0

2. Also how many prosecutions were brought where the allegation was a breach of s444 of the Education Act 1986 in the last 6 years.

3. What % resulted in an acquittal,

4. What % did the parents plead guilty and what % did they plead not guilty.

In answer to your questions 2, 3 and 4 please see table below supplying you with information.

Academic Year	Question 2 Prosecutions	Question 3 Outcome Acquittal	Question 4 Plead Guilty	Question 4 Plead Not Guilty
2010/11	49	0%	55%	18%
2011/12	60	0%	27%	10%
2012/13	115	0%	38%	3%
2013/14	110	0%	35%	2%
2014/15	134	0%	25%	5%
2015/16	106	0%	14%	2%

5. Has this local authority changed or does it plan to change its policy in respect of issuing these fixed penalties since the decision of the High Court on 13th May in IW Council v Platt

Following the test case in May 2016, Wolverhampton Local Authority has adopted an interim position with regards to issuing penalty notices for unauthorised leave of absence. Each case is looked at individually and overall attendance is taken into consideration.