



Reference: FOI-419

Request:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request 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).
2. For each of the years listed above, how much did the Local Education Authority spend on addressing persistent absence.
3. For each of the years listed above, what was the total figure collected from truancy penalty notices?

Response:

1. This information is refused in answer to this request under FOI Section 21, as the information is accessible by other means. Data for 2020/21 and previous years is published by the Department for Education.

Please see the following link: A table has been prepared to assist you.

<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/data-tables/permalink/b674e688-a4f2-4608-932c-08db08498a11>

Data for 2021/22 is withheld under Section 22 of the FOI Act as this information is intended for future publication. This data will be published in May 2023.

2. Information not held on spend specifically relating to addressing persistent absence.
3. Due to the way the data is recorded in the ledger, it is not possible to provide financial data by Academic Year. Therefore, the figures provided are by Financial Years as an alternative.

Financial Year	Amount
2019-20	-£48,190.00
2020-21	-£1,980.00
2021-22	-£9,360.00