

Fiona Nicholson
By email

Children's Services
Sandhill Centre, Grindon Lane,
Sunderland SR3 4EN

Telephone: 0191 520 5555
Web: www.sunderland.gov.uk

Date: 22 January 2013
Our ref: 121251
Your ref:

This matter is being dealt with by:

Jackie Weeks, Information Governance Officer, Children's Services, Sandhill Centre, Grindon Lane, Sunderland 0191 561 7926, jackie.weeks@sunderland.gov.uk

Dear Ms Nicholson

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your request for information concerning children with Special Educational Needs. Please find our response detailed below.

1.a The total number of children in your authority with a statement of SEN

The total number of children in the authority with statements of SEN based on the SEN2 return (2012) is 1080.

b. The number of home educated children in your authority with a statement of SEN

The total number of home educated children in the authority with a statement of SEN is 4. All these children have been identified an educational placement by the local authority, but parents/carers have made their own arrangements under Section 7 of the 1996 Education Act to home educate.

c. The number of home educated children of primary age with a statement of SEN

The number of home educated children who are primary age with a statement of SEN is 2.

d. The number of home educated children of secondary age with a statement of SEN

The number of home educated children who are secondary age with a statement of SEN is 2.

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e. The number of statements for home educated children categorised as having "moderate learning difficulty" (if the authority has a banding system, please could you indicate the number of home educated children within the relevant statement bands).

There are no children home educated as categorised as having 'moderate learning difficulty'.

f. The number of statements for home educated children with physical disabilities

There are no children home educated with physical disabilities.

g. The number of statements for home educated children with speech, language and communication needs

There are no children home educated with speech, language and communication needs.

h. The number of statements for home educated children with autism spectrum disorders

There are two children with a statement of SEN who are home educated with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

i. The number of statements for home educated children with severe or complex learning difficulties (if the authority has a banding system, please could you indicate the number of home educated children within the relevant statement bands)

There are no children home educated with severe or complex learning difficulties.

j. The number of home educated children with a statement of SEN who formerly attended a special school (if known)

There are no home educated children with a statement of SEN who formerly attended a special school.

k. The number of children with a statement of SEN who started home education during the calendar year 2012

There was one child with a statement of SEN who started home education during the calendar year 2012.

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l. The number of children with a statement of SEN who have been home educated for more than 2 years

There are four children with a statement of SEN who have been home educated for more than two years.

m. The number of home educated children with a statement of SEN who have been home educated for more than 5 years

There are two children with a statement of SEN who have been educated for more than five years.

n. The number of children with a statement of SEN who ceased to be home educated during the calendar year 2012 because they started to attend school

There was one child with a statement of SEN who ceased to be home educated during the calendar year 2012 because they started to attend school.

2. Within your authority - not including the provision of assessments/reports for the annual review of the statement of SEN - do home educated children have access to any of the following:

- a. educational psychology service**
- b. occupational therapy services and equipment**
- c. speech and language therapy**
- d. CAMHS**

All children who are home educated with a statement of SEN have access to the above services if appropriate:

3. Does the authority have a specific policy with regard to provision of services and support listed in Part 3 of the statement when a child with a statement of SEN is home educated? If yes, could you please summarise the policy, for example if the authority does not make provision available when a child is home educated

The local authority does not hold a specific policy with regard to provision of services and support listed in Part 3 of the statement of SEN when a child or young person is home educated.

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4. How many home educated children with a statement of SEN will be entered on the Alternative Provision Census under the category Not a School, for SEN support (deadline Thursday January 17th)
<http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/pupilsupport/parents/involvement/homeeducation/a0073322/funding-for-home-education>

The council does not hold this information. The census day for the Alternative Provision Census is 17 January, with a deadline of 8 March in order to collate the information. Therefore, this information will be available after 8 March.

I hope that the information provided is satisfactory. If however, you are dissatisfied with our response to your request for information, you can ask for the decision to be reviewed in reply to this letter. The review will be removed from the Directorate and coordinated by the Council's Information Governance Officer. A request for review should be directed by email to freedom.information@sunderland.gov.uk, or by post to Information Governance Officer, Governance Services, Civic Centre, PO Box 100, Sunderland SR2 7DN.

You are of course entitled to apply to the Information Commissioner at any time, although the Commissioner will not usually investigate until the public authority's internal review procedure has been concluded.

Yours sincerely

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