



Fiona Nicholson
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17th January 2013

Our ref: 5377544
Ask for: Sarah Moore

Dear Ms Nicholson

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – SUPPORT FOR HOME
EDUCATED CHILDREN WITH SEN STATEMENT**

Thank you for contacting Worcestershire County Council.

Your request for information has now been considered and some of the information you have asked for is below.

However, information concerning **1.e, 1.i, 1.j and 1.m** have been exempt from disclosure because a legal exemption prohibits WCC from releasing that information.

The legal exemption that applies is:

Information concerning **1.e, 1.i, 1.j and 1.m** is withheld because it is exempt from disclosure under section 40 1 (a)(i) 'Personal Information'. This is because the number of cases involves low numbers which could lead to the identification of an individual or individuals. The Freedom of Information act allows public authorities to withhold personal information if disclosure would breach the data protection principles. These are a set of rules in the Data Protection Act 1998 which govern the handling of personal data. In this case we consider that disclosure would breach principle 1 of the Data Protection Act because it would not be fair or lawful, having regard to the rights of the individual or individuals that this information was disclosed into the public domain.

1. *Could you please tell me:*

a. *the total number of children in your authority with a statement of SEN*

2461

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

21

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

9

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

12

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)*

The answer to this question is exempt please see explanation above.

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

Nil

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

7

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

6

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)*

The answer to this question is exempt please see explanation above.

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

The answer to this question is exempt please see explanation above.

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

9

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

10

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

The answer to this question is exempt please see explanation above.

- 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*

7

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*

No

- b. *occupational therapy services and equipment*

Yes

- c. *speech and language therapy*

Yes

- d. *CAMHS*

Yes

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*

Yes – EHE Policy published on worcestershire.gov.uk website
(<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/early-intervention-and-support/elective-home-education.aspx>).

The LA does not provide funding for any child who is 'electively home educated'.

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>)

Nil

If you have any queries or concerns then please contact me.

If you have a complaint about the handling of this enquiry then in the first instance please contact:

Consumer Relations Department
Worcestershire County Council
County Hall
Spetchley Road
Worcester
WR5 2NP

Tel: 01905 766364

You can then also contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Tel: 01625 54 57 45

www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Sarah Moore
Senior Data & Information Officer

Worcestershire County Council

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