

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 000629
Date 24 November 2016

School Staff – Social Media

Request:

We are investigating the problem of teachers and school staff making contact with pupils on social media. This has led to several cases of staff being disciplined or even expelled from the teaching profession. We would like to find out how common this is. I understand LADOs (sometimes known as 'designated officers') within each local authority are notified about such incidents. If you don't have LADOs please supply us with the information in any case.

Please could you provide us with the following:

1. How many members of school staff have been reported to your LADO or designated officer, or authority, broken down by year over the last three full academic years 2013/14, 2014/5 and 2015/16, where the allegations have included evidence of contact on social media (including texting, all communications over the internet) between them and a pupil?
2. Please supply the ages of the pupils and the year group if available.
3. If the information is available which named social media platform was used? (Facebook etc)

[In response to your request please find our response below:](#)

2013/14	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3
Social media / platform used	Facebook	Facebook	Facebook
Age of child	13	17	16
Year group of child	Year 8	Year 12	Year 11

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

2014/15	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3
Social media / platform used	Facebook	Facebook	Instagram
Age of child	18	17	16
Year group of child	Year 13	Year 12	Year 11

2015/16	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3	Case 4	Case 5
Social media / platform used	Facebook	Instagram	Text message	Email	Facebook
Age of child	16	17	17	17	16
Year group of child	Year 11	Year 12	Year 12	Year 13	Year 11