



Information Governance Team

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Dear Sir/Madam

Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)

Request ID: FOI570135538

Thank you for your request for information relating to Autistic children and school placement type.

You have requested the following information:

Can you please provide me with the data for school aged children in the year 2023 to answer the questions below broken down by ages:

5-10 (Primary)

11-15/16 years (Secondary)

For questions 3 and 5, please use the below list to categorise the setting type:

- **Mainstream - (This can be academy, Free or LA maintained)**
- **Grammar School**
- **Private Independent Mainstream (NOT special)**
- **Specialist Resource Base/Provision or SEN unit - If so, what is the primary area of need**
- **Special School (Academy, Free, LA maintained)**
- **Independent Special School (maintained or non-maintained)**
- **Pupil Referral Unit (PRU)**
- **Alternative Provision**
- **Educated Otherwise than At School (EOTAS) - Section I is blank or states EOTAS**
- **Electively Home Educated (EHE)**
- **No placement available**
- **Other**

• **Don't know**

1. How many children have an EHCP?

2. How many children identified as autistic do not have an EHCP?

In response to Questions 1 and 2, we confirm the information you requested falls under the exemption(s) in Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which relates to 'information reasonably accessible to the applicant by other means.'

The exemption applies as the information is published and publicly available to view by accessing the school census on the Government website, please use the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-special-educational-needs-sen>

This exemption is not subject to the public interest test.

3. How many of these EHCPs identify ASD, ASC or Autism as a need or diagnosis?

4. For the EHCPs that have Autism (ASD/ASC) identified, what is the type of educational setting they attend (type of school named in Section I).

In response to Questions 3 and 4, we confirm we do not hold this information and are informing you as per Section 1(1) of the Act. Please note our system only records a child's primary need. Therefore, it is not possible to extract from the database the information you have requested.

However, to advise and assist you, the number of EHCPs where a neuro-diverse diagnosis is recorded as the primary need is available to view by accessing the National Statistics on the Government website. Please refer to our response to Questions 1 and 2 for the link.

5. For the EHCPs that have Autism (ASD/ASC) identified, how many mention that a child has demand avoidance, identifiable by any of the following terms being used in any section of the EHCP:

Demand Avoidance

Pathological Demand Avoidance

PDA

Extreme demand avoidance.

Avoids everyday demands or activities

6. For these EHCPs that have demand avoidance mentioned, what is type of educational setting they attend (type of school named in Section I). Please use the above list to categorise setting type.

In response to Questions 5 and 6, we confirm we hold the information which you have asked for, but we have estimated that the cost of meeting your request would exceed the cost limit of £450 specified in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees Regulations 2004). This represents the estimated cost of one person spending 18 hours or more, in determining whether the information is held, locating, retrieving and extracting it.

This information is not held in readily reportable and available format. It would require officers to manually trawl through and review individual EHCPs for each child to obtain this information. Therefore, this part of your request has been refused under section 12(2) of the Act.

7. Does your LA use the term 'Pathological Demand Avoidance' or 'PDA' or 'autism with a demand avoidant profile' in EHCPs if provided in a professional report?

Yes.

8. If these terms in question 7 are not used, what is the reason for this?

Not applicable.

The supply of information in response to a FOI request does not confer an automatic right to re-use the information. You can use any information supplied for the purposes of private study and non-commercial research without requiring further permission. Similarly, information supplied can also be re-used for the purposes of news reporting. An exception to this is photographs. Please contact us if you wish to use the information for any other purpose.

For information, we publish a variety of information such as: [FOI/EIR Disclosure Log](#), [Publication Scheme](#), [Facts about Coventry](#) and [Open Data](#) that you may find of useful if you are looking for information in the future.

If you are unhappy with the handling of your request, you can ask us to review our response. Requests for reviews should be submitted within 40 days of the date of receipt of our response to your original request – email: infogov@coventry.gov.uk

If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email icocasework@ico.org.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance