

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001354
Date 25 July 2017

Deferred entry into reception

Request:

I am interested in validating a view that 'summer born' children perform worse academically than those born otherwise. Requests to defer entry into reception can help give parents a choice when they are concerned of this effect. Summer Born Children are classed as born from 1st April to 31st August.

Under the Freedom of Information Act could I please ask you to provide the below:

For the avoidance of any doubt, questions 1 and 2 refer to 'deferred entry'. A parent / carer can exercise their option that a child does not commence school until they reach the statutory age.

However, as the general request relates to 'summer born children' the figures detailed below relate to the numbers of request for 'summer born children'. This means a child does not start school until the September following their fifth birthday and will be admitted outside of their normal age group at that point (i.e. to reception rather than year 1), rather than just deferring entry so they do not start until they are statutory age.

1. Number of requests received within the last 3 years to defer a child's entry into reception? 9
2. Number of such requests approved within the last 3 years? 5
3. KS2 expected level and GCSE (5 *-C) attainment results for 'summer born' children within the Borough for the academic year 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017?
2015/16 - Summer Born Pupils reaching the expected standard in KS2 Combined Reading, Writing and Maths – 49%

2014/15 - Summer Born Pupils reaching Level 4 and above in KS2 Combined Reading, Writing and Maths – 76%
4. KS2 expected level and GCSE (5 A*-C) attainment results for non summer born children within the Borough for the academically year 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017?

[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

2015/16 - Non Summer Born Pupils reaching the expected standard in KS2
Combined Reading, Writing and Maths – 56%

2014/15 - Non Summer Born Pupils reaching Level 4 and above in KS2
Combined Reading, Writing and Maths – 82%

Please note in 2015/16 KS2 assessments completely changed from levels to
standards.

There is no available validated data for 2016/17 at this time.

We have been unable to provide the GCSE (5 A*-C) attainment data as this
data set is not available to provide this analysis at local authority level.